

Ordinances and Notices

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT NONPOINT SOURCE (NPS) POLLUTION:

- Keep litter, pet wastes, leaves and debris out of street gutters and storm drains—these outlets drain directly to lakes, streams, rivers and wetlands.
 - Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to directions.
 - Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints and other household chemicals properly—not in storm sewers or drains.
 - Participate in the annual household hazardous waste collection.
 - Control soil erosion on your property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas.
 - Clean up spilled brake fluid, oil, grease and antifreeze. Do not hose them into the street where they can eventually reach local streams and lakes.
 - Purchase household detergents and cleaners that are low in phosphorus to reduce the amount of nutrients discharged into our lakes, streams, and coastal waters.
 - Keep the stream banks clear. Do not place logs, grass clippings or junk near or on the banks.
 - Placing any of your yard or home furniture, materials or junk near backyard streams will contribute to flooding!
 - Be respectful of your neighbors!
 - The Township is responsible for maintaining roads and inlets.
 - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO KEEP YOUR STREAM BANKS CLEAN OF DEBRIS!
- For more info visit: epa.gov/nps

Did You Know? - A Guide to Township Regulations



Speeding

- PLEASE SLOW DOWN!
- Always obey posted speed limits, especially in residential areas where children may be present.
- Watch for speed limit signs, “Children at Play” signs, and other important road markers. These are placed for your safety and the safety of others.
- Slow down in school zones, even if you don’t see children.
- Always stop for school buses when the red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended.
- Distracted driving is dangerous. Keep your focus on the road and avoid using phones or other distractions while driving.



Grass

- Residents with an overgrown lawn - more than six inches in height - may receive a notice of violation from Code Enforcement along with a mailed citation. After receiving a citation, residents have five days to mow their lawn before being issued another citation. After three citations, the violation will be filed with the Magisterial District Judge.
- At the property owner’s expense, the Township reserves the right to mow the lawn and lien the property 10 days after a citation is issued.



Parking During Snow

- Parking on Township roads is prohibited during and within the 12-hour period immediately following snowfall.
- Vehicles may return to on-street parking sooner if snow has ended and the street has been completely cleared of snow.



Police Related Issues

- Call 911
- North Franklin is patrolled by the PA State Police.



Burning

- Burning is permitted on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays only, between 9:00am and 7:00 pm. No permit is required.
- Recreational fires are permitted any day between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00am and do not require a permit.
- Grubbing or burning off vegetation from land for maintenance or construction requires a permit, which can be obtained from the Township Office.
- All burning within the Township must be in compliance with the Burning Ordinance.



Street Obstruction

- It is unlawful to throw or shovel snow from driveways, sidewalks, or other areas onto streets.
- It is unlawful to throw grass clippings from your property onto streets.
- Those violating this ordinance shall be fined \$200 per occurrence.



Blighted Properties

- Residents are encouraged to report blighted properties to the Township office.
- The Township has demolished multiple blighted properties posing safety risks to residents, and will continue to pursue this issue.



Annual Leaf Pickup

- October 31 - November 30, Monday through Friday.
- No sticks, grass, brush, or plastic.
- Do not seal, staple, or tape bags.
- Paper leaf bags must be used. Leaf bags will be available at the municipal building.

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Summer 2026



DEAR RESIDENTS OF NORTH FRANKLIN AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES,

The North Franklin Township Board of Supervisors is pleased to present you with the Summer 2026 edition of the North Franklin Township Newsletter. Inside you’ll find Township developments and ordinances.

Township meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise advertised in the Observer Reporter.

We encourage residents to **sign up for Savvy Citizen at SavvyCitizenApp.com** to keep up with future Township news.

Sincerely,

North Franklin’s Board of Supervisors



Bob Sabot
Chairman (D-2029)



Mike Quinn
Vice Chairman (R-2031)



Ben Johnson
Supervisor (R-2027)

MUNICIPAL STAFF

Jackie Kotchman
Secretary/Treasurer

Diane Smykal
Tax Collector

Erin Dinch
Director of Planning and Development

Todd Lanch
Road Crew Foreman

Andrew Moore
Road Crew

Jake Folle
Road Crew

Jacob Bush
Road Crew



HOURS

Office | 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday

Tax Collector | 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday- Thursday

Emergency Siren



- Whenever the Volunteer Fire Company is summoned, the sirens sound for less than one minute with a tone that goes up and down three times.
 - For other emergencies, such as tornado warnings, the sirens will sound non-stop for five minutes with a steady tone.
 - For more information on the siren system, visit: <https://northfranklin.org/sirens/>
- Questions about the siren? Call 724-228-3330.

This Just In

Augusta Town Courthouse

In August 1776, Augusta Town Courthouse was built along what is now Franklin Farms Road, approximately 500 feet away from the Municipal Building. On August 20, 1776, the County Court for the District of West Augusta, Virginia contracted to build a 24' x 14' house to be used for a jail (with a courtroom above it) at Augusta Town on the farm of William Gabby. It would be the first courthouse west of the Alleghenies.

On September 17, 1776, the court for the District of West Augusta was held at Augusta Town. Later, it became the Yohogania County Court, and remained there until August 25, 1777.

In 1905, the Washington County Historical Society erected a monument to mark the location where the courthouse once stood. The monument is located on the upper side of Franklin Farms Road, slightly south of North Franklin Township's municipal building.

After months of tireless effort from local volunteers, the recreation of the Augusta Town Courthouse now stands less than 500 feet from the original site. It was completed in June of 2026 for the 250th anniversary. We would like to thank the Washington County Historical Society and all the volunteers and donors for their efforts.



Franklin Crossroads Park

A new chapter is underway for one of North Franklin Township's most recognizable properties. The former Washington Crown Center Mall is being redeveloped into Franklin Crossroads Park, a modern mixed-use business and commercial campus designed to revitalize the site and support long-term economic growth.

The project will transform the property into a hub for retail, light industrial, warehousing, advanced manufacturing, research and development, and office uses. Located along the I-70 corridor, Franklin Crossroads Park offers convenient access to major transportation routes, making it an attractive destination for new businesses and employers.



As the redevelopment continues, the project is expected to create jobs, attract investment, and return a once-thriving community landmark to productive use, helping to strengthen the local economy and position North Franklin Township for future growth.

Join Us for Our 2nd Annual Fall Festival On October 3!

Following the successful grand opening of the Waterside Park Event Center last year, North Franklin Township is excited to host its 2nd Annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 3, from 11 AM to 4 PM at the Waterside Park Event Center (345 Franklin Farms Road).

The historic brick water filtration plant built circa 1900 is now a beautifully restored Event Center. It has quickly become a gathering place for the community. This unique three-season pavilion provides a scenic backdrop for celebrations, events, and activities throughout the year.

Join us for a fun-filled day featuring family-friendly activities, local charm, and community spirit. Visitors can enjoy a Touch-a-Truck experience with a firetruck, CAT loader, and tiger mower, along with face painting, a bounce house, games, cornhole, complimentary food, and a live animal show. There will also be a few vendors present! It's the perfect opportunity to explore Waterside Park, connect with neighbors, and celebrate all that makes our community special.

The Fall Festival is sure to become a favorite township tradition, bringing together residents of all ages for a day of fun and fellowship. We invite everyone to join us as we continue building lasting memories at Waterside Park.

For more information or to volunteer at the festival, contact the Township Office or email e.dinch@nftwp.com.



Announcements

Waterside Park Walking Trail

The 89-acre Waterside Park serves as a premier community destination near the North Franklin Township Municipal Building. The park provides recreational activities and educational opportunities for residents and visitors. Grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and Washington County Local Share Account (LSA) helped fund many of the park's improvements without a tax increase.

A very popular walking trail now circles Reservoir 2, providing opportunities for walking, jogging, and enjoying the natural surroundings. Residents and visitors can fish in the reservoirs with a valid Pennsylvania fishing license.

Additional upcoming amenities include pickleball courts and a fishing dock/kayak launch on Reservoir 2, as well as plans for the park to include a full-sized basketball court and playground, with construction anticipated as additional grant funding becomes available.

The park also serves as a link to North Franklin Township's past through the renovation of the historic Water Filter building. Originally constructed in the late nineteenth century, the building once supplied water to the growing City of Washington. Today, it functions as an open-air pavilion that hosts community events, including our Fall Festival in October and other gatherings throughout the year.



Pennsylvania's All-Terrain Vehicle Law

Residents are reminded that Pennsylvania law generally prohibits ATVs and off-road motorbikes from being operated on public streets and highways unless the roadway has been specifically designated and posted for their use. ATVs may only cross a road at designated locations and must have the property owner's permission to operate on private land. Operators are required to register eligible ATVs, follow all safety regulations, and ride responsibly. Violations may result in fines and other penalties. For the safety of all residents, please ensure that all ATV and off-road vehicle use complies with Pennsylvania's law.



Kennywood and Idlewild Tickets For Only \$30!

- Discounted tickets for sale for North Franklin residents ONLY! Must show proof of residence (ID).
- Cash or check only!
- 4 ticket limit per household.



SCAM ALERT

It has been brought to our attention that someone is calling North Franklin residents claiming to represent the North Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company and attempting to solicit donations.

Please be aware - this is a scam. The North Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company does not solicit donations by phone. If you would like to donate to the Fire Company, please contact them directly.

North Franklin Township Event Room Available for Rental!

The North Franklin Township Municipal Building has a meeting room for many events like graduation parties, bridal parties, baby showers, and more.

- Saturday or Sunday: \$500 for residents, \$700 for non-residents for a maximum of 6 hours
- Monday-Friday rentals available at a discounted rate.

For more information, or to schedule a tour, call the Township Office at 724-228-3330.



NORTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Home of the Washington Wild Things and the reimagined Franklin Crossroads Park