



# McCandless Town Crier



**We want to hear from you! Give us your thoughts on strengths, opportunities, areas for improvement, etc. as they relate to our parks and rec facilities. Scan the code and take the 5-minute survey**

**TOWN OF McCANDLESS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

9955 Grubbs Road

Wexford, PA 15090

412-364-0616

[www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)

**TOWN OF McCANDLESS COUNCIL**

Doug Arlow, Ward 1

Jack Casey, Ward 2

Nick Giorgetti, Ward 3

Jason Singer, Ward 4

Joe Wall, Ward 5

Don Hart, Ward 6

Trish Cloonan, Ward 7

John Schwend, Town Manager

Stephen Korbel, Town Attorney

Ryan Hawk, Chief of Police

Brad Iannuzzi, Public Works Superintendent

Jeff Wissner, Fire Marshal

**OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Highland VFD Non-Emergency

412-366-3473

Ingomar VFC Main Station Non-Emergency

412-364-3571

Ingomar VFC North Station Non-Emergency

724-935-5131

Peebles District VFC Non-Emergency

412-364-2112

McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Authority

412-367-5883

McCandless Township Sewer Authority (MTSA)

412-366-2700

West View Water Authority

412-931-3292

Waste Management

1-800-866-4460

Keystone Collections Group

724-978-0300

Northland Public Library

412-366-8100

# Hey, we're a Banner Community!



The Town of McCandless once again has been recognized as a Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities.

The Banner Community program, now in its 13th year, recognizes municipalities that have focused their operations on professional development, prudent fiscal management, transparency, accountability, and proactive communications.

The Town has been a Banner Community since the program's inception.

## Meeting Schedule

*Below is a general guide for when public Town meetings take place (there are some exceptions; check the calendar on the Town website for a full listing). All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

- **Meetings of the Town Council:** Second and fourth Mondays of the month
- **Planning Commission Meeting:** First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- **Zoning Hearing Board Meeting:** Fourth Wednesday of the month
- **Environmental Advisory Committee:** Second Wednesday of the month
- **Heritage Center FDPC:** Third Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.
- **Personnel Board:** Fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

# A Message from the Town Manager



As we approach the end of the winter season and begin to think spring, I want to take a moment and highlight one of the ways we've been working to improve service delivery to the residents and business in the Town – developing and investing in our staff.

The staff that serves the Town is comprised of nearly 80 full and part-time employees who are dedicated public servants. These staff members range from public works employees who are skilled laborers, CDL truck drivers, and mechanics, to police officers working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to keep the Town safe, to dedicated administrative professionals who work to offer great park programming, responsible land development and managing the Town's finances. While their job descriptions are vastly different, their goal is the same, to deliver exceptional service to those who call McCandless home.

Recent staff changes should be highlighted as well. For the first time, we have a full-time Director of Parks and Recreation, who is dedicated and passionate about delivering top quality programming to our residents

while also enhancing offerings in our park; making sure they are well utilized and accessible to all. Our Planning Department added a Planning Assistant as a second full-time planning professional. We also now have a dedicated team of Code Enforcement employees; one who performs the duties of Building Code Official and another who is dedicated to assisting with violations enforcement situations. In our Police Department, we've hired three officers to fill vacancies from retirements, promoted a new Lieutenant, created a social services department, and welcomed back our Chief who completed three months of rigorous training at the National FBI Academy. Our public works department hired two new employees to fill retirements and also were able to promote two long-time loyal and dedicated employees to the position of Foreman.

I'd like to thank all of the employees who dedicate their time and careers to work for the Town. Our goal is to continually train, learn, and improve each day. Without each team member's skills and passion for public service, we wouldn't be in the great place we are today!

**John F. Schwend**  
*Town Manager*

## Welcome new K9 Leroy!

**Leroy, a very social 2-year-old Belgian Malinois, will be the new K9 for the Town of McCandless Police Department.**

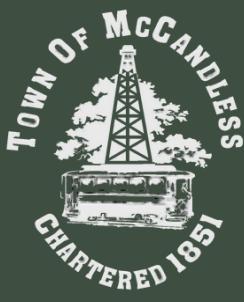
**He first came on-site at the beginning of February, and is undergoing training (a multi-week process) with his handler, Officer Shawn Davis. He will be sworn-in later this spring.**

**Like previous K9s in the department, Leroy is a "dual purpose" K9 (one who handles both tracking and apprehension).**

**Leroy is taking the place of our previous K9, Siraly, who sadly passed away in December following an ongoing illness.**



# Our Work is Where McCandless Plays!



## Comprehensive Parks Plan

In 2024, we partnered with Pashek+MTR, a Landscape Planning Firm, to develop Master Plans for the Town's Parks. A Master Plan provides framework for municipal decision-making for the next five to 10 years. The plan will set out solutions to problems and help guide the Town of McCandless regarding how it wants to improve recreation, trails and connectivity, programming and green infrastructure.



## Upcoming Events



- March 1  
Pavilion Rentals open online
- March 5 & 12  
Learn to Knit w Knit Hope
- March 20  
Moonshot Presentation
- March 29  
Rain Garden Restoration
- April 1  
Parks open for the season
- April 12  
EAC Roadside Clean up
- April 17  
Garden Spot Presentation
- April 19  
Community Easter Egg Hunt
- May 3  
Treasures in the Trunk



## We want to hear from you!

Part of this project is to involve residents, businesses and stakeholders to collect their perspectives through a survey. We would like your thoughts on things such as the strengths and opportunities for parks and recreation, wish list items, and areas for future improvements. Scan the QR code to take the 5 minute survey.

# NOW & THEN



McCandless/Northern Allegheny  
Heritage & Cultural Center



## Now...

The McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage and Cultural Center is home to photos, documents, yearbooks, sports memorabilia, artifacts of popular culture and much, much more. Stop in during our open hours and explore our local history!

Our **3rd Thursday Lecture** series begins in March. Each month, a speaker will discuss a different local, historical topic. For more info on our programs, visit [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org).

## Then...

McCandless was settled more than 200 years ago, predominantly by farmers. The change from rural to suburban began with the discovery of oil, and the introduction of an electric railway. Next, road improvements and the post-WWII baby boom had families flocking to the suburbs. They created the community in which they wanted to live, building schools, parks, churches and hospitals. Rather than the tales of steel tycoons or captains of industry, the HCC tells the stories of farmers, teachers, grocers, and blacksmiths. This is the history of the everyday lives of the citizens of the Northern Allegheny region, collected and preserved for future generations.



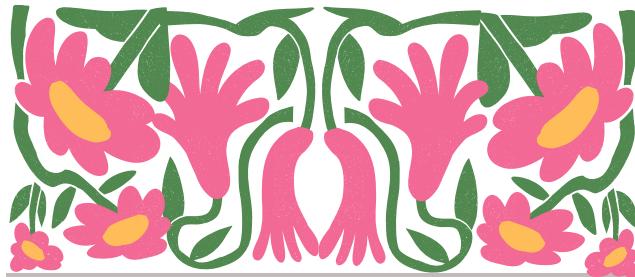
**Harmony Line Trolley Stop**



## Thursday, March 20: Pittsburgh to the Moon



Pittsburgh engineers and technicians are assembling Astrobotic's Griffin Lunar Lander, which is destined to reach the Moon's South Pole later this year. Join us as the Moonshot Museum explores how Pittsburgh robots are leading the way back to the Moon!



## Thursday, April 17: Pittsburgh: American Garden Spot

Industrial Western Pennsylvania of the late 19th and early 20th centuries hardly seems the place to showcase American gardening history, but flora flourished here. Join local author and Historical Dilettante Sue Morris in a celebration of floral history.



[heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org](mailto:heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org)



830 Aufman Lane  
Wexford, PA 15090



[www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)

# Happy 50th b-day Fire Marshal's Office!

The Fire Marshal's Office is turning 50. The Fire Marshal position was created back in 1975 and was charged with enforcing the fire code of the town and performing fire code inspections of commercial buildings. As the Town has evolved, so have the Fire Marshal's duties.

Today, the Fire Marshal is head of the Fire Prevention Bureau for the Town. This requires the Fire Marshal to conduct fire code inspections on over 1,300 commercial occupancies, investigate the origin and cause of fires within the Town, and teach fire prevention and employee safety programs. These fire prevention programs teach the kids everything from not playing with matches to how to prepare a home fire escape plan. The Fire Marshal teaches these programs to approximately 2,500 children annually, ranging from preschoolers to fifth graders. The Fire Marshal also teaches employee safety training for the staff of our nursing homes, schools, and businesses. These employees are taught valuable information on what to do in the event there is a fire in their workplace. In addition to these main duties, the Fire Marshal also serves as the liaison between the Town and the three volunteer fire companies. This includes coordinating the firefighter physical program which ensures the health of our firefighters, coordinating the steering committee meetings where the fire service is discussed on a quarterly basis, planning the annual firefighter's awards ceremony and appreciation banquet where all our firefighters are recognized for their service and dedication to the Town, and assisting the volunteer fire compa-



nies in other matters. The Fire Marshal also is responsible for preplanning buildings for the fire service. Having preplans for buildings helps our fire companies to quickly size up a building and respond accordingly. Finally, the Fire Marshal also responds to structural fire calls to provide assistance to our fire companies.

Since the creation of the position there have been seven Fire Marshals and a few other positions.

#### Fire Marshal:

Anthony Trimble	1975-1978
Walter Kinross	1978-1981
Richard Wagner	1981-1987
Allen Baldwin	1987-1995
Wesley Dean	1995-1999
Daniel Stack	1999-2021
Jeffrey Wissner	2022-present

#### Deputy Fire Marshal:

Jeff Frazier 1999-2022

#### Assistant Fire Marshal:

Brad Kaiser 2021-2022

#### Secretary to the Fire Marshal's Office:

Malinda Kennedy 1999-present

The Fire Marshal's office works tirelessly to provide fire prevention services to the citizens of the Town. As the town continues to grow, so will the Fire Marshal's efforts in providing fire prevention services. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Town Fire Marshal at 412-364-0616 or [firemarshal@townofmccandless.org](mailto:firemarshal@townofmccandless.org).



**WANNA JOIN? FIREFIGHTERS AND NON-FIREFIGHTERS ARE IN HIGH DEMAND!**  
**GIMME A SCAN AND LEARN MORE**





# MCCANDLESS ROADSIDE LITTER PICK UP



**SATURDAY, APRIL 12  
[AT] 8:30AM\***



## COMMUNITY CARE

Roadside beautification builds community spirit, shows pride in your town, protects receiving waters (Pine Creek especially), increases property values, and makes McCandless an example for a community that cares about how it looks to residents and visitors.



## SUPPLIES PROVIDED

The EAC will provide gloves, bags, safety vests, and snacks!



## SPONSORED BY MCCANDLESS EAC

Meet at the McCandless DPW Garage at 8:30a for a welcome and assignments.



**WANT TO VOLUNTEER AND BE A  
"LITTER GETTER"?**

 **REGISTER HERE OR EMAIL  
EAC[AT]TOWNOFMCCANDLESS.ORG**

**\*RAIN DATE APRIL 26 8:30A**



# Contacting Waste Management about your trash pickup

The traditional way to reach out to WM for residents has been by calling 1-800-866-4460 and going through the company's call center. However, residents often experience long wait times attempting to reach a live representative.

The best option for the most extensive services is by creating an account and using their online service "My WM," which is accessible at —

<https://www.wm.com/us/en/user/login>

Many common issues (including scheduling bulk items) can be handled through the online support center at without having to have a My WM account —

<https://www.wm.com/us/en/support>

Another option is to fill out a "contact back" support request online at —

<https://www.wm.com/us/en/support/cb>

Here, you can seek a returned call or email from Waste Management for your issue (without having to wait in the call center queue). After you submit, you'll quickly get confirmation and hear back within one to two business days.

Additionally, if the call center wait time is long, you can select to have a call back before hanging up.

A full rundown of ways to reach out to the company for your needs is available at —

<https://www.wm.com/us/en/support/faqs/account/how-do-i-contact-wm-for-help>



Want to throw out old TVs, electronics and household chemicals?

## Check out the **At Your Door HHW and E-Waste Collection**

As a part of the Town's contract with Waste Management, residents have a convenient new opportunity to dispose of **Household Hazardous Waste** — such as cleaners, chemicals and automotive products — and **E-Waste** — such as old computers, televisions and other electronics.

The At Your Door HHW and E-Waste Collection program allows residents to easily dispose of these often difficult-to-recycle items.

### How to participate...

**First**, you have to schedule your collection. There are three ways to do this:

1. Go to [www.WMAtYourDoor.com](http://www.WMAtYourDoor.com)
2. Call 1-800-449-7587 (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time)
3. E-mail [AtYourDoor@WM.com](mailto:AtYourDoor@WM.com)

The call center operators will guide you through the steps toward a safe and successful collection. You will be asked several questions, including your address and the type and amount of materials available for the pick up. You will be provided a convenient collection date and information about where to place the kit for collection. A kit will be sent to your home in plenty of time for you to gather and pack your materials.

# McC PD Chief Hawk graduates FBI National Academy



Our very own Chief Ryan Hawk was one of 257 law enforcement officials (and one of only two from the Pittsburgh region) to graduate from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy in December.

The FBI National Academy offers 11 weeks of advanced communication, leadership and fitness training. Participants (who represent less than one percent of all law enforcement) must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend.

Hawk began as an officer at McCandless in 2003 and became a detective in 2006. He was promoted to sergeant in 2013 and to lieutenant in 2017. In 2020, he was sworn in as chief of police.

FBI Academy instructors, special agents, and other staff with advanced degrees provide the training. Since 1972, National Academy students have been able to earn undergraduate and graduate credits from the University of Virginia, which accredits all the National Academy courses offered.

The program, founded in 1935, is held at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, Va. (the same facility where the FBI trains its new special agents and intelligence analysts).

**Want to sign up for an activity?**

**Book time on the pickleball court?**

**Rent a pavilion?**

**You can do it online!**

Go to <https://secure.rec1.com/PA/mccandless-pa/catalog>

## Follow us online!



@townofmccandless  
@mccandlesspolicedepartment



@townofmccandless



Channel name:  
Town of McCandless



[www.linkedin.com/company/townofmccandless](http://www.linkedin.com/company/townofmccandless)

# Info from the Tax Office

## Real Estate Tax

The Town collects the real estate tax for both the municipality and the North Allegheny School District for all properties located within the confines of the Town. The tax is calculated by multiplying the tax rate by the assessed value of your home or property.

It is important that you pay your tax by the due dates below, even if you have filed an appeal with Allegheny County. Once a deadline passes, the higher amount must be paid, even if you win your appeal. In addition, failure to pay your tax by December 31 may result in a lien being placed against your property.

## 2025 Real Estate Tax Deadlines

- July 1: Real estate tax bills will be mailed
- September 2: Last day to pay real estate taxes at the 2% discount amount
- October 31: Last day to pay real estate taxes at the face amount
- December 31: Last day to pay real estate taxes before they become delinquent

If you choose to take advantage of the installment payment program, the due dates for 2025 follow:

- September 2: First installment due
- October 31: Second installment due
- December 31: Third installment due

## Per Capita Tax

The North Allegheny School District did not levy the per capita tax for the 2024-2025 tax year. Any outstanding taxes from prior years remain due.

## Earned Income and Net Profits Tax

Keystone Collections Group collects the earned income and net profits tax for both the Town and the North Allegheny School District for all residents of McCandless. The tax is based on salaries, wages, and net profits earned throughout the year. This tax is withheld by employers and forwarded on a quarterly basis. If you are self-employed or receive compensation for which taxes are not withheld, you must file and pay the tax quarterly.

Under this law, employers are required to have Certificate of Residence forms on file for their employees. When filling out the form, please note that the Town of McCandless PSD code is 710704.

You can contact Keystone by phone: 866-539-1100; mail: 546 Wendel Road, Irwin, PA 15642; or online: [keystonecollects.com](http://keystonecollects.com).

## Local Service Tax

Keystone Collections Group collects the local services tax for the Town. This tax applies to any individual who works in the Town at any time during the calendar year, and the rate is \$52 per calendar year.

The tax is withheld by employers and forwarded on a quarterly basis. If you are self-employed or receive compensation for which taxes are not withheld, then you should forward \$13 per quarter.

## Business Privilege Tax

The Business Privilege Tax is a gross receipts tax levied for the privilege of doing certain types of business in the Town. New businesses in the Town must register and obtain a license. New business profile forms are available on the website or contact the tax office. The tax return and payment are due on May 15. The tax office will accept returns as timely if postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before the due date. All returns postmarked after the due date will be considered late and subject to penalty and interest.

## Drop Box Procedures

Please note that tax payments placed in the drop box or hand delivered are accepted as timely for the following 2025 tax deadlines: May 15 (Business Privilege Tax), September 2 (Real Estate Tax at discount) and October 31 (Real Estate Tax at face).



*Save the date ...*

# **TOWN OF MCCANDLESS COMMUNITY DAY**

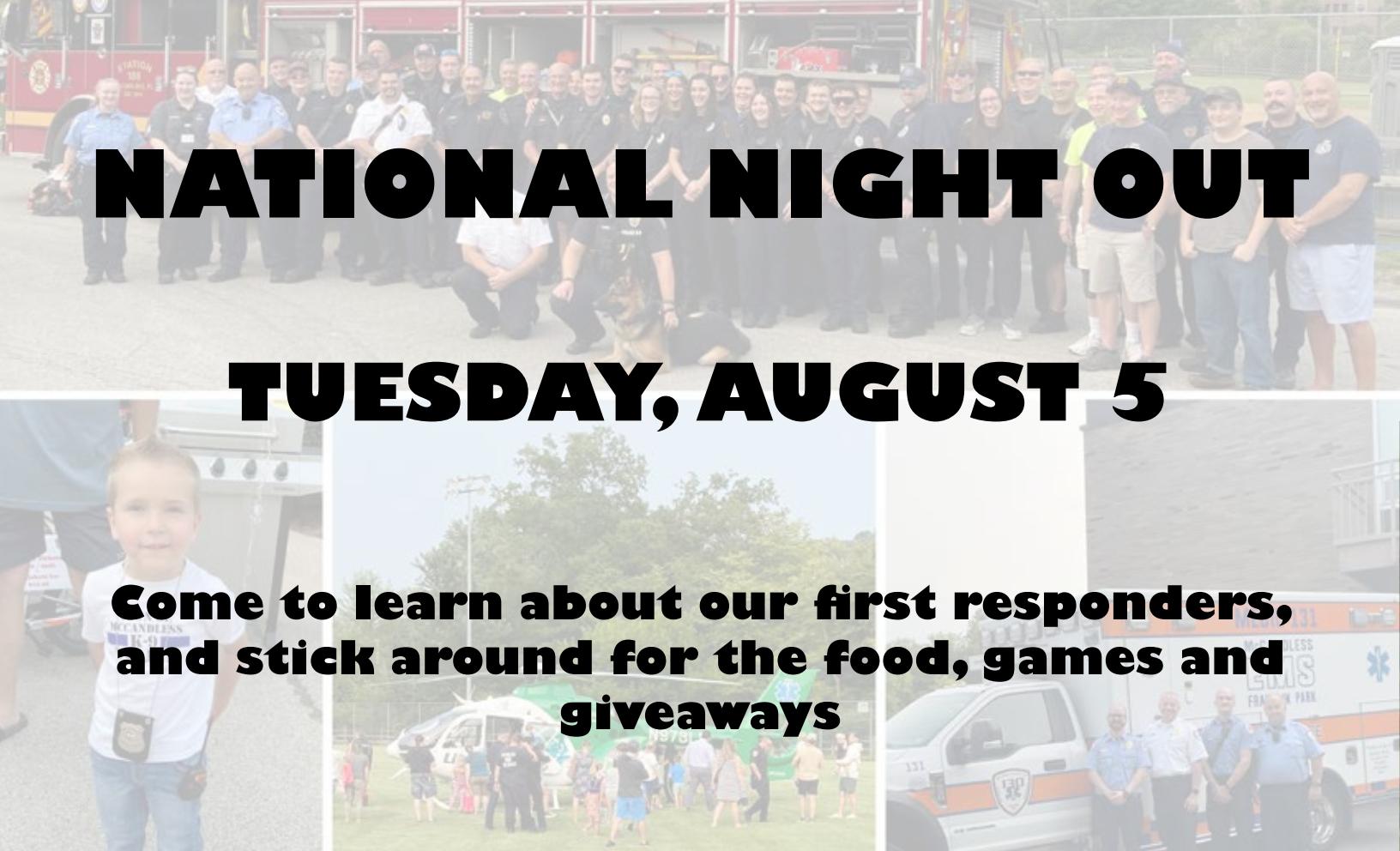


**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 13  
1 TO 8 P.M.**

Thank you to Dave Hochendorfer for the photo

# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5**



**Come to learn about our first responders,  
and stick around for the food, games and  
giveaways**

# Winterfest 2025



**Saturday, December 6**

# SIGN UP FOR MCMAIL



Since 2013, the Town has put out the McMail™ e-newsletter once per month. If you want to stay up to date, sign up today! Go to [www.townofmccandless.org/334/McMail-E-Newsletter-Sign-up](http://www.townofmccandless.org/334/McMail-E-Newsletter-Sign-up) or scan the code

## Community Involvement?



McCandless resident? Want to be more involved or give back? Consider applying for a volunteer position on a Town board or committee. Vacancies on these committees are advertised as they come. For more information on these committees, go to [www.townofmccandless.org/227/Boards-and-Committees](http://www.townofmccandless.org/227/Boards-and-Committees).

**Questions? Need to reach out or report an issue? Go to [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)**



## GLASS IS BACK

As of January 1, McCandless residents are able to dispose of glass in their blue-top recycling carts again

# MS4 PERMIT: MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM

## THE PERMIT FOR PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION!

### WHAT IS AN MS4 PERMIT?

The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program was administrated through the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1999. Pennsylvania implemented state regulation of the MS4 permit in 2003. The goal of the MS4 program is to prevent stormwater pollution from entering nearby waterbodies. Municipalities are required through the EPA and PADEP to implement a stormwater management program comprising of 6 Minimum Control Measures (MCMs) that help with the overall goal. The 6 MCMs include the following:



#### #1 Public Education & Outreach Program

- Educate the public on stormwater pollution and prevention. Distribution of stormwater educational materials can occur through bulletin boards, newsletters, magazines, public meetings, websites, and social media.

#### #2 Public Involvement & Participation Program

- Promote environmentally friendly activities for public participation. A few examples are planting days, cleanup programs, storm drain stenciling, and recycling collection events.

#### #3 Illicit Discharge, Detection & Elimination

- Develop, implement, and enforce a program to detect and eliminate illicit non-stormwater discharges and include prohibition of illicit discharges in the stormwater management ordinance.
- Prepare a comprehensive map of the municipal storm sewer system and conduct outfall screenings during dry weather to identify if illicit discharges are occurring.

#### #4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

- The goal of this MCM is to reduce stormwater pollution from construction sites. In Pennsylvania, Municipalities typically rely on PA DEP's statewide program that requires the local county conservation district to undertake these tasks.

#### #5 Post-Construction Stormwater Management

- Encourage low impact development in construction projects and enact and enforce a stormwater management ordinance for post-construction stormwater management.
- Implement a program for operation and maintenance of private and municipal-owned stormwater best management practices (BMPs). These stormwater BMPs include dry ponds, wet ponds, rain gardens, underground tanks, etc.

#### #6 Pollution Prevention & Good House Keeping

- Educate and train municipal staff to prevent and reduce stormwater pollution from operational activities such as winter road maintenance, material storage, street sweeping, leaf collection, and lawn mowing.
- Develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) for each operational activity that can contribute to stormwater runoff.



# TOWN CONTACT SHEET

## Main Number

412-364-0616

412-364-5066 (fax)

## Extension list

Administration .....	Ext. 0
Building/Fire Marshal .....	Ext. 128
Parks and Rec .....	Ext. 124
Manager's Office .....	Ext. 120
Planning and Zoning .....	Ext. 129
Public Works .....	Ext. 184
Trash and Recycling .....	Ext. 110
Tax Office .....	Ext. 127

## Police Administration

412-369-7992

*(Please note, if you have an emergency or require the response of an officer, you **MUST** call 911)*

**Web:** [www.townofmccandless.org](http://www.townofmccandless.org)

## E-mail addresses

[administration@townofmccandless.org](mailto:administration@townofmccandless.org)

*For general inquiries*

[eac@townofmccandless.org](mailto:eac@townofmccandless.org)

*For the Environmental Advisory Committee*

[firemarshal@townofmccandless.org](mailto:firemarshal@townofmccandless.org)

*Questions for the Fire Marshal*

[heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org](mailto:heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org)

*For McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center*

[ms4@townofmccandless.org](mailto:ms4@townofmccandless.org)

*For Municipal Separate Storm Sewer questions*

[policeadministration@townofmccandless.org](mailto:policeadministration@townofmccandless.org)

*For non-emergency Police questions*

[public.works@townofmccandless.org](mailto:public.works@townofmccandless.org)

*For Public Works questions (i.e., plowing, paving, etc)*

[recycleit@townofmccandless.org](mailto:recycleit@townofmccandless.org)

*For residential recycling questions*

[taxoffice@townofmccandless.org](mailto:taxoffice@townofmccandless.org)

*For tax-related questions*

[zoning@townofmccandless.org](mailto:zoning@townofmccandless.org)

*For building and zoning questions*

# BUILDING PERMITS MADE EASIER

## VERY LOW DENSITY NEIGHBORHOOD R-VL

### BUILDING CONFIGURATION

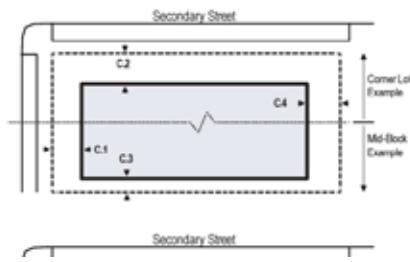
- The following diagram illustrates the Principal and Accessory Building Height standards in the table (B).



### SETBACKS

- The following diagram illustrates the Principal and Accessory Building Build-to Area and Setback standards in the table (C & D).

Lot Line:  
Principal Setback: minimum  
Accessory Setback: minimum



For the average person, having to fill out a building permit for work done on their property can be an intimidating thing — especially if it is your first time.

To alleviate this, the Town's building and planning department has put together a guide to help potential applicants understand the documents and information required by the Town's permit review process.

This guide contains basic submission requirements and the most common topics of review when applying for a building and/or zoning permit from the Town of McCandless, such as setbacks, allowable height, and stormwater management requirements. This information is not exhaustive and other building or zoning code requirements may apply to your project depending on factors such as zoning district, zoning use, topography, environmental features present on the site, age of building and accessibility requirements, etc.

The guide may be found online at [www.townofmccandless.org/217/Building-Planning](http://www.townofmccandless.org/217/Building-Planning) (look for "Permit Submissions Guidelines Packet" along the left sidebar).



9955 Grubbs Road  
Wexford, PA 15090

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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Permit No. 2599