SPRING GARDEN TOWNSHIP Newsletter Fall 2025 / Winter 2026













The Recreation Department celebrated a highly successful first season with a variety of popular community events that brought people together!

- **Spring Fun Fest:** We kicked off the season with a bang! The event featured a visit from the Easter Bunny, food trucks, live music from the School of Rock, bounce houses, face painting, and a variety of other activities.

 A big thank you to our sponsors, Vito's Pizza and Inch and Company.
- **Food Truck Fridays:** Held on the fourth Friday of June, July, August and September, these events were a huge hit. They brought together fantastic food trucks, local musicians, and fun activities for all ages.
- **Community Connect, Create, and Play:** On Tuesday nights, families and individuals enjoyed a relaxed evening with art projects, yard games, and board games. Some nights even featured Kona Ice and water guns for extra fun!
- **Arts in the Park:** Creative York visited all of our parks with pavilions throughout the summer, giving kids the opportunity to make arts and crafts.
- **Craft and Storytime:** Our youngest residents enjoyed this event on Thursdays in May and September, which included story time, simple crafts, watercolor painting and even a visit from Clifford the Big Red Dog!

Did you miss out on the fun!? Be sure to check out the recreation section of this newsletter. Also follow our Facebook (Spring Garden Township Recreation), Instagram (<u>spring garden rec</u>), or check in our new recreation website from time to time for updates on what's happening and create an account to receive e-mail updates! **www.springgardenpa.myrec.com/**













GENERAL INFORMATION

Business Hours: Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 4:00 pm, Friday 7:30 am - 1:00 pm

Website: www.SpringGardenTwp.org

Email general questions to: general@sgtwp.org

Township Manager: Luther Wike, Jr.

Spring Garden Township Board of Commissioners 2025

The Original Property of the Control					
Ward 1	<u>Ward 2</u>	<u>Ward 3</u>	<u>Ward 4</u>	<u>Ward 5</u>	
David Detwiler	Daniel Rooney	Anne Gray	Andrew Herrold	Thomas Gwilt	
Term Expires 2027	Term Expires 2025	Term Expires 2027	Term Expires 2025	Term Expires 2027	

Township Meeting Dates				
Board of Commissioners, Workshop (as needed)	2nd Wednesday	5:00pm		
Board of Commissioners, Business Meeting	2nd Wednesday	6:30pm		
Planning Commission	1st Tuesday	6:00pm		
Zoning Hearing Board	3rd Tuesday	6:00pm		
Civil Service Commission (as needed)	2nd & 4th Tuesday	4:00pm		
Recreation Commission	3 rd Wednesday	5:00pm		

Township Office Closed

Thursday, November 27, 2025 Friday, November 28, 2025 Thursday, December 25, 2025 Friday, December 26, 2025 Thursday, January 1, 2025 Monday, February 16, 2025

Spring Garden Directory

Township Administration
717.848.2858
340 Tri Hill Rd, Suite A
www.springgardentwp.org
Business Hours:
Mon-Thurs 7:30am - 4:00pm
Friday 7:30am - 1:00pm

Friday 7.30am - 1.00pm		
Planning, Zoning, and Building Permits Dawn Hansen	Ext. 3	
Code Enforcement and Rental Registration David Zurn	Ext. 4	
Public Works Craig Ruhl, Superintendent	Ext. 6	
Administration Luther Wike, Jr., Township Manager Rebecca Nicklow, Finance Administrator Karen Smeltzer, Office Assistant Eryn Arnold, Administrative Assistant	Ext. 2	
Recreation Coordinator Katie Sprich	Ext. 8	

York County Regional Police Department		
717.741.1259		
33 Oak Street		
York, PA 17402		
Fire Department (Non-Emergency)	717.718.2383	

Contact Information		
The York Water Company	717.845.3601	
Penn Waste	717.767.4456	
Columbia Gas	888.460.4332	
Met-Ed	800.545.7741	
Comcast	800.934.6489	
SPCA	717.764.6109	
Animal Control	717.916.1413	
York Adams Tax Bureau	717.845.1584	

Real Estate Taxes				
York County Treasurer	717.771.9603			
28 E Market St, York, PA 17403				

York Suburban School Taxes

204 St Charles Way Unit E, #388 York, PA 17402-4646 717.885.1205

Drop-off: Robert Provard Education Center,1800 Hollywood Dr



Spring Garden Township would like to introduce Savvy Citizen. Savvy Citizen is a free notification system for Apple and Android users that will enable the township to send information about important township news and events directly to residents' mobile devices. Residents may access Savvy Citizen by downloading the smartphone app, visiting the website below or scanning the QR code with your phone's camera.



For more info:
SavvyCitizenApp.com
Sign up and become a savvy citizen!



ZONING & PLANNING

Don't pile snow on rain gardens or landscaping

This winter, take care of your landscape- and your watershed!

Prune certain trees

Clear downspouts, gutters, and storm drains to allow melting snow to drain

Shovel your walk rather than use salt when possible

Don't leave your rain barrel connected to your downspout

Apply mulch over any bare spots on your rain garden





Join Spring Garden in becoming a more sustainable Township by mitigating leaf waste through utilizing the benefits of the fallen leaves in your yard! By doing so, you are helping keep natural waste out of landfills, save native species, and lessen the environmental impact that fall-time leaf collection brings. Take a small step this year to save some fallen leaves, you may be surprised by what you find. For more information on the benefits of leaf mulch in your yard and garden, please visit: https://xerces.org/2017/10/06/leave-the-leaves/

ZONING & PLANNING



Septic Pumping

If you live in wards 1, 2, or 5 it is time to have your on-lot septic system inspected and pumped by a qualified hauler. These systems must be pumped between June 1, 2025 and July 1, 2026. If you have a cesspool, it must be inspected by the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer. According to Ordinance §250-126, every three years owners are required to have their on-lot system inspected by a qualified pumper/hauler. If you have questions, please contact the Township office.

Dumpster/POD Permits

Do you require temporary storage? Storage pods may be placed in your driveway; however, it does require a permit. Please visit our website and complete and submit the Dumpster/POD permit application to the Township office



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Planning Commission needs a volunteer from WARD 1 to serve on the Planning Commission starting in 2026. This is a 4-year term. Are you interested in serving your community? If so, please contact the Township Office for details.

Planning/Zoning Activities

Planning Commission:

- **Regents Glen Lot 86 Red Oaks** Final Subdivision Land Development plan to build 72 single-family detached dwellings. Recommended for approval with conditions.
- · **3D Metals, Donald Graham, 1520 S. George St.** Preliminary Land Development Plan to build an office with enclosed storage. Recommended for approval with conditions.
- **711 Olive Street** Final Land Development Plan to build an Industrial Park to include the building of a Landscape contractor's office. Recommended for approval with conditions.
- · ACT 537 3M Report: Recommended for submittal to DEP.
- · **Intermunicipal Comprehensive Plan** between York Township and Spring Garden Township was recommended to the Board of Commissioners for 45-day review.

Zoning Hearing Board:

- **2025-01 1615 Crestlyn Rd** filed a variance request to Section 310-6.B(a) to run a Family Child-Care (home) with more than six children who are not related to the caregiver. The variance was denied.
- · 2025-02 1525 Second Ave., R.A.L.E. Assets LLC, Alex Kreeger filed a variance request to Section 310-15(1) parking requirements for a single-family dwelling unit requiring two parking spaces, only (1) space is available. The variance was granted
- 2025-03 711 Olive St, Inch's 700 Sherman, LLC filed a special exception request for Section 310-10.C(7) to permit an Industrial Park on the property. Applicant also requested an extension of the timeframe set forth in Section 310-42.H in order to obtain a building permit. The special exception was granted with an 18-month extension to obtain a building permit.
- 2025-04 1090 E Boundary Ave., DPIF3 PA 6 Boundary Ave, LLC filed a special exception request for §310-10.C(7) (Uses by special exception), and §310-42 (General Standards of special exceptions) to allow multiple tenants within its approved warehouse logistics center. Additionally, the applicant requested a variance from §310-61(A) for industrial park access that will not be onto an arterial or collector street, and a variance under §310-41(C)(5) and §310-42(H) to extend the time to obtain a building permit or use certificate from six months to 24 months. The special exception was granted. The Variance from §310-61(A) was granted. The Variance from §310-42(H) was denied.
- · **2025-05 177 Harrison St., Ryan Hash** filed a special exception request for §310-35C for the replacement of an existing non-conforming use with another non-conforming use to improve the property with a mini storage facility which is also a non-conforming use in the R-2 zoning district. The special exception was approved with conditions.
- 2025-06 325 S Belmont St., BHI Properties LLC filed a special exception request for §310-8.C(5) and §310-59 for a Hotel/Motel. The special exception was approved with conditions.
- **2025-07 Parcel # 48000340083, Spring Garden Township** filed a special exception request for §310-17(B) to allow two driveways. The special exception was approved.

CODE ENFORCEMENT



Rental Registration

Rental properties are any properties occupied by anyone other than the deeded owner, whether they are related or not; and regardless of compensation to the owner. Only three unrelated people are permitted per unit. Rentals are inspected every two years. There is a checklist available on our website that is used for performing rental inspections. A Rental Registration and fee (\$200 per year per unit) are required for each rental unit and are due by January 31st of each year. There is a \$50 late fee that is charged beginning February 1. Notices will be sent via email. Please make sure we have your current email address to assure delivery of the notice.

We do not have provisions for short-term rentals such as Airbnb and VRBO. Please contact the Zoning Officer if you have questions regarding these

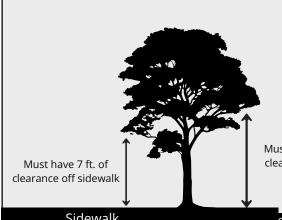
Snow & Ice Removal

Residents are required to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks in accordance with ordinance 270-2 which states: Every person in charge or control of any building or lot of land fronting or abutting on a paved sidewalk, whether as owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, or otherwise, shall remove and clear away or cause to be removed or cleared away, snow and/or ice from a path of at least 30 inches in width from so much of said sidewalk as is in front of or abuts on said building or lot of land.

- Remember that snow and ice must be removed from all public sidewalks within twelve (12) hours after it stops falling.
- The snow and ice must be removed each time, not just the first time.
- All snow must be removed, even if the snowfall is only half an inch.
- Do not put the snow and ice in the public streets.
- Please make sure all fire hydrants are open and accessible.

Trees and Vegetation Along Right-of-Ways

Early fall is a good time to trim or remove vegetation overgrowth from trees, shrubs, and bushes. Please be aware that Ordinance 290 states that "it shall be the duty of the owner or owners of every property located in the Township of Spring Garden, York County, Pennsylvania, to trim or cut and keep trimmed or cut the trees standing along the street abutting the front, side or rear of said such property so that branches thereof shall have a clearance of at least 14 feet above the cartway or paved area of the street along said property and shall have a clearance of at least seven feet above the sidewalk area and shall so trim trees that they shall not obstruct the streetlighting or interfere with the wiring or the proper maintenance of public utilities. The cost of such trimming shall be borne by the property owner except where the work is specially required to protect and maintain utility wires, in which case the cost shall be borne by such utility. It shall also be the duty of the owner or owners of every property located in the Township to trim or remove all trees, shrubbery or hedges, or other growing things extending beyond the property line in any public street or alley of the Township in order that the entire width of the street or alley shall be available for traffic use or other authorized use."



At all intersections of streets, private roads, and/or access drives a clear sight triangle shall be maintained so not to cause a visual obstruction of trees, hedges, shrubs, or other vegetation and cannot be more than three (3) feet above the road surface.

BUSHES

Trim bushes back to edge of road & sidewalk

Sidewalk

Must have 14 ft. of clearance off road surface

Public Works

SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES

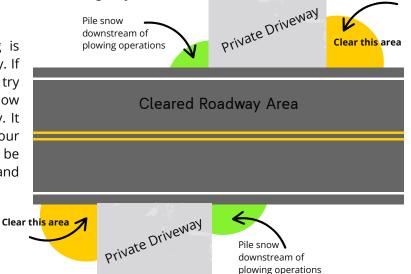
§ 300-57- Temporary parking ban. - During a snow emergency, the Snow Emergency Official shall be authorized to declare a temporary ban on parking on any street or road within the Township which is not a snow emergency route whenever there exists upon streets and roads within the Township a substantial accumulation of ice and/or snow which, for the effective removal thereof, requires a prohibition of parking. A temporary ban on parking shall be announced in the same manner as is stated in § 300-54 of this article. The declaration and announcement shall be made not less than two hours prior to the time the snow and/or ice removal is to begin on any such specified street or road and shall state the time after which parking shall be prohibited. While snow and/or ice removal operations are in progress and until the roadway of an entire block has been substantially cleared of snow and/or ice from curb to curb, parking shall be prohibited on such streets and roads.

Visit https://ecode360.com/14755393#14755392 for a list of Snow Emergency Routes.

Driveways

It is suggested that you wait until after all plowing is complete before shoveling out the end of your driveway. If you do shovel out before the plows have come through, try to clear a spot upstream of your driveway. This will allow the snow from the plow to unload before the driveway. It won't prevent all snow from going back in the front of your driveway, but it will reduce the amount. The snow must be plowed from the street; therefore, all driveways and properties will be affected to some degree.





Mailboxes

Spring Garden Township WILL NOT compensate property owners should their mailbox or any other object become damaged due to the removal of snow from Township roads. Any object placed in the road right-of-way, including a mailbox, fence, landscaping, etc., is at the owner's risk. The public right-of-way is on average 50 feet wide (25 feet from the center of the roadway).

2025 Street Cleaning and Fall Leaf Schedule

Street Cleaning is in effect year round. Leaves will be collected during the months of October, November, and December according to the posted street cleaning signs. Failure to remove your car from the street in a posted area will result in a fine. Times are strictly enforced and anyone parked in the posted area, even if the street sweeper or leaf collection equipment has been through, will be ticketed.

Starting Leaf pickup is October 13th, 2025 and the final pickup for leaves will be December 19th, 2025.

Residents are encouraged to recycle their leaf waste in the Fall by placing them at the edge of the curb in the yard in a long row or pile along the street. Please do NOT place them in the street or traffic lanes; this is a violation of the Stormwater Management ordinance. This will allow safe passage of vehicles and allow proper stormwater drainage.



95th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 53 E. North Main Street, Suite 3 York, PA 17401

CAROL HILL-EVANS

FREE Community Shredding & E-Waste Disposal

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



A TRI-STATE SHREDDING

NOVEMBER 1, 2025 | 10 A.M. – 1 P.M.

SPRING GARDEN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING 340 TRI HILL ROAD, SUITE A, YORK, PANIZ403

Bring your old electronic devices and personal paper documents for proper disposal.

SEWER BILLING

Do not mail or bring payments to the Township. Mail Payments To: The York Water Company-130 E Market St York, PA 17401

ALL property sales (including refinances, deed transfers, vacant land, and on-lot systems) require a sewer certification request to be submitted to the Township at least 5 business days before settlement. This guarantees that all sewer payments have been paid, and sewer billing will be sent to the correct party. The fee of \$35.00 must be submitted with the completed form for the Township to process the request.

Sewer Quarterly Billing Dates

1st Quarter (Jan 1- Mar 31) - Due January 31st 2nd Quarter (Apr 1- June 30) - Due May 1st 3rd Quarter (July 1-Sept 30) - Due July 31st 4th Quarter (Oct 1- Dec 31) - Due October 31st

A 10% late fee will be assessed on any unpaid balance 15 days after the due date

ELECTIONS

Polls open **7AM - 8PM**

Election Day: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 **Voting Locations**

Ward 1 - York Alliance Church - Rear Entrance, 501 Rathton Road

Ward 2 - St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1502 Fourth Avenue

Ward 3 - Spring Garden Administration Building, 340 Tri Hill Rd. Suite A

Ward 4 - Grumbacher Sport & Fitness Center, York College, 899 South Richland Avenue

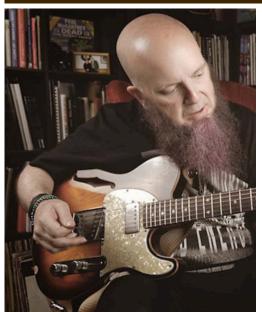
Ward 5 - Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 1907 Hollywood Drive

For more information visit: www.yorkcountypa.gov/969/vote-in-person

For helpful information on voting in Pennsylvania, go to www.Vote.PA.gov.

York County Voting and Elections: 717.771.9604

RECREATION



Quick Start Guitar for Adults Learners

Don't have a guitar? No problem- you can use one of ours!

So, the dream of playing guitar is calling to you. Maybe you've always wanted to, or perhaps life's finally offering the space to pick up a new passion.

Whatever your reason, you're in for a treat!

It's not just about scales and chords; it's about nurturing the whole person, fostering connection, and building confidence every step of the way.

Instructor: Master Guitar Instructor Rod Goelz

Who: Ages 18+

Cost: 8 weeks session, \$240 Resident, \$280 Non-Resident

When: Wednesdays at noon Session 1- 10/15-25-12/03/2025

Session 2- 12/10/25- 2/11/26 (No Class 12/24, 12/31)

Session 3- 2/18/25-3/8/26

Location: Spring Garden Township Administrative

Training Room, 340 Tri-Hill Road

Sign-up at Springgardenpa.myrec.com



Little Learners: A Pre-School Craft and Story Time

Join us for a morning of fun, creativity, and adventure! We'll read a story together, then use our imaginations to create a craft inspired by the book. This program is perfect for little ones to express their creativity, develop fine motor skills, and make new friends. If it's nice outside we'll spend some time outdoors at Violet Hill Park!

Who: Ages 2-6 years old

Cost: FREE

When: Thursdays at 10am, 11/6-12/11, 1/8-2/12/25

Location: Spring Garden Township Administrative Training Room

Sign-up at Springgardenpa.myrec.com **Spring Garden Stroll**



Stay active, spend time in nature and make new friends!

Cost: FREE

When: Wednesday October 22, 9am-10am, Weather Permitting Location: Meet at the rail trail parking at 620 Kings Mill Road New dates and locations may be added depending on interest!

Sign-up at Springgardenpa.myrec.com

Springettsbury Township Bus Trips

Spring Garden Residents use code SPRING GARDEN for resident rate Visit secure.rec1.com/PA/springettsbury-township-pa to see current list of trips! Trips are updated quarterly.

Reserve a Pavilion Online Starting January 1, 2026

You'll soon be able to reserve pavilions at Violet Hill Park, Elmwood Park, Windsor Park, and Grantley Park on our new recreation website.

The new site, **springgardenpa.myrec.com**, will be active for reservations on January 1, 2026.

Please see the Fee Schedule for current fees.

Please remember that restrooms are included with your rental. You are responsible for removing any excess trash and clean-up. More information can be found on our website. Springgardentwp.org





RECREATION



















What's Next!?

- 4th Fridays will be back in May to celebrate Spring! Join us on the fourth Friday of each month, from May to September, for evenings of food, live talented local music, painting in the park and movies in the summer months!
- The Summer Parks Program is finally coming back! We're already busy planning an exciting Summer Parks Program for 2026!
- We'll also be offering more classes in the coming months, so stay tuned for new opportunities!

For updates on programs, events and all the latest news, be sure to:

- Follow us on Facebook (Spring Garden Township Recreation) and Instagram (spring garden rec).
- Create an account at springgardenpa.myrec.com to receive email updates.
- Sign up for SAVVY Citizens! Savvycitizensapp.com

Keep an eye out for our next newsletter in early March for more

information! **Currently Seeking Sponsors for 2026!**

Are you a business owner interested in creating connection in our community? Reach out to ksprich@sgtwp.org for information about sponsoring events or programs.

JOIN US IN CREATING A SAFER, HEALTHIER YORK COUNTY

For nearly 100 years, the York County SPCA has served York County's 72 municipalities—transporting and housing sick, injured, dangerous, abandoned, and lost animals. We are the only animal shelter responsible for housing all the county's displaced pets. We are honored to provide our community with these lifesaving public health and safety services

Donate today to create a brighter future for animals in York County.





The Spring Garden Township Recreation Commission has been established!

Get in on the conversation!

Consider joining us for a meetings which are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:00pm.

Recreation Commissioners

Missy Stuart, Ward 5 - Chairperson Leah McQuillis, Ward 2 - Secretary Aaron Hall, Ward 1 Corey Willard, Ward 3 Andrew Ruth, Ward 4





FALL BACK, Time to change the clocks!

Reminder to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on Sunday, November 2, 2025 when you change your clocks. It is important to replace your smoke detector if it is more than 10 years old.

REFUSE & RECYCLING



Winter is here! In order to prepare for trash collection in inclement weather, below are several reminders from our friends at Penn Waste to help ensure that your trash will be picked up safely:

Be Patient — Trash and recycling may not be collected at the usual time due to poor weather conditions.

Children — Ask your children to play away from the streets as visibility may be impaired due to weather conditions.

Slow Down Before You Go Around —Make sure you slow down before you go around after checking for on-coming traffic and trash collectors who may be at the side of the truck.

Access to Your Trash & Recycling — Please make sure there is a clear, safe path to access your trash and recycling bags or bins.

Keep Your Eyes On the Road When Driving — Keep your eyes on the road at all times and give yourself some room between other vehicles when driving.

Trash Bags — Use dark colored trash bags so the hauler is able to more easily spot the garbage which needs to be collected.

Recycling in Spring Garden Township and York County

Spring Garden Township residents enjoy weekly curbside recycling collection from PennWaste of aluminum and steel cans; plastic bottles & jugs #1, 2, and 5; newspaper (clean and dry, no food contact); glass bottles and jars; corrugated cardboard (dry and flattened, no food contact), cartons (i.e., milk, juice, etc.). The following are NOT recyclable with PennWaste: food-soiled materials, broken glass, drinking glasses, scrap metal, plastic bags (including grocery bags), solvents, oil and/or chemical containers, waxy cardboard, used paper towel or tissues, hoses, shredded paper, needles and medical waste, windows, mirrors, ceramics, aluminum foil, plastic tableware, light bulbs, soaked and/or wet papers or cardboard, plastic food wrappers, Christmas lights, and propane tanks.

Recycling - PA Act 101 (businesses, industries, institutional, multi-family dwellings)

PA Act 101 was passed in 1988 in an attempt to lessen waste and intensify recycling participation. All commercial, industrial, and institutional establishments (such as schools, churches, retailers, offices, and non-profits), multi-family dwelling with five or more units, and community activities in Spring Garden Township must recycle AND report the recycled tonnages of the following annually by January 15th for the previous reporting year: cardboard, high-grade office paper, aluminum cans, plastics, and glass. No business establishment is exempt from recycling and what recycling is generated in Spring Garden Township needs to be reported to the Township. For more information on Act 101 non-compliance, hauler verification, requirements, penalties for and recycling weight slips, visit: www.springgardentwp.org and click on the Refuse and Recycling tab.

Yard Waste

Grass clippings and leaves can be used as garden and lawn mulch! York County Solid Waste Authority's website provides a list of local mulch processors as well as hours, rates, and directions to the York County Resource Recover Center complex (www.ycswa.com/disposal-of-household-waste/yard-waste).

BASIC RESIDENTIAL GUIDELINES

- Trash, recycling, one bulk item, and yard waste must be curbside the evening before the scheduled collection day.
- Waste must fit inside the mobile cart provided by Penn Waste.
- For customers generating a small amount of material, you may switch to the low volume service. Contact customer service to switch.
- Bulk items that are too heavy to be lifted into a truck by two people will not be accepted.
- Call Penn Waste to schedule collection of appliances containing Freon (air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, etc.)
- No construction debris will be accepted curbside (tiles, drywall, bricks, etc.)
- Large item pick up must be scheduled online at www.pennwaste.com or by calling 717-767-4456

To stay up to date on collection updates, consider signing up for E-News Updates at www.pennwaste.com

FIRE & RECYLING



LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES store a lot of energy in a small place. These batteries can overheat, start a fire, or explode if overcharged or damaged. By learning how to **Buy**, **Charge**, and **Recycle** these batteries safely, you can help prevent a fire in your home.



Buy only listed products. When buying a product that uses a lithium-ion battery look for a safety certification mark such as UL, ETL, or CSA. This means it meets important safety standards.



STOP using your device right away if the battery smells weird, gets too hot, makes popping noises, changes in shape or color. If it is safe, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.



Charge devices safely. Always use the cables that came with the product to charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Buy new chargers from the manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved.



Recycle batteries responsibly. Don't throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire.



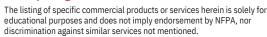
Charge your device on a hard surface. Don't overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it's fully charged.



Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit **call2recycle.org** to find a recycling spot near you.













Escanee aquí para ver nuestro boletín en español

Jennifer J.P. Clancy, Esq.

Magisterial District Judge District Court 19-2-05 1410 Sixth Avenue York, PA 17403

WARNING ABOUT FRAUDULENT VEHICLE INSPECTIONS AND EMISSIONS STICKERS

Vehicles being driven on Pennsylvania roadways are required to have valid and current inspection and emissions stickers displayed on their front windshields. A police officer who sees a vehicle being driven without any such stickers or with expired stickers can cite the driver of that vehicle. Two citations can be issued for operating a vehicle without a currently valid certificate of inspection (see 75 Pa.C.S. § 4703(a)) and evidence of an emissions inspection (see 75 Pa.C.S. § 4706(c)(5)). Fines currently range from \$25 to \$90, plus costs, per citation.

District Court 19-2-05 is seeing a large increase in citations being filed against drivers displaying fraudulent inspection and emissions stickers. A police officer who sees such stickers is required to seize them. An additional third citation may then be filed that carries a sliding fine of \$100-\$500 plus costs (see 75 Pa.C.S. § 4730(a)(1)). It is not a defense for the driver receiving such a citation that they are not the vehicle owner. Nor is it a defense for the driver that they did not know the stickers were fraudulent. Furthermore, if the police officer determines that the driver alters, forges or counterfeits an inspection certificate with fraudulent intent, a misdemeanor of the first degree criminal charge may be filed (see 75 Pa.C.S. §7122(1)).

You should exercise caution when purchasing a used vehicle displaying inspection and emissions stickers and get documentation about where and when these inspections were last completed. And it is important to bring your vehicle to legitimate businesses when obtaining annual inspections and accompanying stickers.