

SPRING GARDEN TOWNSHIP



Social Media Public Comment Policy

1. Comments containing any of the following inappropriate forms of content shall not be permitted on the Township's social media site and are subject to removal and/or restriction by a Township designated social media administrator:
 - A. Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, gender identity, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or status with regard to public assistance;
 - B. Defamatory or personal attacks;
 - C. Comments not related to the original topic, including random or unintelligible comments, profane, obscene, violent, pornographic content and/or language, or sexually suggestive links. Images or links containing minors or suspected minors in sexual and/or provocative situations may be reported to law enforcement;
 - D. Threats to any person or organization;
 - E. Comments in support of, or in opposition to, any political campaigns or ballot measures;
 - F. Solicitation of commerce, including but not limited, to advertising of any business or product for sale;
 - G. Conduct in violation of any federal, state, or local law;
 - H. Encouragement of illegal activity or violence;
 - I. Information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems; or content that violates a legal ownership interest, such as a copyright, of any party;
 - J. Harassment or content which constitutes and/or facilitates stalking;
 - K. Content which violates the right to privacy such as names, addresses, and phone numbers;
 - L. Spamming or repetitive content;
 - M. Comments which may reasonably interfere with, inhibit, or compromise law enforcement investigations, police tactics, police responses to incidents, and/or the safety of police staff and officers;
 - N. Comments from children under age 13 cannot be posted on the Township's social media site in order to comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule ("COPPA"). By posting on the township's social media site, users acknowledge that they are at least 13 years old;
 - O. Posts or comments that contain any external links;
2. A comment posted by a member of the public on the Township's social media site is the opinion of the commentator or poster only, and publication of a comment does not imply endorsement of, or agreement by, the Township, nor do such comments necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Township.

SPRING GARDEN TOWNSHIP



Social Media Public Comment Policy

3. The Township reserves the right to deny access to the Township's social media site for any individual or group who violates the Township's Social Media Policy, at any time and without prior notice.
4. Any attempt to hack or otherwise compromise the Township's internet website or social media site will be reported to law enforcement and the perpetrator will be denied access to the site.
5. Comments posted to the Township's social media site will be monitored and inappropriate content as defined above will be removed as soon as possible and without prior notice.
6. When a Township designated social media administrator responds to a comment on an official Township social media site, in his/her capacity as a Township employee or representative, the employee or representative's name and title should be made available, and the employee or representative shall not share personal information about himself or herself, or other Township employees or representatives.
7. All comments posted to any Township Facebook site are bound by Facebook's Statement of Rights and Responsibilities and Community Standards. The Township reserves the right to report any violation of Facebook's Statement of Rights and Responsibilities and/or Community Standards to Facebook with the intent of Facebook taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.
8. By posting or commenting on the Township's social media platform you agree to our terms of use. You participate by your own choice, taking personal responsibility for your comments, your username and any information you provide therein.
9. Be respectful. Always be fair and courteous to fellow residents and visitors to the Township's social media site. Keep in mind that you are more likely to resolve Township complaints by speaking directly with a Township representative than by posting complaints to a social media outlet. Nevertheless, if you decide to post complaints or criticism, avoid using statements, photographs, video or audio that reasonably could be viewed as malicious, obscene, threatening or intimidating, that disparage any person, official, employee, associates or suppliers, or that might constitute harassment or bullying. Examples of such conduct might include offensive posts meant to intentionally harm someone's reputation or posts that could contribute to a hostile community environment on the basis of race, sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender, gender identity, age, disability, or any other status protected by law or Township policy.