



McCandless Town Crier

Whats Inside?

Community Day is back!

New park land bought

What's the deal with deer?

Tax information

And more!

TOWN OF McCANDLESS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090
412-364-0616
www.townofmccandless.org

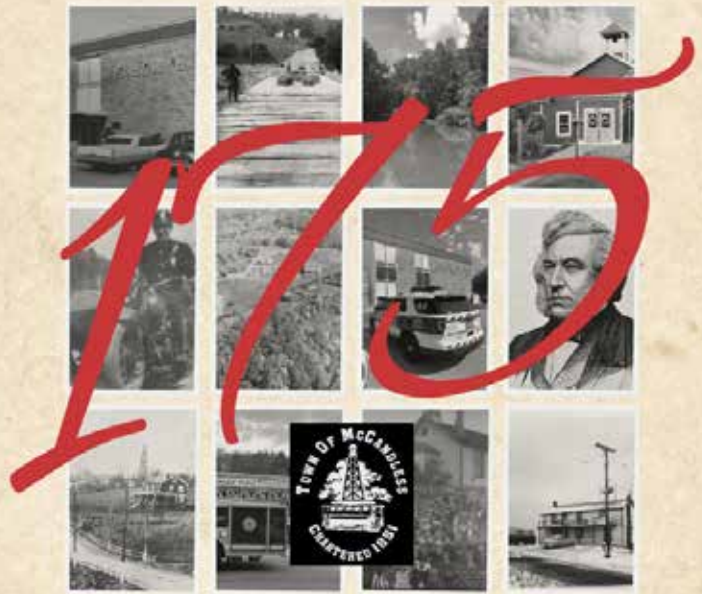
TOWN OF McCANDLESS COUNCIL

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 F. Schwend, Town Manager
Stephen Korbel, Town Attorney
Ryan Hawk, Chief of Police
Brad Iannuzzi, Public Works Superintendent
Matthew Innes, Planning Director
Brittany Yavorka, Finance Director
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



The Town of McCandless will celebrate it's 175th anniversary in 2026!

McCandless was chartered in 1851 with an act of legislature that carved it out of Pine Township. Named after Judge Wilson McCandless, the Town's history is rich with family farms, oil, the Harmony Short Line, Brown and Vaughn, Route 19 and McKnight Road and all the residents who have influenced it along the way. In 2026, we'll celebrate our collective history with events and programs. For more information, visit www.mccandless175.org.

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



McCandless is a community that is fortunate to have many assets; great residential neighborhoods, a diverse offering of commercial businesses, an award-winning school district, and beautiful parks and green space, just to name a few. Our greatest asset, though, is our people. People who are residents, business owners and volunteers who all help make this an excellent place to live,

work and play. People who are caring and thoughtful, and who strive to make the community better every day.

Getting involved in the community is a great way to meet new people and to have an impact on the place we call home. Consider volunteering for a board, commission or authority to help shape the Town's future. Each year, open positions are posted on our website and social media, and we are always looking for active community members to step in and help. Another way is to offer input through surveys and participating in ad hoc committees. Keep your eyes on Town communications for ways to give feedback, such as through the Parks and Recreation master plan study or volunteering on the McCandless 175 anniversary committee.

If volunteering for the Town is not your thing, consider joining a club or social organization in McCandless. There are a number of non-profit organizations seeking people to help participate and give back to the community through service and fundraising activities. Join an adult softball league or a walking group, and connect with other people in Town.

If you're looking for something more adventurous, join one of the Town's three volunteer fire departments. Members of the fire departments provide a vital resource to the community, saving lives and helping residents in need, while at the same time saving an incredible amount of taxpayer dollars by providing the services on a volunteer basis. All three departments are actively seeking members in a variety of capacities – check out the Town webpage for more information on how to volunteer.

Fostering a strong sense of community belonging is one of my main goals as Town Manager. The staff and I hope to grow the number of community offerings each year and to develop events and facilities that are welcoming to everyone and make you proud to call McCandless home.

John F. Schwend
Town Manager



Please join us on Tuesday, August 5 as we celebrate National Night Out!

The event will be held behind Town Hall (9955 Grubbs Road) from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and will include: raffles, giveaways, food trucks, a K9 demonstration, touch-a-truck and more. This year's event will include a bike rodeo, so kids: bring your bikes!

This is the fifth year McCandless has been involved in this national initiative. The goal of National Night Out is to help build and strengthen the relationship between the community and police and other first responders.

Getting Ready for



Community Day is going to be BIG this year!

The annual event will take place Saturday, September 13 from 1 to 8:30 p.m. at the McCandless Town Hall grounds on Grubbs Road.

This year's event is almost twice as long as last year's, harkening back to the way Community Day was held in earlier times.

"This is the first year since Community Day was cancelled in 2020 that we're going back to the full day schedule and we couldn't be more excited about it. The extended time will allow for more attractions, more performances, and better parking flow," said Parks and Recreation Director Abby Lucostic.

Community Day will kick off with a performance by the North Allegheny Senior High School marching band followed by the National Anthem performed by the Hosack Elementary School fifth grade choir.

Stage performances throughout the day will include Michele's Dance Center, the 729ers, This That & the Other Thing and Totally 80s.

Additionally, The Frank Farina Memorial Car Cruise will take place from 3 to 6 p.m. at Ashton Commons on Blazier Drive.



The event will close with a fireworks spectacular accompanied by the Allegheny Brass Band. In between, the Town Hall grounds will be filled with activities, rides, food and music.

The event will have information booths, local vendors, Peebles, Highland and Ingomar fire trucks, McCandless Police Department, MFPAA, and (perhaps most crucially to some) food trucks. The baseball field will feature several fun activities such as face painting, balloon animals, the Union Project mobile clay studio, displays from the Carnegie Museum and activities led by the Moonshot Museum.

Community Day is so big that it has expanded across Pine Creek and up the hill to the Lorrain Rogers Soccer Fields. Up here, visitors can look forward to a bounce house, "Eurobungy," a rock wall, an obstacle course, sports style games and other similar activities. One of the most popular and memorable Community Day happenings — the Junior Firefighter Challenge — will be taking place on the soccer field as well.

While all of this is happening, the McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage and Cultural Center, playgrounds and sport courts will remain open for those who may want to take a break from all the other activities. Tents with seating also will be available for those who need to sit down and cool off from all the excitement.

Planning for this major event begins in early spring each year, and the importance of the event is not lost on the organizers.



Community Day



"Community Day is far more than just a fun gathering; it's essential for fostering a vibrant and connected community," Lucostic said.

Parking will be available at the PRT Park and Ride lot on Blazier Drive and the Heritage and Cultural Center lot on Aufman Lane. Shuttles to-and-from the Blazier Drive lot will be available. Handicapped parking will be available in the spaces in front of Town Hall.

For more details as the event gets closer (including maps and a full schedule), go to www.townofmccandless.org/437/Community-Day.

TOWN OF MCCANDLESS COMMUNITY DAY 2025

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
1-8PM *new time!*

Sponsored by:



**PINE CREEK
PLUMBING**



**GATEWAY
ENGINEERS**



**AdVenture
DEVELOPMENT, LLC**



**Melrose Square
and
Pine Creek
Shopping Center**
managed by The First City Company

Babst Calland
Attorneys at Law



First National Bank



**CUSHMAN &
WAKEFIELD**



The Deal with Deer: An Update



If you are reading this, you probably have experienced a near-miss crash with a deer.

And if you haven't experienced it yourself, you almost certainly know someone who has crashed into a deer with their car or had their garden decimated by deer or perhaps even been bitten by a deer tick.

In 2020, the Town mailed a questionnaire to all residents in an edition of the Town Crier seeking input regarding deer and surrounding issues. Among the 700-plus responses, 80 percent of respondents indicated a strong interest in the Town doing a controlled archery hunt as well as passing a "do not feed" ordinance.

As a first step, Town Council approved Ordinance No. 1513 in March 2021, stating "No person shall knowingly, purposefully, or intentionally feed deer, cause deer to be fed, or provide food to deer on any public or private property."

Later in 2021, the Town entered into an agreement with Suburban Whitetail Management (SWM) to run a controlled archery hunt to strategically lower the population of deer. This program entails property owners signing up for their land to be used for archery hunting and credentialed hunters signing up to hunt. Additionally, Town-owned properties were opened to SWM hunters. Participating archers (who are licensed and have passed a proficiency test) hunt on property specifically assigned to them only during the state's archery season. The hunters are required to clean up after themselves, maintain a log, harvest a doe before harvesting a buck, and donate their first and every third deer they harvest to a food bank.

The first year, hunters harvested 19 deer. The next year, it was 64 and the year after that, 65. In the 2024-2025 season, hunters got 50 deer.

While a major purpose of the SWM program is to increase safety and cut down on nuisance to residents, it also is meant to help the deer be able to survive more sustainably. A major issue with deer overpopulation is that the deer will eat almost any low-to-the-ground plant available to them. This means that residents' gardens and ornamentals, as well as natural undergrowth, have been heavily damaged and have been unable to regenerate.

Lifelong resident Ken Allshouse, a forest scientist and member of the Town's Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), said he has seen the population of deer increase greatly over the years. Blackberry bushes and vegetable gardens used to be able to thrive out in the open. At one point, Allshouse fenced a portion of his property to plant young trees and flowers. Native plants outside the fence were consumed by deer while the protected plants remained. Eventually, desperate deer broke through the fence.

"I have given up my vegetable garden. Deer are hungry, consuming 8 to 10 pounds of browse every day," Allshouse said.

As native plants and gardens are consumed by the deer and native trees die, what remains are invasive species such as Japanese barberry, Japanese stiltgrass, and the toxic native plant snakeroot. Allshouse also has noted a concurrent decrease in the squirrel population and a change in the species of birds commonly seen.

"The overpopulation of deer has devastated our natural ecosystem," Allshouse said.

Although the archery program has cut down on the deer population a little, Allshouse noted that about three times as many deer are killed in McCandless by vehicles. The most recent season, 50 deer were harvested by hunters. But 163 were killed by getting hit with a vehicle. With insurance payouts for deer crashes often being in the \$3,000 to \$4,500 range, this represents a financial burden on motorists and their insurance providers.

Additionally, deer ticks greatly assist in spreading Lyme disease, putting PA residents at a high risk. Pennsylvania accounts for more than 20 percent of the Lyme cases nationwide (and seven of its counties are in the top 10 nationwide with the highest incidence of Lyme disease). Lyme disease is particularly tricky because, according to CDC estimates, up to 20 percent of people who contract it continue to have symptoms even after treatment.

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Jeff Petro, chairman of the Town's EAC, said that the committee has been tracking the deer statistics over the past several years. Given the continuing and increasing problem, the committee has unanimously declared its support for the Town to take a stronger approach.

"As the EAC continues in its mission to foster rain gardens, enhance parks through trail building and our current ambitious project of tree restoration and preservation, the reduction and maintenance of the deer overpopulation is the essential foundation to which success will be achievable," Petro said.

Town Councilman Nick Giorgetti said that deer were the number one constituent complaint he heard when running for Town Council. Since coming on Council, he has come to see deer overpopulation as an "existential threat" to the community.

"They are annihilating our native plants and don't allow for the regeneration of forests, they cause car accidents, and make something as simple as home gardening and beautification impossible. It is our job as members of Council to respond to the concerns of our constituents and ensure resident safety, and I am glad that the EAC is supporting a more extensive approach to deer control," Giorgetti said.

17 acres of greenspace purchased

The Town of McCandless will be expanding greenspace for future park offerings by buying more than 17 acres of land. This is one of the largest acquisitions of Town-owned land since 1976, when the adjacent Potter Park property was donated.

On April 28, Town Council unanimously approved entering into a purchase agreement with Janet L. Maier for property located at 1201 Van Drive, located just west of Potter Park, for \$475,000.



"This acquisition of land is a vital investment in our community's future. This space will foster recreation and environmental stewardship, ensuring all residents have access to a safe, vibrant area for generations to come," said Town Council President Jason Singer.

With Potter Park being directly adjacent to this land, the new purchase will create a nearly 30-acre plot of contiguous green space.

A major priority for Town Council is expanding the access of park and recreation lands for residents, and this acquisition will be a key component. The purchase of this parcel comes as the Town is undergoing its Comprehensive Parks Plan to develop Master Site Plans for its current parks and green spaces, analyze existing and future connections, programs and initiatives.

The new land serves as a blank canvas for residents to determine what should be offered on it in the future. As a part of the current Comprehensive Parks Plan process, the Town and its consultant, Pashek+MTR, are seeking input from the public at upcoming public meetings and focus groups.

"We will listen to the community and see what the opportunities are as we move forward," said Heather Cuyler, recreation planner for Pashek+MTR.

A little bit of Q and A with our police department social worker Jennifer Frye

What is your professional and educational background?

I hold a bachelor's degree in psychology from La Roche University and a master's degree in social work from the University of Pittsburgh. My professional experience includes working as an Addiction Specialist Counselor and inpatient mental health professional for both adults and children. Additionally, I have experience in emergency clinical social work at UPMC Children's Hospital, as well as working for the City of Pittsburgh in social services alongside emergency response (Police, EMS, and Fire).

What types of cases or calls are you involved with?

Mental health crises, substance abuse issues, domestic violence, homelessness, child welfare and neglect, concerns regarding elderly or vulnerable adults and population, trauma and crisis intervention, school-related incidents, and community concerns.

What are some of the things that you are doing in your role?

Police social work is a specialized field within social work that involves collaborating with law enforcement to address the social and psychological needs of individuals within our community.

Crisis Intervention: Assist in situations involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis or substance abuse issues. Provide immediate support, assess the situation, and help de-escalate potentially dangerous or volatile situations.

Support to Victims and Families: Provide counseling and advocacy services to victims of crimes, such

as domestic violence and sexual assault. Also support families affected by crime, helping them navigate the legal system and access needed resources.

Referral to Services:

Connect individuals to mental health services, addiction treatment programs, housing support, legal aid, and other resources.

Collaboration with Law

Enforcement: Work directly with police officers, detectives, and other law enforcement personnel to assess the social and psychological needs of our residents.

Training and Education: Provide training to staff on how to recognize mental health issues or trauma in individuals, promoting more empathetic and informed interactions with the public.

Community Outreach: Participate in community outreach and education initiatives to raise awareness about available resources and services.

Also work to build relationships with community organizations and service providers to improve collaboration and coordination of services.

This is a new and fairly unique role. What would you want the public to know about what you do and its importance?

The importance of police social work lies in its ability to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the social services system, provid-



ing a more holistic, compassionate, and effective response to complex community challenges.

Police social work offers expertise in managing situations that involve mental health, addiction, trauma, and other social issues, ultimately improving positive outcomes for individuals and communities. I want our community to feel supported in moments of crisis and vulnerability, and I believe our officers and social work can provide this together. I am thankful to work with an outstanding group of people and honored to advocate for our residents.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I love spending time with my family and dogs. I love to volunteer my time for different organizations such as Children's Hospital Heart Camp and American Heart Association. I also enjoy traveling, and I have visited over 14 different countries and continue to add!

Why I like working in local government ...

Thoughts from an admin

Diane Romanek

Title: Executive Assistant

Length of service: 1 year

The main reason I love local government is because it is the form of government that is closest to the people and allows me to find new ways to help build and improve my local Community. Working with individuals and becoming more acquainted with the Town of McCandless is one of my favorite things.

Building a strong, cohesive team is a primary focus of mine within our Town. The current staff here has a lot of heart, and I'm REALLY proud to say that, because it makes the work environment so much better and enjoyable. It gives us the opportunity to get to know each other while getting things done to help residents in need of our staff support.

I report directly to the Town Manager, John Schwend. My days here at the Town are very diverse (which I LOVE) and can be involved in anything Town related while assisting the manager with his daily responsibilities.

I've been in municipal government for 5 years. I'm originally from Erie, graduated college at YSU, and I've lived in Pittsburgh for 10 years. My hobbies include outdoor activities such as walking, hiking, rollerblading, biking, going to the gym, exploring with my dog, or taking various classes to learn something new. I love to cook (primarily eat), and being that I'm first-generation Polish, I can make some mean homemade pierogis.

I'm very excited to be here and it's very likely you'll see me at many Town events, so please introduce yourself and say hello!



POLICE PERSPECTIVE

Nicholas Bartoszewicz

Title: Patrolman

Length of service: 1 year

I have been a police officer for 8 years. I graduated from the Allegheny County Police Academy in 2016. I began my career as a police officer working in Verona, West Deer, and Indiana Township as a part time officer. I spent a total of 7 years in Indiana Township and was promoted to detective in 2022. I also have been a member at Highland VFD since 2009. I gained a lot of experience through all aspects of the job at Highland VFD and the other departments. As a lifelong resident of McCandless, I always had a desire of being a police officer in McCandless. I was born and raised here. It is my home. I have family and friends that live in the town, and the community is truly special.

I have spent my entire law enforcement career working in local government. The perk of working in local government is interacting so closely with the community and you become a part of it. The McCandless community is full of great people and businesses that I now get to serve as a police officer every day. We strive to make McCandless a great place to live and visit. We have the same goal of making a safe and friendly community. I am proud to be part of this community. I am looking forward to making a positive impact on the McCandless PD and the community for many years to come.



Summer intern helps modernize zoning records



If you have to stop by Town Hall this summer, you may get to meet our summer intern Alyssa Broome-Webster.

Alyssa just graduated from Duquesne University in May with a bachelor's degree in history. In her capacity as an intern, she will be working to modernize and digitize our records and file-keeping systems (with a concentration on our zoning files) in an effort to make them more accessible. This work is something she already has experience with. During her time at Duquesne, she had an internship where she spent a lot of time processing historical documents for digitization at the university's library.

"I feel the skills and the experience are the same," Alyssa said.

Archiving and museum work are her primary interests, and she also is interested in how these skills can be applied to the legal field.

A Florida native, Alyssa is with us through the Local Government Academy Municipal Intern Program. She started here last week, and will be working at Town Hall until roughly early August.

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 are 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 2025-2026 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.

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).



LEARN LOCAL AT THE HCC



McCandless/Northern Allegheny
Heritage & Cultural Center



Thursday, August 21: Pittsburgh City Steps

With more than 900 unique flights of stairs throughout the city's 90 neighborhoods, Pittsburgh's public stairs reflect the history and character of a diverse city. Authors Laura Zurowski, Charles Succop, and Matthew Jacob present the history of city steps alongside maps and incredible walking tours that reveal the beauty of the city through its most unique public infrastructure.



Thursday, September 18: Kick off to McCandless 175!

We're getting an early start on celebrating our 175th anniversary! Join us as the HCC volunteers and Town staff present a history of McCandless. From Depreciation Lands to development, we'll take a look at where we've been and where we're going in 2026.



Follow us on Facebook!

@FriendsoftheMcCandlessHeritage
andCulturalCenter



830 Aufman Lane
Wexford, PA 15090



www.townofmccandless.org

An Update on the Parks Master Plan Process

The Town of McCandless currently is in the process of producing a Parks Master Plan for all of its parks, as well as analyzing existing and future connections, programs and future green space initiatives. The Town has hired Pashek+MTR, a Pittsburgh based Landscape Planning Firm, to help with this plan.

Public input is a major aspect of this process.

On June 19, the Town hosted a Parks Master Plan Open House to gather input from residents about the future of our five Town parks, greenspaces, recreational programs, and community connections. The event drew approximately 60 attendees who shared their ideas, priorities, and hopes for the future of our outdoor spaces.



Residents expressed strong interest in potential upgrades and new opportunities—particularly in improving access and connectivity. Highlights included support for linking current and future greenspaces and enhancing connections to regional trail systems such as the Rachel Carson Trail, Allegheny County's North Park Trail, and the Commodore Perry Regional Trail.

Feedback on park facilities and programming included requests for expanded walking and biking trails, community gardens, an amphitheater for concerts and events, family-friendly programming, a pickleball court, dog park, and a skate park.

The input received will help guide the development of a long-term vision for the Town's park system. Thank you to everyone who participated! Want more info? Go to www.townofmccandless.org/452/Comprehensive-Parks-Plan to learn more about the Parks Master Plan.

2025 Paving Program

Town Council approved the following paving plan for this year:

- Aldenford Drive
- Aldergrove Drive
- Amaryllis Drive
- Braewick Drive
- Buckingham Drive
- Canterbury Drive
- Canterwood Lane
- Coach Court
- Covington Place
- Duncan Avenue West
- Edwood Road (South)
- Glenellen Drive
- Heather Place
- Hubbard Road
- Judy Ann Place
- Lamplite Lane
- Lancelot Drive
- Linden Road
- Plateau Drive
- Red Coach Road
- Rosalind Road
- Ryndwood Road
- Stage Court
- Stage Drive
- Twin Hill Road
- Weller Drive
- Winnerwood Road
- Woodbury Drive
- Woodbury Court

Learn About Your Programs, Service & Get in Touch With WM



Waste Management has set up a new, dedicated website for customers in the Town of McCandless!

The website — home.wm.com/mccandless-pa — is meant to be a one-stop resource for everything related to trash and recycling, including guidelines, pickup schedules (regular and holiday), and quick access to submit service requests and get in touch with WM.



Our community's dedicated local site is the launching point for residents to do more with Waste Management, anytime, anywhere. Customers can access these simple self-service options 24/7. The site also includes helpful tips on proper recycling and other resources.

Visit your community's local site today at:

home.wm.com/mccandless-pa

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 or scan the code

DON'T LET PESTICIDES BUG OUR WATERSHED

Improper usage, storage, and disposal of pesticides can have a profound impact on our watershed.

Keep the bugs out!

The best way to minimize the impacts of pesticide pollution is to prevent pests to begin with.

Indoor Prevention

- **Remove Food and Water:** Fix any plumbing leaks, remove any water damaged items, and keep the home as dry as possible. Keep all food enclosed and stored properly and use tightly enclosed garbage cans. Pests thrive in damp dirty environments with open food sources.
- **Remove or Block Pest Hiding Places and Entryways:** Seal any cracks or crevices and check that windows and doors have screens or remain closed to reduce pest access.

Outdoor Prevention

- **Remove Outdoor Hiding Places:** Remove piles of wood and destroy diseased plants or fallen fruit that may contain pests.
- **Remove Breeding Sites:** Clean up pet waste, remove any litter or garbage, and make sure drainpipes and other water sources drain away from your home.
- **Take Care of Outdoor Plants:** Healthy plants resist pests better than weak plants. Plant at the best time of the year to promote healthy growth. Use mulch to reduce weeds and maintain even soil temperature and moisture. Water adequately.



Usage, Storage and Disposal Practices

1. When using pesticides, only use the recommended amount; twice the pesticide won't do twice the job.
2. If you have a spill clean it up immediately using sawdust or cat litter; don't wash it away with water.
3. Only spray pesticides near plants that you wish to treat.
4. If you can't dispose of unused pesticides at a collection event, tightly close the cap of its container and place it in the trash for routine collection.
5. Don't dump leftover pesticide down the sink, toilet, sewer, or street drain - as the chemicals contained in pesticides may interfere with the operation of wastewater treatment systems.
6. Store pesticides in dry environment away from areas that have access to water or moisture.
7. Check out prc.org for collection events near you.



Home Fire Safety Tips: Protect What Matters Most

Every year, thousands of house fires threaten lives and property. The good news? Most home fires are preventable. With a few simple precautions, you can protect your loved ones, your home, and your peace of mind. Here are some essential home fire safety tips to help keep your family safe.

Install and Maintain Smoke Alarms

- Place smoke alarms on every level of your home, especially near bedrooms.
- Test alarms monthly and replace batteries at least once a year.
- Replace alarms every 10 years, or as recommended by the manufacturer.

Be Careful with Cooking

- Stay in the kitchen while cooking on the stovetop. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires.
- Keep flammable items like towels, paper, and curtains away from the stove.
- Turn pot handles inward and keep kids at least three feet away from cooking areas.
- Never put water on a grease fire!

Practice Electrical Safety

- Don't overload outlets or power strips.
- Inspect cords regularly—replace any that are frayed or damaged.
- Avoid running cords under rugs or furniture.

Use Candles with Caution

- Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn.
- Never leave a candle unattended—blow them out when you leave the room.
- Use sturdy candle holders and consider flameless LED alternatives.

Have a Fire Escape Plan

- Create and practice a fire escape plan with everyone in your household.
- Know two ways out of every room and keep exits clear.
- Designate a safe meeting spot outside the home to ensure everyone made it out safely.
- Practice your plan regularly, including at night.

Use Fire Extinguishers Properly

- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen, garage, and other high-risk areas.
- Learn how to use one with the PASS method: Pull the pin, Aim at the base of the fire, Squeeze the trigger, and Sweep from side to side until the fire goes out.
- Only use an extinguisher if the fire is small and contained—otherwise, close the door behind you, get out and call 911.



If you have any questions, please contact the McCandless Fire Marshal at 412-364-0616 or visit our website at www.townofmccandless.org/169/Fire-Marshal for more safety information.

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

E-mail addresses

administration@townofmccandless.org

For general inquiries

eac@townofmccandless.org

For the Environmental Advisory Committee

firemarshal@townofmccandless.org

Questions for the Fire Marshal

heritagecenter@townofmccandless.org

For McCandless/Northern Allegheny Heritage Center

ms4@townofmccandless.org

For Municipal Separate Storm Sewer questions

policeadministration@townofmccandless.org

For non-emergency Police questions

public.works@townofmccandless.org

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

recycleit@townofmccandless.org

For residential recycling questions

taxoffice@townofmccandless.org

For tax-related questions

zoning@townofmccandless.org

For building and zoning questions

Volunteer Firefighters Needed

The Town of McCandless is protected by three volunteer fire companies operating out of four stations located throughout the Town. The fire companies provide fire suppression, rescue, and EMS support services. The fire companies respond to approximately 1,000 fire and rescue calls and 700 EMS calls annually.

Over the years, the number of fire and rescue calls have increased, while the number of new recruits has decreased. Volunteer firefighters are always needed. If you have ever thought about becoming a firefighter, there is no better time to Step Up and join our ranks.

We provide everything. The protective gear, the training, and the experience of a lifetime.

So, what are you waiting for:

Be part of the tradition...

Be part of the excitement...

Be part of the community...

Be a volunteer firefighter!

For more information on becoming a firefighter, contact any of our fire companies:

- | | | |
|--|--------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland Volunteer Fire Company | 412-366-3443 | https://www.highlandfire.org/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingomar Volunteer Fire Company | 412-364-3571 | https://www.ingomarfire.com |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peebles Volunteer Fire Company | 412-364-2112 | https://peeblesfire.org/index.html |

SCAN FOR MORE INFO





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Early Reminder:

**Leaf pickup
begins October
13 and will end
November 26**

