



SPRING /SUMMER 2024



# BOROUGH OF BRADFORD WOODS

ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

## NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS SWORN IN

At the Borough Council meeting on January 2, 2024, one returning Council member and two newly elected Council members were sworn into office by Mayor Doug Marsico. Todd Hipwell returned to begin his third 4-year term, while Christopher Mansfield and Michael Kelly both embarked on their first term on Council. Todd will continue as the chair of the finance committee and Council's delegate to the Northern Regional Police Pension Board. Chris will be Council's representative to the Environmental & Parks Advisory Council and the alternate delegate to the Northern Regional Police Pension Board. Mike will be the Council representative to the North Hills Council of Governments and the Allegheny County Boroughs Association. Congratulations Todd, Chris, and Mike!



Above: Michael Kelly's swearing in



Above: Todd Hipwell's swearing in



Above: Christopher Mansfield's swearing in

### WHAT'S INSIDE

Bradford Woods Borough Information Page .....	3	Garbage and Recycling .....	8
Bradford Woods Borough Police, Fire & Ambulance.....	4	Certified Sustainable Borough.....	9
Utilities .....	4	Pennsylvania Urban Nutrient Management.....	10
Permit Informaton .....	4	Bradford Woods Conservancy.....	11-12
Calendar of Events.....	5	Northern Regional Police Department .....	13
New Skid Loader .....	5	Stormwater Management .....	13
Bradford Woods Couples Club .....	5	Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company .....	14
2024 Budget Snapshot .....	6		

4908 Wexford Run Road | Bradford Woods, PA 15015 | Phone: 724-935-2990

Visit us at [www.bradfordwoodspa.org](http://www.bradfordwoodspa.org)

*Bradford Woods'  
Resident Realtor*

Paula Hinston  
412-818-9508  
**RE/MAX** *Select*  
REALTY

**Experienced neighborhood Realtor.**

**STATION No 5**  
COFFEE + MERCH + MEET

Featuring...

724-719-8258  
station15015@gmail.com  
Stationno5  
Station No. 5  
www.stationno5.com  
185 Bradford Rd, Bradford Woods

**LSSE**  
Civil Engineers and Surveyors  
LSSE • Rabell • Senate

846 4th Ave Coraopolis PA 15108  
(Allegheny County)  
info@lsse.com | www.lsse.com  
Branch Offices: Albion, Greensburg, Center, Harmar,  
Kittanning, Washington, White Oak, PA and Dublin, OH



## The Woodlands Aquatic Center in Wexford

134 Shenot Rd, Wexford, PA 15090

### British Swim School Lessons

-  **Small Class Sizes**
-  **Survival First Approach**
-  **Year-Round Enrollment**
-  **Goal-Oriented Program**
-  **Fun & Gentle Methods**

**724-241-8602**

### Pool Offerings:

- Aqua Active Memberships Available**
- Aerobics Classes**
- Silver Sneakers**
- Renew Active**
- Day Passes**

**Britishswimschool.com**

# BRADFORD WOODS MUNICIPAL BUILDING

4908 Wexford Run Road | P.O. Box 163 | Bradford Woods, PA 15015 | Phone: 724-935-2990

Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## BRADFORD WOODS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Name	Title/Position	Committee
Victoria Laird Pongrace	President	Personnel
Kevin Rhule	Vice President	Planning/Zoning
Todd Hipwell	President Pro-Tem	Finance
David Baldonieri	Council Member	Roads
Dan Dimond	Council Member	Public Safety
Michael Kelly	Council Member	NHCOG / ACBA
Christopher Mansfield	Council Member	Environment / Parks
Douglas Marsico	Mayor	N/A

Like and follow us on Facebook for updates on Borough news and information:  
<https://www.facebook.com/BradfordWoodsBorough>



## BOARDS & COMMITTEES

**THE BOROUGH COUNCIL** is the governing body of the Borough. The Council is comprised of seven members who are elected to staggered, four-year terms in at-large elections. Council Members are vested with the executive and legislative powers of the Borough and are responsible for the annual budget. The Council appoints the members of the various advisory committees.

**Meetings: Second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**THE PLANNING COMMISSION** consists of seven members who serve four-year terms and function as the Borough's planning agency. They review all land development and subdivision plans. Additionally, they advise Council on Ordinance changes related to building and zoning.

**Meetings: First Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND PARKS ADVISORY COUNCIL (EPAC)** consists of five members who serve three-year terms. The EPAC advises the Borough Council on matters concerning the protection, conservation, management, promotion, and use of natural resources, including air, land and water resources.

**Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**THE ZONING HEARING BOARD** consists of three members and two alternates who serve three-year terms. They conduct hearings and render decisions on appeals to the Borough Zoning Code. They are also responsible for implementing the responsibilities outlined in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

**Meetings are held upon request and will be advertised.**

**Meetings are held at the Borough Council Chambers at 4908 Wexford Run Road and are open to the public. Meeting dates may be subject to change. Please check the website for current information.**

## EMAIL BLAST

Please register for this important tool. You will be notified of emergencies, crime information, events and more.

### FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO REGISTER:

- 1) Go to [www.bradfordwoodspa.org/list.aspx](http://www.bradfordwoodspa.org/list.aspx)
- 2) Sign in or create an account
- 3) Choose your preference of email or text alerts
- 4) Choose to subscribe to Borough News and/or Calendar
- 5) Your email and phone information will not be shared or used for any other purpose



## Reminder to Pet Owners:

Borough Code requires pet owners to clean up pet waste immediately, whether on your own property or other property within the Borough. Please carry a disposable bag with you for this purpose each time you set out for a walk. After cleaning up the pet waste, please take it home and dispose it in your own waste can. Please follow these procedures when walking pets on the Woodlands property as well. The Woodlands welcomes neighbors to walk on their property, but they request that we leave the property free of pet waste when doing so. Thank you!

## Physically Disabled Residents

If you or a member of your family will need assistance in case of an evacuation order, please call the Borough office at 724-935-2990 or email [manager@bradfordwoods.gov](mailto:manager@bradfordwoods.gov) and include your name, address, and type of disability. The Borough will incorporate your information into the Emergency Operations Plan, so that help can be provided in case of an evacuation order.



# POLICE • FIRE • AMBULANCE

## Northern Regional Police 230 Pearce Mill Road

Wexford, PA 15090  
Office 724-625-3157

**EMERGENCY 9-1-1**

The Northern Regional Police Department serves the communities of Pine, Marshall, Richland, and Bradford Woods. The department of approximately 40 full-time police officers along with the Chief and Captain strives to maintain the lowest crime rate in the North Hills. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Mon-Fri.

## Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company

4908 Wexford Run Road  
Bradfordwoods, PA 15015

**EMERGENCY 9-1-1**

In the event of a fire in our community, the Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company responds. They also participate in a mutual aid program with fire companies serving Adams, Marshall, Cranberry, Franklin Park, Pine, Ingomar, and Richland.



## McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Authority

9925 Grubbs Road  
Wexford, PA 15090  
Office 412-367-5883

**EMERGENCY 9-1-1**

This emergency medical service provider assures residents 24-hour Advanced Life Support care with fully equipped ambulances.

## UTILITIES

### Cable, Internet & Telephone

Armstrong: 1-877-277-5711  
Consolidated Communications: 1-844-968-7224

### Electric

Penn Power/First Energy: 1-800-720-3600

### Gas

Columbia Gas: 1-888-460-4332  
Peoples Gas (Village Only) 1-800-764-0111

### Garbage/Recycling/Yard Waste

Waste Management: 800-866-4460  
Household Hazardous Waste: 800-449-7587

### Sewer

McCandless Township Sanitary Authority: 412-366-2700

### Water

West View Water Authority: 412-931-3500

## PERMITS

### Zoning Permits are needed for:

Additions, decks, patios, accessory structures, fences, pools, playsets, satellite dishes

### Building Permits are needed for:

Interior or exterior renovations, additions, decks, roof over deck/patio, accessory structures, pools

### Other Activities Requiring Permits:

Grading, Demolition, New or Replacement Driveway, Home-Based Business, Sign Installation

*Download permit forms from the website or email manager@bradfordwoods.gov to request.*



**Promotional Products**

We can add your logo to any product to help you promote your company. Accurate, fast delivery and options at every price point!



Where Impressions Last A Lifetime.

## The Brand Shop LLC

Promotional Products • Corporate Gifts  
Embroidered & Screen Printed Apparel

**Mike "The Brandman" Ference**  
your local go-to-guy for all of your promotional, screen printed and embroidered products.

**412-233-5491 • thebrandshopllc@gmail.com**  
**thebrandshopllc.com**

Serving Bradford Woods Since 1968



## OWL CLEANERS

Wise Care For Your Couture Image Since 1952

FREE DELIVERY

pickpmycleaning.com

165 Northgate Dr. | Warrendale, PA 15086  
**866-OWL-CLEAN (695-2532)**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL

- 1..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 8 ..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 16..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 20..... Yard Waste Pick Up
- 27 ..... Earth Day at the Reserve – 10 am–2 pm

### MAY

- 6 ..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 13 ..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 16..... Couples Club Play – 8:00 pm
- 17 ..... Couples Club Play – 8:00 pm
- 18..... Couples Club Play – 8:00 pm
- 21..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 25..... Yard Waste Pick Up
- 27 ..... Memorial Day – Borough Office Closed
- 31..... Last Day of School for North Allegheny

### JUNE

- 3..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 10..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 18..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 22..... Yard Waste Pick Up

### JULY

- 1..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 4..... Independence Day - Borough Office Closed
- 8 ..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 16..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 20..... Yard Waste Pick Up
- 26..... Storytelling at the Reserve – 6:30 pm

### AUGUST

- 5..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 12 ..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 20..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 22 ..... First Day of School for North Allegheny
- 24 ..... Yard Waste Pick Up
- 24 ..... BWVFC Bike Parade & Pancake Breakfast, 9 am

### SEPTEMBER

- 2..... Labor Day – Borough Office Closed
- 5..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 9 ..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 14 ..... BWVFC Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo 6 pm
- 17 ..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 21..... Yard Waste Pick Up

### OCTOBER

- 7..... Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
- 14 ..... Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- 15..... EPAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 25..... BWVFC Halloween Parade - 6:15 pm
- 26..... Yard Waste Pick Up
- 31..... Trick-or-Treat – 6-8 pm



## New (to us) Skid Loader

In 2023, Council approved the trade-in of the Borough's 20-year-old skid loader for a 2021 model.



The skid loader is primarily used to load road salt into the Borough truck, but it is also used by Public Works for cold-patching roads and for brush cutting, among other uses. One big upgrade in the newer model is the enclosed and heated cab. Can you imagine loading salt in the middle of a winter storm with no heat and no protection from the wind, snow, sleet and freezing rain?

## Bradford Woods Couples Club

Bradford Woods Couples Club is still going strong after 67 years with over 125 members. Don't let the name deceive you, Couples Club is open for membership to all individuals residing in Bradford Woods as well as past residents. This local community social club meets on the first Saturday of each month from September through May.

During each monthly meeting/event, the rotating dozen or so volunteer members act as hosts/hostesses and choose a theme for the night along with activities or entertainment. All those attending arrive with either an appetizer, salad, or main dish in a potluck style dinner, in line with the night's theme. Themes range from Murder Mystery Dinner Theater in November to the well-attended "A Night in Nashville" complete with line dancing instructors, just last spring.

Every year the club ends in May with a bi-annual event. On odd years, a neighborhood-wide progressive dinner is planned. On even years, like this year, a variety play is organized to include multiple skits, dance numbers and songs. All proceeds from the three-night show are donated to local charities and volunteer organizations. The skits are created, directed, and performed by our own local Bradford Woods talent and production is already in full swing!

Bradford Woods Couples Club is a wonderful opportunity for meeting neighbors, making new friends, and connecting and fostering this unique community of Bradford Woods. For more information, please email [bradfordwoodscouplesclub@gmail.com](mailto:bradfordwoodscouplesclub@gmail.com).



## SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

Do you have photos that capture Bradford Woods at its finest? Send them (in highest resolution) to [manager@bradfordwoods.gov](mailto:manager@bradfordwoods.gov), and they might just be featured in a future newsletter!

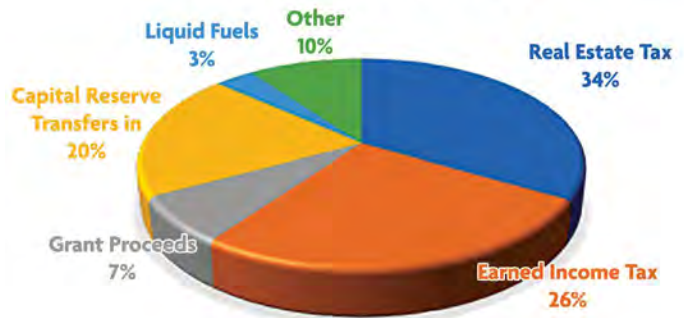


## Borough Of Bradford Woods 2024 Budget Snapshot

### REVENUE

Real Estate Tax	\$ 479,374
Earned Income Tax	377,705
Grant Proceeds	103,100
Deed Transfer	50,000
Sales Tax	28,209
Interest	40,000
Permits/Fees	13,376
Liquid Fuels	48,479
Other	11,023
Capital Reserve Transfers In	280,544
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,431,810</b>

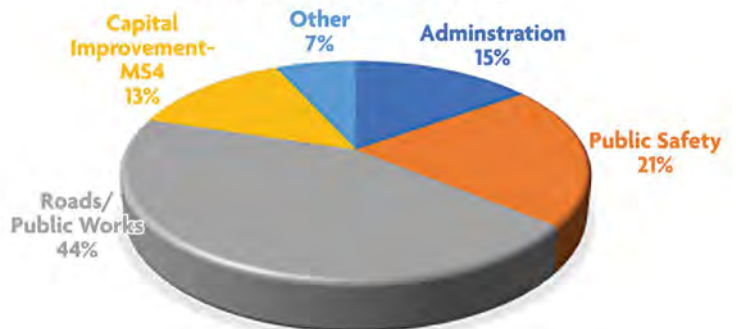
### 2024 REVENUE BUDGET



### EXPENSE

Administration	\$ 215,454
Tax Collection	9,054
Building	30,415
Library Contribution	29,411
Public Safety	300,089
Roads/Public Works	627,188
Insurance	19,059
Capital Improvement (MS4)	192,500
Other	8,640
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$1,431,810</b>


### 2024 EXPENSE BUDGET






**Custom deck builder & safety inspector**



 Small 'Burgh business specializing in decks, pergolas, railings & fencing

 Fully insured, licensed, and now offering financing options

Follow us to see before/after transformations and to get ideas for your new deck!



**GergerConstruction.com**

**\$250 deck safety inspections**  
by a **NADRA-certified safety inspector**

**▶▶▶ NOW BOOKING**  
Spring & Summer 2024!

## Garbage and Recycling



The Borough currently contracts with Waste Management to provide automated collection of solid waste and recycling as well as collection of yard waste, bulk items, and household hazardous waste. Waste Management charges residents \$33.26 per month for those services. The contract allows for a 9% price increase per year through 2026. Recycling is mandatory for all residents. Carts must be placed at the curb (not in/on the street) by 6:00 a.m. on the pickup day and removed by 6:00 a.m. the next day.

All carts are the property of Waste Management and must stay with the house in the event of a change in ownership. Residents are expected to care for the carts and notify Waste Management when repairs are needed.

Waste Management collects solid waste and recycling every Monday in Bradford Woods. Recyclable items include plastics #1 and #2, metal and aluminum cans, glass jars and bottles, flattened cardboard and paperboard, and paper. Garbage must be bagged; recycling should be placed loose in the cart.

If you are a new resident of a home that was previously occupied, you may exchange a cart for a different size or request additional carts by calling Waste Management at 800-866-4460. There may be a fee associated with exchanging or adding carts.

Seniors 65+ are eligible for a 10% discount on Waste Management services. Call Customer Service at 800-866-4460 to initiate the discount. You will need to provide proof of age to be eligible.

Yard waste is collected once per month from April through November. Yard waste must be in biodegradable bags and placed at the curb. There is no limit on the number of bags collected. Yard waste is collected on the Saturday of the third full week of each month.

One bulk item will be picked up at no additional charge on Monday of the third full week of the month. Additional bulk items and appliances can be scheduled for pickup by calling Waste Management at 800-866-4460. A bulk item is one which will not fit in the cart, such as furniture.

Household Hazardous Waste is collected free of charge by appointment only. These items include paint, household cleaners, needles, syringes, compact fluorescent lamps, automotive products, garden chemicals, batteries, and electronics. Schedule an appointment by calling 800-449-7587.

### **2024 YARD WASTE DATES** *(yard waste must be in paper bags)*

<b>April 20</b>	<b>August 24</b>
<b>May 25</b>	<b>September 21</b>
<b>June 22</b>	<b>October 26</b>
<b>July 20</b>	<b>November 23</b>

# **DE NOVO** PITTSBURGH **CHIROPRACTIC & HEALTH**

***Specializing in treating Pittsburgh athletes, just scan and see***

## **DR. BRAD KLUEBER**

Doctor of Chiropractic  
Masters of Science in Applied Clinical Nutrition  
Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist

**412.443.8873**

**185 Bradford Road, Bradford Woods, PA 15015**



***The Gold Standard in Soft Tissue Therapy***



## Bradford Woods Borough Recognized As Certified Sustainable Community

Bradford Woods Borough is among a select group of high performing municipalities to become certified through the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification program. Bradford Woods Borough is recognized at the Bronze level of certification for meeting the program's rigorous performance criteria which track policies and practices that define a sustainable community.



taxpayer dollars, using resources efficiently, and applying best practices in municipal government and community development. We are pleased to be recognized and be part of the regional community of good government.”

“We are delighted to see Bradford Woods Borough distinguished among local governments that are leading the way in applying sustainability to both

Sustainable Pennsylvania, managed by the Pennsylvania Municipal League in partnership with Sustainable Pittsburgh, is designed for municipalities that are working to save money, conserve resources, advance social equity, and serve vibrant communities. The certification is implemented statewide, recognizing townships, boroughs, municipalities, cities, and home rule municipalities across the Commonwealth. The Pennsylvania Municipal League and Sustainable Pittsburgh applaud municipalities for their demonstrated commitment and sustainability performance.

their operations and management as well as within the community,” said Katie Reibsane, Director of Training and Development, Pennsylvania Municipal League.

In earning the Bronze certification, Bradford Woods Borough is acknowledged for its progress in such areas as community design and land use, energy efficiency, health and wellness, intergovernmental cooperation, recycling and waste reduction, fiscal controls, diversity, equity and inclusion along with internal management and operations.

Sustainable Pennsylvania is intended to bring recognition to municipalities that are implementing the policies and practices of sustainability to advance community and regional prosperity. It also serves as a mechanism for sharing best practices for creating a more sustainable Pennsylvania.

“Bradford Woods Borough is proud to be recognized as a Bronze Certified Community through Sustainable Pennsylvania,” said Rusti Null, Borough Manager. “The Borough has a long history of commitment to saving

“Municipalities that earn the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification have demonstrated a commitment to advancing sustainable best practices to foster thriving and vibrant communities where people long to live, work, and play. Commitment to continuous improvement and innovation is at the heart of sustainability and the Certification program is a means to accelerate municipal performance,” said Leslie Rhoads, Sustainability Coordinator, Pennsylvania Municipal League.

**For more information, please visit <https://sustainablepa.org/>.**

When you need **Straightforward Thinking** to address your local government needs,

**WE'RE YOUR SOLICITORS.**

KATE M. DIERSEN • EMILY J. MUELLER  
JESSICA L. CROWN • JACOB T. LEYLAND  
JOSEPH J. PEROTTI, JR. • RICHARD A. MONTI

**G R B LAW**

Straightforward Thinking.

PITTSBURGH 412-281-0587    NORTH HILLS 724-935-4777    OAKMONT 412-828-5040    [grblaw.com](http://grblaw.com)





# Pennsylvania Urban Nutrient Management – Be Green While Protecting Our Streams

## Protecting Pennsylvania's Waterways Starts at Home.

Turfgrass has become a major component of Pennsylvania's flora. In fact, according to DCNR, Pennsylvania now contains over 2 million acres of lawn. Selecting a proper turfgrass management program, whether it is on a private lawn, sports field, public park, or golf course, is essential to protecting our local waterways.

### Know What Your Lawn Needs

When looking to apply nutrients to your lawn, make sure you are aware of what your lawn needs and what the Pennsylvania Fertilizer Law allows. To determine your lawn's nutrient needs, it is best to first soil test. Soil tests provide specific recommendations for nitrogen, phosphate, and potassium. Following the soil test recommendations ensures that you are applying only what your lawn needs, thus reducing nutrient loss and fertilizer cost. Test kits can be purchased for a nominal fee from your local Penn State extension office.

### The Pennsylvania Fertilizer Law

In July 2022, Pennsylvania adopted a new fertilizer law designed to minimize the movement of nutrients into our waterways. Anyone who applies fertilizers should be aware of the following nutrient limitations.

- Nitrogen is limited to 0.9 pounds of total nitrogen and 0.7 pounds of available nitrogen per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> per application.
- No phosphorus can be applied unless establishing or repairing turf.
- Both the nitrogen and phosphorus rates can be adjusted based on soil test recommendations and/or if using an enhanced efficiency fertilizer.
  - Enhanced efficiency fertilizers are specifically designed to reduce nutrient losses to the environment while increasing availability to plants.

In addition, when applying fertilizer, applicators must follow specific environmental conditions to prevent direct movement of fertilizer nutrients into our streams.

- Do not apply if a heavy rain is expected.
- Keep fertilizer away from drainage ditches, storm drains, or water.
- Maintain a 15-foot buffer from the banks of all waterways.
- Remove fertilizer that lands on impervious surfaces (i.e. driveways, sidewalks, roads) back onto the application area.
- Do not use as a snow or ice melt.
- Do not spread fertilizer on snow-covered or frozen ground.
- Fertilizer application between December 15 and March 1 is restricted to 0.50 lbs of total nitrogen per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> per application.

### Read the Label

Manufacturers of fertilizer products must include detailed labels that provide the nutrient content and instructions for use. As a fertilizer applicator, you are strongly encouraged to read and follow all directions and apply your fertilizer using a properly calibrated spreader.

### Lawn Care Considerations

Nutrient management is not the only tool that can be used for limiting nutrient loss. There are many additional lawn care considerations that can be used to promote a healthy lawn while protecting our local waterways. A few examples are listed below.

- **Fertilizer may not be the solution.** If your lawn is not looking as healthy and green as you would like, sometimes fertilizer is not the answer. Applying fertilizer without understanding the underlying soil can result in a waste of money and nutrients. There are many soil health factors that play a critical role in maintaining your lawn. Reducing soil compaction can improve root growth and water infiltration. Maintaining an appropriate soil pH is essential to promoting proper nutrient availability. Soil texture and organic matter content influence water movement, nutrient availability, and the microbial ecosystem of the soil. A healthy soil supports a healthy lawn.
- **Raise your mower deck.** Set your mower deck to 3 inches or higher. A taller lawn provides shade that discourages weed growth and promotes strong root development helping lawns to withstand environmental stress. Alternatively, you can use low mow turf species, such as fine fescue blends, that do best when mowing is limited. A taller, healthier lawn slows water movement and increases infiltration keeping moisture, soil, and nutrients where they are needed most.
- **Mulch your grass clippings.** Keeping your clippings in place returns valuable organic matter and nutrients to your lawn.
- **Provide a buffer.** Do not mow up to the banks of streams. Maintaining vegetative buffers along waterways provides wildlife habitat while slowing and filtering water before it enters the stream.
- **Convert your lawn.** Replacing turf with native vegetation not only increases water infiltration, but also promotes biodiversity and creates habitats for pollinators and other wildlife. For more information on Lawn Conversion visit DCNR's website.

### Working Together for Clean Water.

Environmental stewardship requires teamwork. Help protect Pennsylvania's waterways by being wise when you fertilize!

*For more information on the Pennsylvania Fertilizer Law, visit the Department of Agriculture's website at [www.agriculture.pa.gov/fertilizer](http://www.agriculture.pa.gov/fertilizer) or contact Denise Uzupis at [duzupis@pa.gov](mailto:duzupis@pa.gov).*



## It's Our 30th Anniversary!

The Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that has been serving Bradford Woods since 1994. Here's a short list of our accomplishments on behalf of the community:

- Nature Walks & Naturalist Programs
- Family Events, like Earth Day, Storytelling, and Light Up Night
- Trail Building & Maintenance in the Reserve and Lake Loop Trail
- Native Forest Restoration & Tree Plantings; Native Landscaping at the Fire Hall, Borough Office, Post Office, and the community greenspace on Forest Road
- Installed Steps on a Dangerous Slope of Lake Loop Trail
- Free Public Programs and Speakers on everything from Native Flowers, Mushrooms, and Organic Gardening to Climate Change, Fracking, and Local Environmental History
- Decorative Brackets for Street Signs
- More than 140 Private Property Consultations with the DCNR Foresters

Part of the Conservancy's mission for Bradford Woods is to plant and to encourage the planting of native trees, shrubs, and plants to preserve the woods that make our community beautiful.

Two of our key goals for 2022 through 2026 are to plant 2,500 trees in public spaces throughout the Borough and to give away another 2,500 for planting on private properties. To this end:

- We've planted more than 400 native trees and plants in the Bradford Woods Reserve, Lake Loop Trail, and the post office, and
- We've given away more than 1,300 at community events (see Progress Bar below).



### CONSERVANCY CALENDAR 2024

#### April

- Community Road Cleanup: April 1-14
- Work Day in the Reserve: Saturday, April 13 @ 10 a.m.
- Lake Loop Work Day: Saturday, April 20 @ 10 a.m.
- Earth Day in the Reserve: Saturday, April 27

#### May

- American Chestnut Tree Giveaway: Date TBD
- Speaker Series: Wednesday, May 24 @ 7 p.m.

#### July

- DCNR Property Consultations: Date TBD
- Storytelling Night in the Reserve: Friday, July 26 @ 7 p.m.

#### September

- Community Road Cleanup: Dates TBD
- Work Day in the Reserve: Saturday, September 14 @ 10 a.m.
- Speaker Series: Date TBD

#### October

- DCNR Property Consultations: Date TBD
- Bird Walks and Tree Giveaway: Date TBD

#### December

- Light Up Night in the Reserve: Sunday, December 1, @ 5 p.m.
- Christmas Bird County: Saturday, December 29 @ 10 a.m.

### Progress Toward Conservancy Goals for Planting Native Trees, Shrubs and Plants in Bradford Woods by the End of 2026



Thanks to everyone who has helped through volunteering, funding, and just taking and caring for these natives.

If you appreciate this kind of community service, please help us to celebrate by renewing your membership or becoming a new member today! For more information about the importance of native plants and trees, visit our web site at [www.BradfordWoodsConservancy.org](http://www.BradfordWoodsConservancy.org).

This year, we're starting a "Community Tree Fund" whereby you can specify that you want a portion of your donation to go directly to the planting of native trees and plants in Bradford Woods. We'll report back in our newsletter about how much is in the fund and what we spent it on throughout the year.

Also, please join us at any of our events in 2024 – see our calendar below, visit our web site (that's the QR code!), or follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Or, best of all, just get into the outdoors for a walk in the beautiful woods all around us here in Bradford Woods!



continued on page 12



# 3-Point Plan for Protecting Your Woods

## 1 Go Native!

Our birds, butterflies and woodland critters depend on native habitat, and it's the trees, shrubs, and flowering plants on all of our properties that support them. To do your part in stewarding your slice of the woods, **the Conservancy recommends that you plant only trees, shrubs, and plants that are native to western PA.** We can provide you with lists and requirements for more than 100 native choices, many of which are available on our web site: [www.BradfordWoodsConservancy.org](http://www.BradfordWoodsConservancy.org).

## 2 Plant and Protect

Deer browsing is probably public enemy #1 for the landscaping around your home, so **the Conservancy recommends that you always protect your native plantings with some kind of netting or fencing.** Otherwise, your plantings might just become an all-you-can-eat buffet for our deer population! It doesn't need to be elaborate or expensive: All you need is a stake and any piece of fencing that can be cut to size.

## 3 Target Invasives

Invasives have become very dangerous for the long-term health of our woods. Our annual property consultations have found dozens of invasive species, including many that have been overtaking areas of our woods. In most cases, you can't remove them all at once; there's just too much, and it would be overwhelming. Instead, the Conservancy recommends that you learn to identify a few priority invasives on your property and manage them as much as you can each year. If you are able to plant a few natives in their place at the same time, you'll be well on your way to a healthy, resilient woods.



*A Chestnut seedling planted in the Borough through a free program made possible by two BW residents who are dedicated to re-populating the iconic species. With their help, we've given away more than 500 to date!*

### 5 Most Common Invasive Plants in Bradford Woods

1. Garlic Mustard
2. Burberry
3. Privet
4. Oriental Bittersweet
5. Japanese Stilt Grass

*\* According to 140+ property consultations with DCNR foresters over the last 10 years in Bradford Woods.*

# THANK YOU :)

## Thank You to the Businesses!

The Borough of Bradford Woods would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters of our community. It is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.



# Northern Regional Police Department



Please join us in welcoming K9 “Hank” to the Northern Regional family. Hank and his human partner, Officer Justin Welling, will be the newest addition to our K9 Division. Hank and Officer Welling will be joining “Theo” and Officer Michael Stevenson in our Patrol Division. Northern Regional has traditionally utilized German Shepherds or Belgium Malinois who were trained in suspect apprehension, narcotic detection, and crowd control. Over the years we have noticed an increase in the number of incidents in which our elderly residents or a child would wander away from home. There is nothing more important than protecting our most vulnerable, which led us to change direction in the breed of dogs we were utilizing. Both Theo and Hank are Labrador Retrievers trained primarily for tracking as well as explosive detection. When a loved one goes missing, timing is most critical, and we wanted to have the assets available immediately to ensure our loved ones are returned to their families.

As an added bonus, both Theo and Hank are much more approachable at Community Events and love attention and scratches. When you see Theo or Hank and their human handlers, please take a minute to say hello. I promise it will be a memorable experience.

Best regards,  
*Chief John Sicilia*



Scan here to donate to the NRPD's K9 Care Fund



## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

### What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is precipitation (rain or snowmelt) that flows across the land. Stormwater may infiltrate into soil, discharge directly into streams, water bodies, or storm drains, or evaporate back into the atmosphere. In the natural environment, most precipitation is absorbed by trees and plants or permeates into the ground, which results in stable stream flows and good water quality. Things are different in the built environment. Rain that falls on a roof, driveway, patio, or lawn runs off the surface more rapidly, picking up pollutants as it goes. This stormwater runoff flows into streams or storm drains that empty into waterways like the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers.

### Why Can Stormwater Be a Problem?

Poorly managed stormwater can cause many problems. These include:

- **Flooding** – As stormwater runs off roofs, driveways, and lawns, large volumes quickly reach streams, causing them to rise and flood. When more impervious surfaces exist, flooding occurs rapidly and can be severe, resulting in damage to property and harm to people.
- **Pollution** – Stormwater running over roofs, driveways, roads, and lawns will pick up pollutants such as oil, fertilizers, pesticides, dirt/sediment, trash, and animal waste. These pollutants “hitch a ride” with the stormwater and flow untreated into local streams, polluting our waters.
- **Stream Bank Erosion** – When stormwater flows into streams at unnaturally high volumes and speeds, the power of these flows can cause severe stream bank erosion. Eroding banks can eat away at streamside property, create dangerous situations, and damage natural habitat for fish and other aquatic life. This erosion is another source of sediment pollution in streams.

- **Threats to Human Health** – Stormwater runoff can carry many pollutants, such as toxic metals, organic compounds, bacteria, and viruses. Polluted stormwater, especially coming from combined sewer overflows, can contaminate drinking water supplies and hamper recreational opportunities as well as threaten fish and other aquatic life.

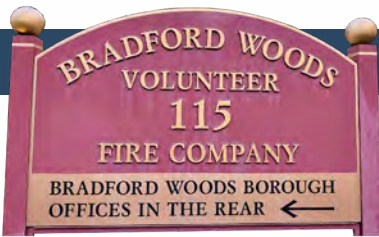
### What Can I Do to Help?

As a homeowner, you can help avoid the problems associated with stormwater by:

- **Reducing** impervious areas (hard surfaces like roofs, paved areas) so that rain soaks into the ground.
- **Planting** native trees and plants which help infiltrate stormwater and increase evaporation and transpiration.
- **Managing** stormwater on-site with rain gardens, rain barrels, and similar practices.
- **Picking up** pet waste immediately and depositing it into the garbage.
- In **caring** for your lawn,
  - o Reduce or eliminate the use of non-organic fertilizers,
  - o Use mulched grass clippings or leaves to fertilize your lawn, keeping them out of streets and storm drains,
  - o Apply lime to your lawn to ensure good turf grass growth and stormwater retention,
  - o Do not apply fertilizer within 20 feet of a stream, pond, or other water body.
- **Obtain** the required building and zoning permits from the Borough office for any addition of impervious area to your property. Examples include:
  - o Paving or resurfacing a driveway
  - o Additions to existing structures
  - o New accessory structures (garage, shed, etc.).

Information excerpted from “Southwestern Pennsylvania’s Homeowner’s Guide to Stormwater” March 2015 edition.





## Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company

Chief Ben Titus  
Assistant Chief Bill Engeman  
President Jack Moran  
Vice President Mike Gillis  
Treasurer Vince Cannella  
Secretary Shelly Muhlenkamp

The Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank our neighbors for participating in our latest mail-in fund drive and memorial brick donation program.

You may be wondering how your generous donations support the fire company. We thought we would take this opportunity to let you know. Just like you have monthly bills for your home, the fire station and Borough office that we pay for do likewise: Electricity, heating, gas, and water bills. We also need to keep our three vehicles topped off with gas in the event of an emergency. The engine can take up to 60 gallons of fuel.



Photo: Mike Gillis, Chief Ben Titus and Shelly Muhlenkamp completing the Emergency Vehicle Drivers Training Road Test sponsored by Marshall Township Volunteer Fire Department Station 185.

We also have emergency equipment that needs to be maintained: We refill our oxygen tanks for responding to fires/ heavy smoke /carbon monoxide alarms at the station. The air compressor has scheduled maintenance, as well as the self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA). We use many batteries of various sizes with our equipment; flashlights, gas sensors, oxygen masks, radios, and thermal imaging cameras to name a few. The gas sensors that we use need to be recalibrated with a special gas tank that costs up to \$375 every few months. We also pay for pump testing, vehicle inspections, and ladder testing. We need to ensure that all our safety equipment is ready for use when there is an emergency in Bradford Woods. We truly appreciate your donations that keep our fire station up and running, our equipment ready, and our volunteers safe.

When you volunteer with us, you don't have to sign up just to fight fires. We have many different roles for citizens to help with: assisting with fire prevention and education or helping with administrative work as well as community events. All of these roles, individually or cumulatively, are equally important to the community of Bradford Woods. We are particularly looking for individuals that could assist with grant writing for grant funding from the federal government, foundations, and corporations.

We might be able to put a price tag on our costs, but there is one commodity that is priceless, and that is our volunteers. The officers of the BWVFC are so grateful for the community members who have stepped up to train and lend a hand to be part of the emergency response team for Bradford Woods over the years. We are truly grateful for you.

Please feel free to stop by and meet your borough volunteers and learn more about what we do. If you would like to schedule a safety inspection of your home, or if you would like to learn more about how you can help out, contact us at [bradfordwoodsfdc@gmail.com](mailto:bradfordwoodsfdc@gmail.com) or go to our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BWVFC](https://www.facebook.com/BWVFC)

### CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.

### How do I report a concern to the Borough staff?

There are three ways to report a concern in Bradford Woods:

1. **Call** the Borough office at (724) 935-2990,
2. **Email** the Borough manager at [manager@bradfordwoods.gov](mailto:manager@bradfordwoods.gov),
3. **Submit** a Citizen Request Form through the Borough website at [www.bradfordwoodspa.org](http://www.bradfordwoodspa.org). From the home page, click on "Citizen Request Form."

Regardless of how you report the concern, you must include your name, address, and either a phone number or email address for follow-up. We cannot accept anonymous requests.





**Dr. Matthew Cook**  
*Your Bradford Woods neighbor & doctor*



- Treatments:
- Adjustments
  - Therapy
  - Rehab
  - Massage Therapist

- Proudly Accepting:
- Insurance
  - Auto
  - Workers Comp
  - Personal Injury

119 NEELY SCHOOL ROAD • WEXFORD, PA 15090  
*Located in Pure Athletex*  
Phone: (724) 799-8280  
[www.EliteSportsCR.com](http://www.EliteSportsCR.com)

**YOU  
COOL?  
CALL...**



**Climate Systems**

(724) 935-3900  
[ClimateSystems.net](http://ClimateSystems.net)



## Muhlenkamp & Company, Inc.

We have been helping clients build a legacy of financial freedom for themselves and their children since 1977 through personalized financial planning and investment management services.

M - F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
(877)935-5520  
[www.muhenkamp.com](http://www.muhenkamp.com)

5000 Stonewood Drive,  
Suite 300  
Wexford, PA 15090

**THE  
Painting  
Chick**



**Interior Painting**

*Licensed and Insured*

Mobile: 412-720-5242 | Email: [Thepaintingchickpgh@gmail.com](mailto:Thepaintingchickpgh@gmail.com)



Follow The Painting Chick on Facebook



Bradford Wood Borough  
4908 Wexford Run Road  
Bradford Woods, PA 15015



This Community Newsletter is produced for  
the Borough of Bradford Woods by Hometown Press  
215.257.1500 • All rights reserved®



To Place An Ad Call or Email Mike Ference at Hometown Press • 412-233-5491 • [mikeferencere@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeferencere@yahoo.com)

- ◆ *Licensed Real Estate Adviser*
- ◆ *Home Staging Solutions*
- ◆ *Remodeling Recommendations*
- ◆ *Home Valuation Analysis*
- ◆ *Buyer / Seller Consultations*

*She has the answers you are searching for...*



*Linda Honeywill*  
Associate Broker

BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY  
HomeServices

The Preferred  
Realty

Office 412-847-2697

Cell 412-736-0112