

McCandless Town Crier



Town of McCandless • Volume 34 • Summer 2009

New Developments

The economy nationwide may be reeling, however, some large scale developments in the Town of McCandless are proceeding as if the economy is booming.

UPMC Passavant has undertaken two large projects. The "Pavilion Project", a 180,000 square foot project, is well underway. The addition provides a new cancer treatment center, new cardiac care center and a new emergency room. UPMC Senior Care is in the process of constructing 99 senior residential units. The units consist of five multi-story unit buildings and one apartment structure. A 13,200 square foot community lodge is part of the complex. UPMC will extend Cumberland Road to meet Sample and Peebles Roads and erect a traffic signal at the new four-way intersection. This work is to be completed before winter.

Vincentian Home, operated by Vincentian Collaborative Services, is in the process of constructing 64 new senior residential units. The units are a mix of duplexes, triplexes and apartments. An existing 20 unit apartment building as well as a new 4,800 square foot community center completes the development. Vincentian Home is also in the process of reconstructing its skilled care and assisted living facilities. The two new wings of the facility will house 120 residents and have an internal "Main Street" with a beauty salon, café and library.

The undeveloped area on the west side of McKnight Road has received approval from Town Council and expects to start grading this summer (see left). The zoning, called "performance zoning", permits development of 31 acres out of a total 81 acres and permits a mix of uses including retail, restaurants, residential, recreation, hotels, and a furniture store or home improvement store. The developer chose to construct a home improvement store; construction of a Lowe's store was approved on May 18, 2009. The construction must follow special architectural guidelines.

The Town of McCandless is a great place to live and the completion of these new projects hopes to make it even better.



TAX OFFICE REMINDERS

Please heed the following when considering your tax obligations for 2009:

REAL ESTATE TAX

On December 22, 2008, Town Council approved a Town millage rate of 1.5 mills (\$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value) for the 2009 calendar year. This rate has been in effect since the 2005 calendar year. The North Allegheny School District has set its millage rate at 18.99 mills (\$18.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value) for the 2009-10 fiscal year (July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010), the same rate that was in effect the previous fiscal year.

The tax due dates were outlined in the 2009 Town Calendar, which was mailed to you last December, and are also posted on the Town website. It is important that you pay your tax by the due date, 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. By law, all North Allegheny School District real estate taxes that remain unpaid as of December 31 must be turned over to the delinquent tax collector for the School District (Maiello, Brungo & Maiello, LLP). Town of McCandless delinquent real estate taxes are still due and payable directly to the Town.

The tax bills (Town and School District on one bill) were mailed on July 1. When reviewing your bill, please note the following:

➤ If you have been approved by Allegheny County for an Act 77 Senior Citizen Abatement, the 30% reduction in your Town assessed value has already been factored into the tax amount that appears on your bill.

➤ If you have been approved by Allegheny County for a Homestead Exclusion under Act 1 of 2006, also known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, then the \$8,223 reduction in your North Allegheny School District assessed value appears as a separate line item on your bill.

➤ If you qualified for a Homestead Exclusion, you are also eligible to take advantage of the installment payment plan offered by both the Town and the School District. To elect the installment payment plan option, you should pay the first installment amount listed on the bill by September 1. Payments received after September 1 will be considered timely only if they contain an official U.S. Postal Service postmark of September 1 or earlier. If the first payment is late, you will be disqualified from the installment program

for 2009, and you will be subject to payment of your entire tax bill in full subject to the standard deadlines and terms.

➤ If you choose the installment payment plan option and make your first payment in a timely manner, you will then receive two additional installment bills with due dates for those two payments. Payments received after either of these due dates, subject again to the official postmark, will be charged a penalty of 10%. If your payment is more than ten days late for either of these installments, or if your payments for both of these installments are late for any period of time, you will not be eligible for the installment plan the following year.

If you have not received a tax bill, please contact our office immediately at (412) 364-0616, and we will send you a new bill. In addition, if the billing address for your real estate tax bill changed after January 1 of this year, you need to notify us immediately. Allegheny County provides us with a billing address as of January 1, but they do not provide us with updates if there is a change after this date. Your billing address may change because you paid off your mortgage and no longer have your taxes escrowed, your mortgage was sold and you have a new escrow agent, or you are the owner but not the occupant of a property and you move to a new address.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 412-364-0616.

EARNED INCOME & NET PROFITS TAX

The tax due dates were outlined in the 2009 Town Calendar, which was mailed to you last December, and are also posted on the Town website. You can also print a tax form by visiting the Town website at www.townofmccandless.org. Please remember that you must make quarterly estimated tax payments, even if you are self-employed. The only exception is that anyone earning \$12,000 or less is not required to make quarterly payments.

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX

If you operate a business located in the Town, either out of your home or at a specific commercial location, you are required to file and pay this tax. Please check the 2009 Town Calendar, view the Town website at www.townofmccandless.org, or call us at (412) 364-0616 for more information. In addition, the Town has recently revised its Rules and Regulations so that they are more useful to our business community and also comply with recent court rulings. You can print a copy from the Town's website.

PER CAPITA TAX

All residents of the Town over the age of 21 are required to pay this North Allegheny School District tax. The billing procedure in 2009 is the same as that used since 2006. Unless you have contacted us previously, each residential property will have \$20 added to the real estate tax bill to account for 2 individuals in the household over the age of 21. Additional residents in each household and renters over the age of 21 will be sent a separate bill. If you have only 1 resident in your household over the age of 21, please contact us immediately so that the adjustment can be made. If you have more than 2 residents and do not receive an additional bill, please contact us so that we can add those individuals. If you receive a bill but are not yet 21, please write your month and year of birth on the bill, sign and date it, and return it to us.

Owners of rental properties are required to notify the Town of the move in and move out dates of all tenants.

LOCAL SERVICES TAX

Any individual who works in the Town and has earned income and/or net profits of over \$12,000 within the Town is required to pay this tax. The tax rate is \$52 per year, but employees are only liable for the tax for pay periods in which they are employed. Employers are required to withhold the tax on a pro-rata basis based on the number of pay periods in a calendar year (26 if you are paid every 2 weeks, 24 if you are paid twice a month, etc.). Self-employed individuals are required to pay the full \$52 in quarterly installments. The specific details of the Local Services Tax are as follows:

- There is a mandatory low-income exemption if you earn less than \$12,000 in the Town of McCandless in the calendar year. Exemption forms can be found on the Town's website, www.townofmccandless.org.

- Employees are able to request an up-front exemption by filing an up-front exemption form. The form must be submitted to both the Town and the employee's employer, and must include a copy of the employee's last pay stubs or W-2 forms from any employment within the Town in the previous calendar year. The exemption certificate verifies that the employee reasonably expects to receive earned income and net profits of less than \$12,000 within the Town for that calendar year. Exemption forms can be found on the Town's website.

- The employee is responsible for paying the LST only for those pay periods in which he/she is employed. The employer is required to withhold on a per-pay-period basis. For example, the Town LST rate is \$52 per year. If you work in every pay period during the year, earn over \$12,000, and receive a paycheck every two weeks (26 pay periods), you would have \$2 withheld per paycheck. If you

are employed for only six months during that year, the total amount withheld would only be \$26, and that would be your total LST obligation to the Town for that year.

- Self-employed individuals must pay the full \$52 in quarterly installments of \$13 each, due by the last day of the month following the end of the quarter.

- If you are employed by more than one employer in any given pay period, only one employer should be withholding the tax. The priority order of which employer should withhold the tax is as follows: (1) Your primary employer; (2) If you do not have a primary employer, then the employer in the municipality in which you reside; (3) If you do not have a primary employer, and do not work for an employer in the municipality in which you reside, then the employer in the municipality that is closest in miles to the municipality in which you reside.

- Your total LST payment for any calendar year should not exceed \$52.

- Refunds can be requested if you pay the tax and earn less than \$12,000 in the Town of McCandless in a calendar year, or if you pay more than \$52 in a calendar year. The Town has 75 days from either the date the refund request is received or January 30 of the year after the tax is paid, whichever is later, to issue the refund. Refund forms can be found on the Town's website.

Additional information is available on the Town's website at www.townofmccandless.org.

IMPORTANT EARNED INCOME TAX LAW CHANGE FOR 2009

Act 32 of 2008 will result in major changes to the way the local earned income tax is collected in the future. We have highlighted the impact in another article in this newsletter. **The Act also has an immediate impact on the way some of you may file your local Earned Income and Net Profits Tax Return.** Effective January 1, 2009, there are two changes to the way business losses from unincorporated businesses are treated for local earned income tax purposes:

1. You can no longer use business losses to offset compensation earned as an employee.
2. You can now use losses from one business entity to offset income from another business entity, regardless of whether they are considered to be "like" businesses.

These changes will be reflected in the 2009 instructions and on the North Allegheny School District and Town of McCandless Earned Income and Net Profits Final Tax Return for the 2009 tax year.

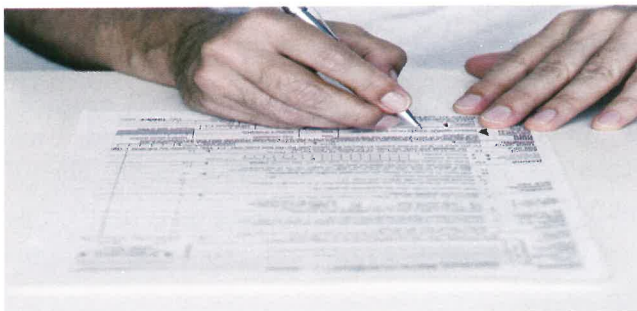
ACT 32 OF 2008

Act 32 of 2008 amended Act 511 of 1965, the Local Tax Enabling Act, by establishing the collection and administration of the local earned income tax on a countywide basis. Certain provisions of the law, specifically the creation of a Tax Collection Committee, take effect immediately. Residents of the Town will see the major changes occur beginning January 1, 2012, when **all** employers will be required to withhold the local earned income tax from employee wages. In addition, beginning January 1, 2012, there will be only one tax collector serving northern Allegheny County, with the identity and location of that office to be determined over the next three years.

Act 32 establishes 69 tax collection districts of which Allegheny County is divided into four. The Town of McCandless will be part of the Allegheny North Tax Collection District. This district will consist of 48 municipalities and 12 school districts. Each municipality and school district is to appoint one voting representative and one or more alternate representatives to the Tax Collection Committee. The Tax Collection Committee is responsible for determining the form that the new tax operation will take (tax bureau, third-party collector, etc.), appointing a Tax Officer to handle the actual tax collection activity for the district, and overseeing the performance of the Tax Officer.

The Town's first formal action to occur under Act 32 was the appointment of the voting representative and two alternate voting representatives to the Tax Collection Committee. This occurred through the adoption of Resolution No. 10 of 2009. The next formal action will be attendance at the first meeting of the Tax Collection Committee, which is required to take place by November 15 of this year.

We will keep you apprised as we move forward to enact the provisions of this law. You can also visit the website of the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) at www.newpa.com (click on "Get Local Gov Support" and then click on "Tax Information") for additional information.



A Look at Landscaping and More



This year we re-examined our performance zoning standards including landscaping (also known as bufferyard) regulations. In the mid-1980s, the Town Council, Planning Commission, staff, a consultant and several citizens formed a task force which studied the McKnight corridor. Our work prepared the Town in several key ways for inevitable development. First the Town invoked the concept of performance zoning which scrutinizes the yield land can give for use based upon a "site capacity analysis". Existing features such as wetland, woodlands, terrain, and water courses are inventoried and protected to balance nature with new uses. Harmony with neighboring uses is rigorously tested. Effects of development on traffic flow is analyzed. A detailed set of roadway and signal improvements resulted in a Transportation District which the Town created in 1992. This District balances local funds, property assessments and state funds under an equitable cost sharing formula. New conservancy legislation and the McCandless Crossing development sparked the upgrading of this ordinance to include a perpetual conservation easement.

Other crucial elements to the corridor's development are bufferyards and landscaping requirements that are highly detailed, yet flexible depending upon land features, neighboring uses and owner choice. Landscaping treatments now include improved balance of plantings and more than a splash of color. Strong accents of native and annual flowers and shrubs with colored leaves will further enhance quality development we expect will materialize.

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Opening an account with Comcast, Verizon or Consolidated requires providing proper identification. Your social security number accomplishes this, as it does when establishing most vendor accounts. However, in the age of identity theft, through a computer or other means, Comcast and other vendors will accept a picture ID or two forms of secondary identification that do not contain a photo, such as a marriage certificate, birth certificate or voter registration card. These vendors also have layers of protection built into their sales and service operations as prescribed under Federal Trade Commission (TC) regulations.

Grubbs Road

In 2002, the Town connected **Grubbs Road** to Blazier Drive. This initiative, funded totally by local dollars, provides an important alternate access to the Town Hall and the McCandless Franklin Park Ambulance Authority. It also created a corner lot which attracted the U.S. Postal Service to purchase enough of it to plan for the relocation of the Ingomar Post Office. The project has been delayed so the Postal Service could direct the bulk of its capital funding to Gulf Coast communities stricken by Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina; however, the project remains "on the books".



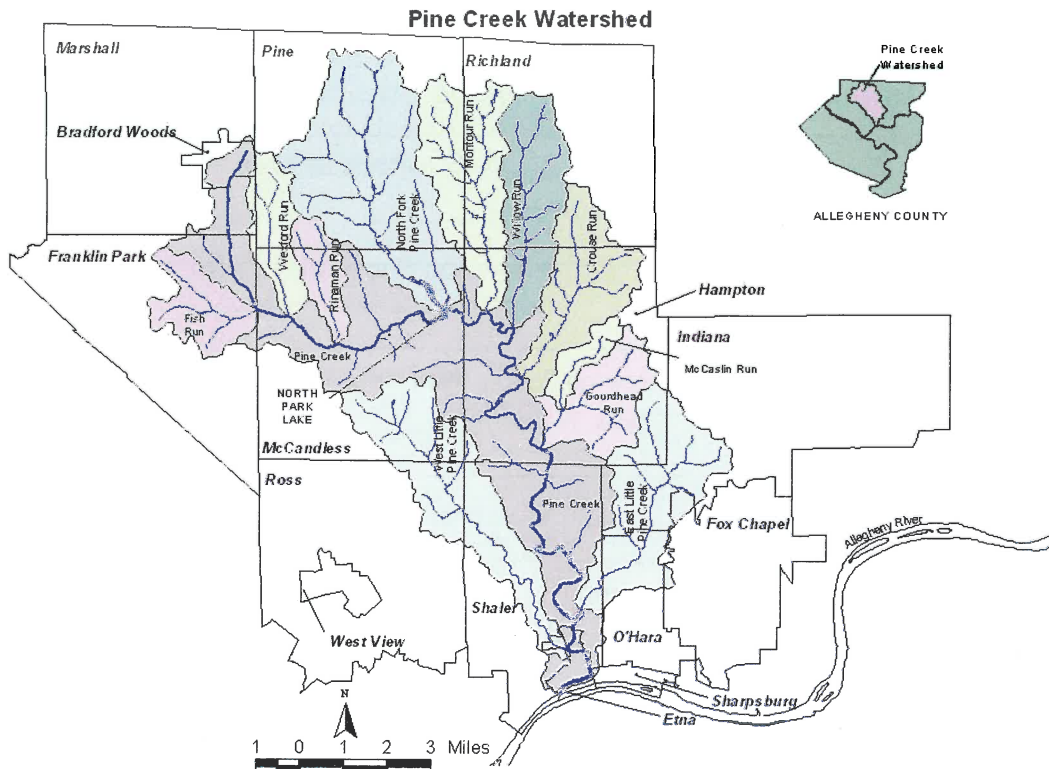
Another benefit of this interconnect arose this year as PennDOT has designed and intends to replace the **Grubbs Road bridge** during the 2010 construction season. Stay tuned for detour information on-site and on our website when work will occur.

Pine Creek Watershed Coalition 2009 Photo Contest

What is your favorite image of Pine Creek? The Pine Creek Watershed Coalition is accepting photographs that capture the beauty of Pine Creek and its watershed (all of the land that drains into Pine Creek or one of its tributaries). The Coalition will use these photographs in educational and promotional materials, including both printed and electronic media, to show how the communities, landscapes, and wildlife in the watershed are connected.

Contest Rules

1. Anyone is eligible to submit photos. There is a special junior category for individuals under age 18. You do not have to live within the boundaries of the Pine Creek watershed, but the photograph must have been taken within the watershed's border. See map.



2. Photographs will be accepted in the following categories:
 - Scenic (no signs of people)
 - Recreation (can show people)
 - Watershed Ecology (plants and animals connected to the water). Preference will be given to photos that show some aspect of water.
3. Photos must be submitted in digital format on CD. Photographs must be in a jpeg format and have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. There is a limit of five photo submissions per individual.
4. Entrants must have taken the photograph and have the full rights to the photo. By submitting the photo, the entrant is granting the North Area Environmental Council a non-exclusive license to use the images. Any person in the photos must sign a release allowing NAEC to publish their image. A release form is available on the website: www.pinecreekwpa.org.
5. A complete entry form must be submitted with each submission.
6. Entries should be postmarked by September 30, 2009 and mailed to:
Pine Creek Photo Contest
c/o NAEC
P.O. Box 71
Ingomar, PA 15127
7. Judges will evaluate the photographs based on the photo's impact (the Wow! Factor) as well as composition, lighting, focus, etc. Winners will be announced by October 30, 2009.
8. Prizes will be given in the following categories: Best of Show (\$50), Best in each category (\$25).
9. Any additional questions, contact: 412-364-7006.

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2009 Photography Contest Entry Form - Pine Creek Watershed Coalition

Please print or type

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
e-mail address: _____
Telephone: _____
Age: _____ (required only for junior entries)

Photo 1 (Category _____ Scenic _____ Recreation _____ Watershed Ecology)
Title: _____ Year Taken: _____
Location Taken: _____
File Name: _____

Photo 2 (Category _____ Scenic _____ Recreation _____ Watershed Ecology)
Title: _____ Year Taken: _____
Location Taken: _____
File Name: _____

Photo 3 (Category _____ Scenic _____ Recreation _____ Watershed Ecology)
Title: _____ Year Taken: _____
Location Taken: _____
File Name: _____

Note: Photographs containing identifiable persons may be required to supply a release form from each identifiable person in the photo.

COMMUNITY DAY: 2009!

September 12 is Community Day 2009. We have also set a rain date of September 19. Everything starts with our grand parade at 12:30. The route extends from Showcase Cinemas down Blazier Drive, Ingomar and Grubbs Roads to the Town Hall. A tribute to our heroes of 9/11/01 takes place right after the parade.

Our day to get together as community contains exciting and varied entertainment.

Isartalers "kicks" things off at 2:00 p.m. with lively, ethnically accurate, Bavarian folk dancing—the stuff Autumnfests are made of (2:00-2:30).

The Loverti Jazz Combo, featuring John Loverti (retired from North Allegheny) on keyboard and the smooth, rich vocals of his lovely wife Jessie take the stage, which is in the Public Works garage (auditorium and cabaret for a day) from 3:00 until 4:15 p.m.

Michele's Dance Center energetically and enthusiastically entertains with high stepping action from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

The "*Groove Guys*" highlight superb guitar work by McCandless' own Lenny Smith, Billy Price's lead guitarist for many a year (6:30-7:30 p.m.).

Our day would not be complete without the uplifting sounds of the *Allegheny Brass Band*. Starting at 8:00 p.m., they accompany our fantastic fireworks finale to the day provided by Pyrotechnico graciously funded by Baierl Automotive and Pittsburgh Office & Research Park.

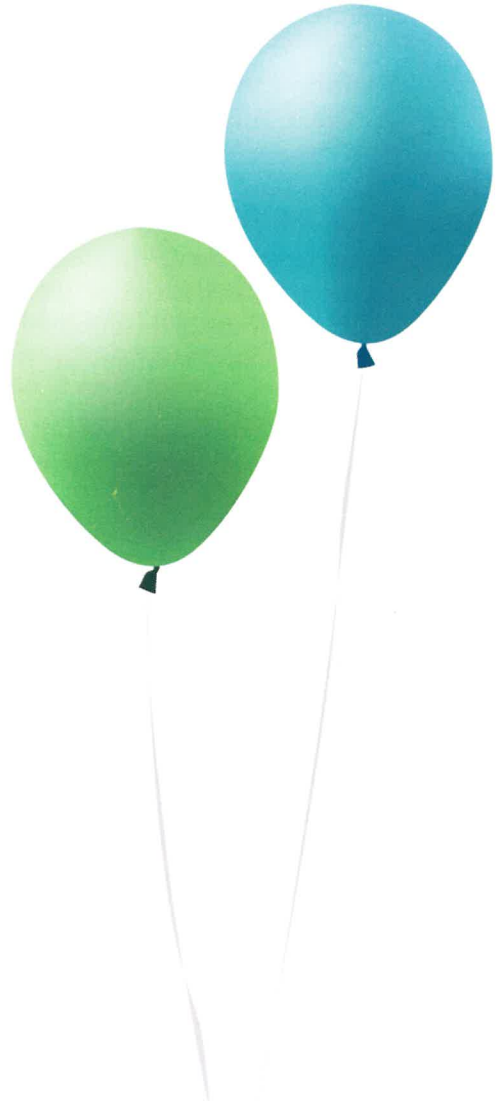
A multitude of rides, inflatables, children's activities, games, exhibits, Junior Firefighter Combat Challenge, caricaturist "Toonbrian", Joe the Juggler, raffles, auctions and sundry food choices enliven our Town Hall campus, plus Bingo in the Town Hall Assembly Room.

Just down the street at Trader Horn our annual Car Cruise will feature area "cream puffs" from 3:00 -7:00 p.m. Dash plates go to the first 125 cars to show.

A history and trivia display will be open at McKnight Elementary from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Stop in for a cup of coffee and donut with Joe Bullick, curator,

before the parade and see what McCandless has been up to for the last 120+ years. Listen to Joe's victrola, see a baseball glove from 1910, baby dolls dating from the 1880s, hear his 1957 working juke box, see an old pedal car from 1925, and many other items.

You can't miss this one! There's plenty of parking at the Town Hall and Trader Horn. (Free shuttle bussing is provided.)



GUIDELINES FOR ISSUANCE OF OPEN BURNING PERMITS

- No person shall conduct or allow to be conducted the open burning of any material except where the Office the Fire Marshal has issued an open burning permit to such person in accordance with this article.
- Immediately upon the discovery of any unauthorized open burning, the person responsible for the property on which the burning occurs shall immediately extinguish such burning.
- Open burning is in no way allowed for the removal or the disposal of trash or accumulation of brush, trees, leaves, etc.
- Open burning, recreational fires shall be allowed within the Town of McCandless only with a permit issued through the Office of the Fire Marshal.
 - A fire prevention permit application must be filed with the Fire Marshal's Office a minimum of 24 hours prior to the scheduled burn date. The permit must be submitted in full along with a \$25.00 permit fee.
 - The fire department must be notified before and after the burn event. Allegheny County Emergency Services 9-1-1 dispatch center non emergency number is 412-369-2200.
 - A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher or other approved on-site fire extinguishing agents, such as dirt, sand, water barrel or garden hose, shall be available for immediate utilization.
 - A responsible person shall tend any open burning at all times.
 - The approved permit shall be in the possession of the applicant or authorized representative at the site of the permitted open burning and shall be made available for inspection upon request by any fire protection or law enforcement officer.
 - Open burning that is or will be objectionable due to the atmospheric conditions or local conditions (dry weather) makes such fires hazardous and shall be prohibited. The Fire Marshal, fire protection, or law enforcement officer is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder or the fire department of open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.
 - Only dry, clean, untreated wood products or other clean burning fuels are to be used for recreation or cookout fires.
 - Only smokeless fuels, if any, may be used to start the fires.
 - The size of the fire is to be no larger than 3' x 3' x 3' in size.
 - The fire must be located a minimum of 30' from any structure, house, shed, barn, fence, pedestrian or recreation area, roadway or utilities.
 - The recreational burn may not exceed eight hours in duration.
- Open burning shall be allowed without a permit only:
 - If for warmth of work crews—the burning must be conducted in a noncombustible container no larger than a 55 gallon drum, the material being burned is completely in a container, only one container is used for each work site, the outside temperature is less than 40° F.
 - If for recreation—if an approved, non combustible, contained exterior fireplace is used, all regulations stated prior are adhered to.
- Penalty for violations:

Any person who violates any of the provisions of these sections or fails to comply with any order issued pursuant to any section thereof shall be guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of up to \$1,000. Each day a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

Future of Recycling and Trash Collection

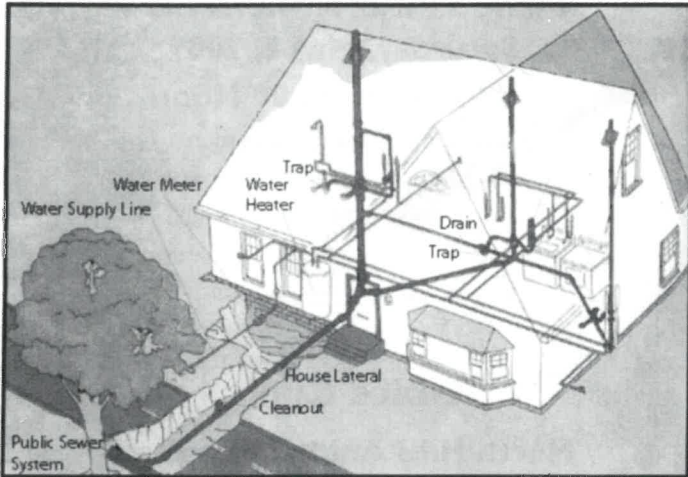
Technology affects the solid waste industry, as does injury and the general rigors of the work. It is not easy to fling 40 pound garbage bags and containers into a refuse truck all day. On any given day, one-fourth of sanitation workers are injured and on workers' compensation.

Whenever possible, the waste industry intends to migrate to automated collection. This involves the use of a cart or "toter" system. One cart used for trash, one for recycling, and one for yard and leaf waste, plus grass clippings. Waste haulers tell us that McCandless is a prime candidate to use automated collection.

The Town has filed for a state grant along with partner municipalities Ohio Township and Franklin Park Borough to help fund the toters used for recycling and yard waste. Whatever cannot fit into the toters will require a call-in and an extra charge, such as \$10.00 for a sofa. More material will fit into a large, wheeled recycling container, stay dry and not blow around; and less will need to go into the trash. A yard waste cart segue ways into the convenience of weekly yard waste service from spring through fall. It helps with miscellaneous leaf debris as well. Whether or not we implement this method of trash, recycling and yard waste collection, the Town will continue its own current leaf collection system. Automation is subject to receipt of the state funding and is projected to start on October 1, 2010. Details are available on our website (www.townofmccandless.org).

Stormwater Management

What Homeowners Need to Know



Homeowners Role

Homeowners play a key role helping to solve the sewage overflow issue. It is the homeowner's responsibility to fix any improper connections to the sanitary sewer line such as downspouts, driveway drains and groundwater sump pumps. Homeowners must also maintain and/or repair their house lateral.

In the Town of McCandless, the homeowner is responsible for the portion of the lateral extending from the home to the main sewer line connection in the street.

House laterals often can become deteriorated or clogged with tree roots. It's important for homeowners to have their lateral checked for leaks that can allow groundwater to seep into the system or for clogged areas that can slow the flow of wastewater from your home, or cause a back-up of sewage into your basement.

If an improper connection is detected, the homeowner must disconnect the problem area and drain the stormwater into the ground, into a drainage ditch or into the storm sewer line. It is recommended that you contact a licensed plumber to correct the problem.

Additional Ways the Homeowner Can Help

Protecting our waterways is the responsibility of all individuals. In addition to disconnecting improper connections to the sewer system, it is important to remember that:

- Fixing the sewer overflow problem potentially could cost billions of dollars and it will require your support. You can expect to pay higher sewage rates over the coming years as municipalities work to comply with

an EPA administrative consent order to begin fixing the problem. The good news is that sewer service rates in our area rank among the lowest in the nation.

- Conserving water is one way to lower your overall bill as well as to help reduce the flow being transported to the sewer treatment facility. Some ways to conserve water in your home include:
 1. Install low-flow toilets, which use less water for flushing or place a brick or sand-filled bottle in your toilet tank to decrease the water used per flush.
 2. Take shorter showers and/or install a low flow shower head.
 3. Turn water off when shaving, brushing your teeth and washing your hands. Only turn it back on when needed.
 4. When using a dishwasher, run only full loads and use shorter cycles when possible. If hand washing, rinse sparingly or fill a second sink basin for rinsing.
 5. Wash full loads of laundry whenever possible or use a lower water volume setting for small loads.
- Remember that chemicals you use in your lawn and garden affect our rivers and streams as well. When it rains, pesticides and other chemicals will be washed into the stormwater system and deposited directly into our rivers. If necessary, use only toxic-free home and garden products.
- Wash your car at a commercial self-car wash that recycles wash water. If you do wash your car at home, wash it on the lawn to keep soapy water from flowing into the storm drain. Don't leave the hose running continuously.
- Water your lawn and garden in the morning when less water is lost to evaporation and limit it to one hour a week. (Healthy grass only needs about one inch of water a week.) Keep the grass cut at about 2.5-3 inches so it doesn't dry out as quickly.
- Redirect your downspouts so that the rain soaks into your yard or garden, rather than running down the driveway or into the street.
- Consider installing a rain barrel to help capture and store rainwater that can be used on your lawn and garden.
- Plant trees and other vegetation to help reduce stormwater run-off by allowing rainwater to soak into the ground.

Source of Information: 3 Rivers Wet Weather



2009 Paving Program

Work has begun on the 2009 paving program. El Grande Industries Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, was awarded the contract at the April 27, 2009 Regular Business Meeting of Town Council. The cost of the program is \$2,069,990.80 and will include the following streets:

Street	From	To
Arthur Drive	Hadden Place North	Rinaman Road
Bauer Drive	turnaround	Blum
Bayard Court	Bennington Woods	Turnaround
Belton Circle	Westchester	Turnaround
Bennington Lane	Bennington Woods	Thompson Run
Bennington Woods Drive	Town line (Ross)	Town line (Ross)
Blum Avenue	Rinaman	Bauer
Braewick Drive	Turnaround	Covington
Cottingham Drive	Babcock	Turnaround
East Van Buren Drive	Van Buren	Van Buren
Emerald Drive	Sunset	Turnaround
Grubbs Road	Courtney Place	Zander Lane
Harmony Parkway	Old Perry Highway #1	Roosevelt Blvd.
Hillcrest Avenue South	Chickasaw	Mohican
Marquis Drive	Van Buren	Turnaround
Mohawk Avenue	Chickasaw	Mohican
Mohican Avenue	Perry Highway/Route 19	Turnaround
Pontiac Avenue	Chickasaw	Seneca
Reagan Drive	Van Buren	Marquis
Ringeisen Road	Duncan	Sample
Roosevelt Boulevard	Harmony Parkway	Turnaround
Seneca Avenue	Pontiac	Chickasaw
Stratford Court	Bennington Woods Drive	Turnaround
Van Buren Drive	Roosevelt	Turnaround
Westchester Drive	Arthur	Westchester
Winthrop Road	Cromwell	Pannier

A letter delineating contractor responsibilities and expectations of property owners is distributed to the residents prior to work commencing on the street.

A PRIMER ON RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE AND TRIMMING. All our properties abut a right-of-way. Rights-of-way can be public or private; most are public. On public rights-of-way, property owners must maintain the area behind the edge of pavement, nearly all of which is curbed in McCandless. This area varies by street. Street right-of-way widths increased from 30' or 33' to 50' as the number of utilities increased and sidewalks were installed. So the area that is right-of-way varies, but on most Town roads is 8'-12'. Most of us keep this area in lawn, but often add decorative shrubbery and trees and rocks to beautify and protect lawns. For safety's sake, personal plantings must be maintained at a height that does not limit sight distance and are at least three feet (3') behind the pavement or sidewalk. Trees are to be trimmed back three feet (3') from the pavement and not conflict with power lines.

Public Safety Tips

Fireworks – The use of most fireworks is illegal in Pennsylvania. Cherry bombs, bottle rockets, firecrackers, Roman candles and other similar devices are illegal and very dangerous.

Vacations – The thing to remember when on vacation is to leave your home appearing as if someone is still at home. Lights and radios on timers will achieve this. Have the lights connected to several different timers to go on and off as they would when you are normally home. Give a trusted neighbor or relative a key and ask them to check the home frequently. Have them mow the lawn or shovel snow, if necessary. Have them get the newspapers and the mail. An answering machine will keep a burglar guessing if they call looking for a phone to keep ringing.

Display Your House Number – The Town of McCandless has a municipal ordinance that requires street numbers to be prominently displayed on buildings and houses within the Town to ensure emergency services can locate you.

Town Council Christens New Storage Facility for McCandless Athletic Association



Council members Bill McKim, Ralph LeDonne, Roger Krey, Cindy Potter, Jerry Aufman and Lamar Oliver along with Town Manager Toby Cordek pose before the new storage facility at the Vincentian Recreation Complex built in partnership among the Town, McCandless Athletic Association and state funding received through Representative Mike Turzai.

North Park Lake



The Allegheny County Engineering Department reports updated information on the North Park Lake Project. The County will install a wetland (stone barrier) under water. This will become a jetty upon completion of the project. Trucks will haul to a fill site behind Wildwood Highlands. It is anticipated that the odor given off by the dredged organic material will be significant. It will take approximately a month for the lake to drain.

Three contracts will be let--one for site preparation by the County. The second will be let by the Army for \$5,000,000 for the first segment of dredging. This is scheduled for advertising June 10, 2009. Under the third project, the County will complete what the Army did not. The County will install porcupine cribs, Lincoln-log like kits made of hemlock, 100 in a 6' x 6' bed under water to stabilize the interior slopes of the lake and provide improved fish habitat. A boat launch ramp at Irwin Road is also now planned. Parking may have to be altered for which an additional Town permit will be needed.

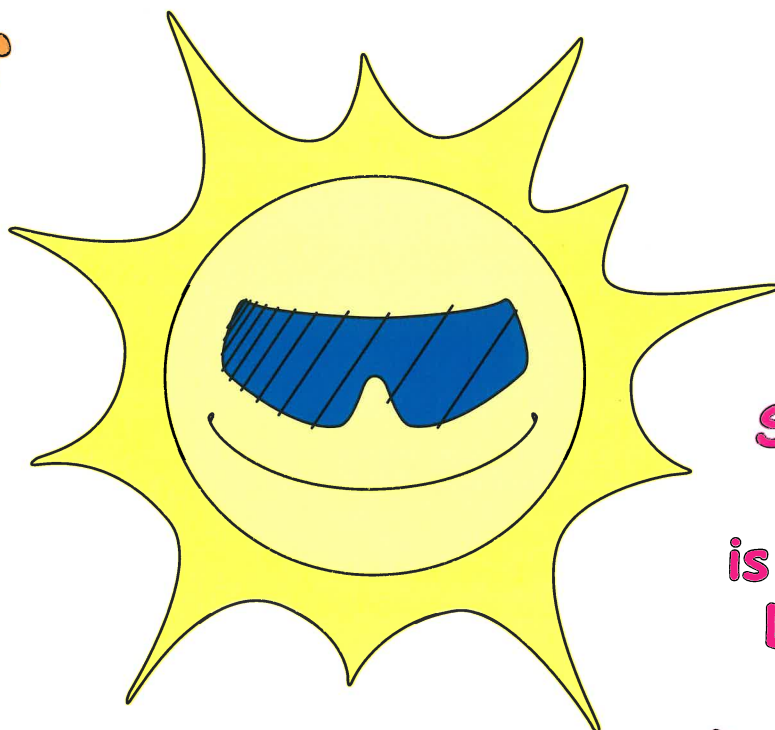
Plantings around the lake are currently being reviewed by an Army botanist. An inspection by the Allegheny County Parks Foundation will examine the proposed trail layout around the lake, some of which will be a cantilevered, elevated platform.

The County has filed for a "Smart Transportation" Grant from PennDOT to put Babcock Boulevard on a "road diet" as they dubbed it. This is a new term in traffic engineering which means that one lane of the four lane stretch of Babcock from Ingomar north toward Pine will be converted to a bike/pedestrian lane, one lane will become a treescaped median with single lane traffic in each direction remaining except at intersections which will continue to have turning lane capacity.

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