



# Haverford Township Official NEWSLETTER Spring 2025

Over the past few years, Haverford Township has accomplished a number of high-profile projects. Beyond that, we have been planning for a bright future. As part of this process, with the help of a consultant, the Parks & Recreation Department prepared the Parks Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 2024.

The PROS Plan is a community-driven roadmap to enhance our parks, open spaces, trails, and recreational opportunities. Guided by extensive resident feedback and thorough analysis, the plan reflects our shared vision of a greener, more connected future.

The PROS Plan serves multiple purposes: it evaluates the current state of parks and facilities, identifies opportunities for improvements, and establishes a cohesive vision for the Township's recreational spaces. This forward-thinking document ensures that Haverford remains a vibrant place to live, work, and play, while also strengthening grant applications to fund these exciting projects.

Residents made their voices heard loud and clear: trails are a cornerstone of recreation in Haverford Township....

Message from the Township Manager  
Continues on page 3



## What's Inside The Newsletter

1

### One Step, One Trail...

A letter from the Township Manager

2

### Investing in Our Future...

The 2025 Operating & Capital Budget

3

### Articles from...

HTPD, Township Administration & Boards  
& Commissions

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



# Board of Commissioners

To sign up for email updates from your Commissioners, visit the Township's homepage and click on the "Email/Constant Contact" sign-up link under the Community section.



1st Ward  
Brian Gondek, Esquire  
610-517-6022  
BGondek@havtwp.com



2nd Ward  
Sherry Forste-Grupp  
484-836-7989  
SForste-Grupp@havtwp.com



Vice President  
3rd Ward  
Kevin McCloskey, Esquire  
267-414-7393  
KMccloskey@havtwp.com



President  
4th Ward  
Judy Trombetta  
484-836-7987  
JTrombetta@havtwp.com



5th Ward  
Laura Cavender  
202-415-9881  
LCavender@havtwp.com



6th Ward  
Larry Holmes, Esquire  
215-694-9960  
LHolmes@havtwp.com



7th Ward  
Conor Quinn  
610-716-9232  
CQuinn@havtwp.com



8th Ward  
Gerry Hart  
267-408-1088  
GHart@havtwp.com



9th Ward  
Michael McCollum  
484-745-8957  
MMccollum@havtwp.com

## Additional Contact Information



Township Building  
1014 Darby Road  
Havertown, Pa., 19083



610-446-1000



Official website  
[www.havtwp.org](http://www.havtwp.org)

**H**averford Township is led by nine Township Commissioners who are elected by ward residents.

Commissioners elect their own President and Vice President at the beginning of each new year. The Commissioners appoint a Township Manager who oversees daily operations and a sizable staff.

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Commissioners frequently communicate with their constituents through emails and social media. Please contact them directly to receive their communications as well as up to date information about your ward.

Meetings are broadcast live on the Township Cable Network (channel 38 on Verizon and channel 5 on Comcast) and replay everyday at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

To access links to all broadcast meetings, visit  
[havtwp.org/Media\\_Center.html](http://havtwp.org/Media_Center.html)

*\*\*Please note: We do not live stream to social media. You can access these meetings on YouTube usually the day after the meetings take place.*

# A message from the Township Manager cont.

continuation from cover page:

In surveys and public meetings, 24% of respondents identified trails as their most-used recreation spaces. Popular trails like the Darby Creek Trail and Pennsy Trail were noted for their accessibility and natural beauty.

Feedback highlighted a strong desire for more trails, better connectivity, and enhanced trail amenities like signage and shaded rest areas. Residents also emphasized the importance of linking neighborhoods, parks, and local destinations with safe biking and walking routes.

As you may know, Haverford Township is already making strides to meet these goals. Recent extensions to the Darby Creek Trail have provided new opportunities for outdoor exploration, while new sections of the Pennsy Trail are paving the way for expanded connectivity.

The PROS Plan suggests the need for further expansion of both the Pennsy Trail and the Darby Creek Trail, in addition to considering sidewalk connectors to improve pedestrian safety. These conceptual projects have the potential to connect key community hubs like schools and transit stations.

With the 2024 PROS Plan as our guide, Haverford Township is building a future where trails and open spaces bring our community closer together. Let's keep moving forward—one step, one trail, one connection at a time!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Burman".

David R. Burman  
Township Manager



## Stay Informed in Haverford Township: Your Guide to Community Updates

Staying connected to what's happening in Haverford Township is easier than ever! Whether you're looking for event announcements, important dates, or local updates, there are multiple ways to keep yourself informed. Here are some effective methods to stay in the loop:

### 1. Constant Contact

Sign up for Haverford Township's Constant Contact newsletters. This email service provides regular updates on local events, community news, and important announcements right to your inbox.

### 2. Haverford Alerts

Enroll in Haverford Alerts to receive text or email notifications about emergencies, service updates, and critical information affecting our community. It's a fast and reliable way to stay informed.

### 3. Social Media

Follow us on our social media platforms, including Facebook, X, and Instagram. Our pages are updated regularly with news and events, allowing you to engage with fellow residents and stay current on what's happening in your community.

### 4. Delco Alerts

Sign up for Delco Alerts to receive county-wide notifications regarding weather updates, public safety issues, and other important information related to the Delaware County region.

### 5. Community Calendar

Check the Haverford Township website for a community calendar featuring upcoming events, meetings, and important dates. It's a great resource for planning your participation in local activities.

By utilizing these tools, you can stay connected and engaged with the vibrant happenings in Haverford Township. Make sure you're subscribed to these services to never miss out on important community updates!

Sign up at [www.havtwp.org](http://www.havtwp.org) right on the home page.





### Understanding Carbon Monoxide: Safety Tips for Your Home

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a hazardous, invisible gas that is colorless and odorless, produced by the incomplete combustion of fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane. Homes can be at risk if heating and cooking appliances that rely on these fuels are not properly maintained.

Here are essential tips to protect your household from carbon monoxide exposure:

1. **Install CO Alarms:** Place carbon monoxide alarms in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home. For enhanced safety, interconnect the alarms so that when one sounds, they all do.
2. **Follow Placement Guidelines:** Adhere to the manufacturer's instructions regarding the placement and mounting height of the alarms.
3. **Responding to an Alarm:** If your CO alarm goes off, evacuate the building immediately and go to fresh air—outside or near an open window or door. Ensure everyone is accounted for and call for help from this safe location, remaining there until emergency responders declare it safe to return.

By following these safety measures, you can significantly reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning in your home. Stay safe and vigilant!

## Police Department Bulletin

Haverford Township Police Department Sergeant Robert McCreight and Ofc. Brittany Afgan were recently honored for their service to the community. Sgt. McCreight has organized numerous games between Haverford High Sports teams and Haverford Officers. Ofc. Afgan recently responded to a pediatric emergency and saved a juvenile who was choking. Thank you for your service, officers! We take great pride in you!

HTPD is proud to announce our newest K9 team. Ofc. Tom Murtha and his K9 Partner Dawkins completed extensive training together and are now patrolling the streets. Thank you to the Boscia family for their generous donation in support of this Police K9 initiative.

HTPD recently held its 9th annual K9 event. Haverford's Ofc. McLaughlin and K9 Bodhi finished in second place on the obstacle course and best apprehension stations and Ofc. Patterson and K9 Winnie finished third on the closest recall contest. Congratulations to all the participants and thank you to all the sponsors for their support.

HTPD wishes to remind residents to remove valuables from vehicles and lock doors at night. Call 911 to report suspicious activity.

We hope you enjoy a happy and healthy spring season!



Ofc. Murtha & K9 Dawkins



K9 Dawkins



# Investing in Our Future: The 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets

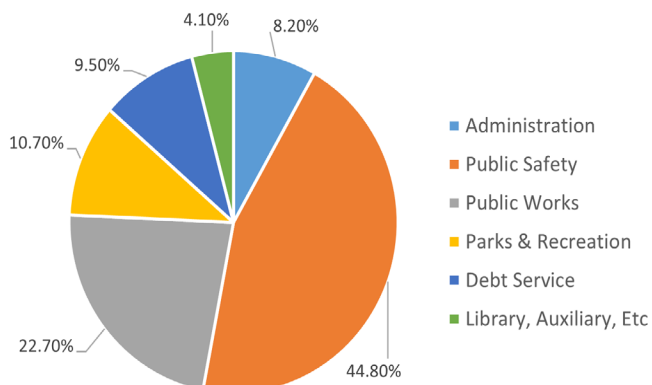
At its December 9, 2024 public meeting, the Board of Commissioners passed the 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Haverford Township is fortunate to have a loyal and hardworking staff of employees and volunteers that continue to provide top-tier services to our residents, visitors and businesses. But like any other organization, public or private, the Township also faces a tight labor market and inflationary costs. With over 75% of our budget comprised of labor costs, debt service and insurance premiums – areas that are very difficult to trim without impacting services – our other operational costs are generally very lean. To ensure we continue meeting the high expectations of our community, the adopted budget includes a slight increase to the Township property tax rate from 4.395 mills to 4.545 mills and to the sewer rate from \$4.65/1,000g of water used to \$5.15/1,000g of water used. The 2025 trash and recycling fee will remain unchanged at \$283 per residential unit.

Tax increases are never easy, but they play a pivotal role in ensuring Haverford Township remains the vibrant, thriving community we all love. The Township works diligently to manage annual cost increases, while still delivering the variety and quality of services that make our community a special place to live, work, and grow.

The chart below summarizes how our 2025

Haverford Township 2025 General Operations  
Budgeted Expenditures



The Capital and ARPA budgets will help us fund numerous transformative projects, ensuring Haverford Township continues to thrive. Here are some highlights for 2025:

- Completion of the renovated and expanded Haverford Township Free Library
- Development of the new Brookline Park
- Extension of the Darby Creek Trail
- Renovations to the Skatium locker rooms
- Installation of solar panels at the Township Administration building
- Enhanced pedestrian improvements across the Township
- Finalization and implementation of the new comprehensive plan
- Ongoing investment in sanitary and storm sewer systems

Stay tuned for updates on these exciting initiatives as we continue to build a better community!

## Reminder To All Business And Rental Property Owners!!

The Township has a business privilege and mercantile tax for all businesses (including rental property owners) operating in Haverford Township. This is a gross receipts-based tax based on receipts from the previous calendar year. Please visit the Township website for further information and contact the Township's appointed collector, TriState Financial Group at 610-270-9520 with any questions or to resolve any delinquencies. All registration and tax forms are available on its website at [www.tfgtax.com](http://www.tfgtax.com). Annual licensing and reporting is due by April 15.

## Happy Anniversary Haverford Township Historical Commission & Grange Estate

2025 marks the 15-year anniversary of the Haverford Township Historical Commission, which was established by the Board of Commissioners in January 2010 following passage of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. The ordinance recognized that, "The preservation and protection of historic resources are public necessities and promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Township of Haverford." The goal of the ordinance is to protect those resources, "that have a distinctive character recalling the architectural, residential, commercial, aesthetic and historic heritage of the Township."

More than 100 historic sites identified in a 1994 survey of the Township are now officially listed in the Haverford Township Historic Resources Survey. Additional resources were added in 2021 with funds from a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission grant.

Change is necessary and inevitable for any community to thrive. The goal of good preservation planning is to manage that change to preserve what we value in our Township. Working with property owners to manage that change remains the Commission's ongoing mission.



In May 1974, Haverford Township purchased the Historic Grange Estate, saving it from auction. The estate's history dates back to 1682, when it was bought by Henry Lewis from William Penn. Over time, notable figures like George Washington and Ben Franklin visited the estate, contributing to its rich legacy. The Township just celebrated the 50th anniversary of its acquisition.

Visit us at : <https://www.youtube.com/@thehistoricgrangeestate> to learn more fun facts!

## Smart Disposal: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost

In today's world, rethinking your waste disposal habits is vital. Many items can be reused, repurposed, recycled, or composted to help reduce landfill waste. Here's a quick guide to help you make smarter disposal choices:

### Reduce

- **Mindful Purchasing:** Choose durable, high-quality products to minimize the need for frequent replacements & only buy what you need
- **Refillery Shopping:** Bring your own containers to refill soaps, detergents, sunscreens, etc.
- **Use Rechargeable Batteries:** They're cost-effective and help decrease waste over time

### Reuse

- **Electronics:** Donate working flat-screen TVs (40" or less) and other electronics to organizations like GreenDrop

### Recycle

- **Batteries** (alkaline, rechargeable, Li-ion): Staples
- **Small Electronics/Cords/Cables:** E-waste bins at Township Building and CREC
- **Glass:** Drop off at the Township Building to recycle into new glass products or place curbside to repurpose as landfill cover
- **Textiles:** Donate clean and odorless clothes, shoes, and stuffed animals to Helpsy
- **CFL bulbs / fluorescent tubes:** DelCo Household Hazardous Waste events

### Compost

- **Curbside Collection:** Sign up for bi-weekly food scrap collection and enjoy four months free (thanks to a USDA grant)
- **Backyard Composting:** After training, get a subsidized bin for \$30 (thanks to a USDA grant)

### Learn More

A full guide can be found on the Township website: <https://havtwp.org/Environment365.html>. For more information about upcoming workshops and recycling odd items like candles, scrap metal, natural cork, writing utensils, dog food bags, etc., email [adesanti@havtwp.com](mailto:adesanti@havtwp.com).



## Reminder about Pool Water

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection prohibits the discharge of pool water into storm sewers, even if the water has been dechlorinated. Instead, pool water, chlorinated or dechlorinated, should be slowly discharged to your lawn or another pervious surface on your own property. There are significant fines and penalties if pool water is discharged into the street/storm sewers.

## Update

The Haverford Township Free Library will soon finish its renovation and expansion project and is scheduled to reopen this spring. Be on the lookout for our grand reopening at 1601 Darby Road!

Until that time, we will continue operations at the temporary Library location at 1305 West Chester Pike at the Manoa Shopping Center.

## Senior Night Out

Join other seniors on the 4th Wednesday of each month for a variety of activities.

- Jan. 22 - Game Night
- Feb. 26 - Movie Night
- Mar. 26 - Karaoke / Sing Along
- Apr. 23 - Pot Luck with Trivia

Time 6-8 p.m.

FREE for those over the age of 60 & registration is required.

Space is limited.

See [www.havtwp.org/HT\\_65\\_Plus\\_Community.html](http://www.havtwp.org/HT_65_Plus_Community.html)



## Community Development Block Grant Program

### What is Fair Housing?

Fair housing is the right to choose housing free from unlawful discrimination. Federal law protects people from discrimination in housing transactions such as rentals, sales, lending, and insurance. Fair Housing is the key to all people having the roof they want over their heads.

### Who is Protected?

The Fair Housing laws protect discrimination on the basis of age, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender/sexual orientation, disability or familial status. Familial status protects discrimination against families with children from being denied housing. These are known as Protected Classes.

### What is Prohibited?

In the sale and rental of housing, it is illegal to take any of the following actions based on a protected class:

- Refuse to rent or sell housing,
- Make housing unavailable,
- Set different terms or conditions,
- Falsely deny that housing is available.

In mortgage lending, no one may take any of the following actions based on a protected class:

- Refuse to make a mortgage due to your protected class status,
- Set different terms and conditions,
- Discriminate in appraising a property.

If you believe you have experienced discrimination, CALL HUD!

1-800-669-9777(voice)  
1-800-877-8339(TTY)

For additional info and resources, visit the website @ [www.equalhousing.org](http://www.equalhousing.org)

## Protect Your Home: Don't Let Sewer Backups Drain Your Wallet!

**S**ewer backups and flooding can cause devastating property damage and are not covered by standard homeowners' insurance policies. The majority of these claims are the responsibility of the property owner.

Sewage from sanitary sewer lines occasionally back up into houses through drain pipes. These backups not only cause extensive water damage that is difficult and expensive to repair, but also creates health hazards.

Haverford Township is not responsible for damages caused by sewers, drains and sump pumps except under limited/special circumstances provided by the PA Municipal Immunity laws.

Township residents should review their homeowner's flood and sewer backup insurance coverage with their agent/insurance companies in order to properly protect their personal residence probably the most valuable tangible asset that we all have.

Article I, Section 149-3, subsection C (2) Sewer Service Regulations of the Township Code states that all sewer service laterals connected to the Township system, regardless of location, are the property of the customer and/or owner and shall be maintained by him in good condition and repair. Please pay particular attention to the following coverages:

Coverage for Sewers, Drains and Sump Pumps: This valuable coverage is not included under your standard homeowner's policy but can be purchased by endorsement for an additional premium.

Flood Coverage: Flood coverage is not included under your homeowner's policy. However, flood insurance is available under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and can be obtained through your insurance agent or broker.

***The Township does not provide flood insurance.***



## 2025 – Official Township Calendar

**\*\*Important:** Please be aware that times and dates may change, especially during this season; check the official Township website for registration, details, updates, and cancellations on the dates below.\*\*

**2025**

### Township Closures

Feb. 17, Apr. 18, May 26, Jun. 19, Jul. 04, Sep. 01, Oct. 13, Nov. 11, Nov. 27, Nov. 28, Dec. 2, Dec. 24 - Closed at 11:30 a.m., Dec. 25, Dec. 31 - Closed at 11:30 a.m., Jan. 01, 2026

**2025**

### Brush/Trash/Recycling Changes

No Brush: Feb. 17, Mar. 03, Apr. 21, May 12, May 26, Jun. 23, Jul. 07, Sep. 01, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec 01 or Dec. 29 | No Trash/Recycling: Apr. 18, May 20, Jun. 19, Jul. 04, Nov. 11, Nov. 27, Dec. 25 or Jan. 01, 2026

**Save the Dates**

### Large E-Waste Events

Mar. 22, 2025 - Sign up starts on Feb. 21, 2025 & Aug. 23, 2025 - Sign up starts on Jul. 23, 2025.  
[www.havtwp.org/ News/Havtwp\\_EWaste\\_Events\\_Info\\_Page.html](http://www.havtwp.org/News/Havtwp_EWaste_Events_Info_Page.html) - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Township Building

**Save the Dates**

### Shredding Events

Mar. 29, 2025 & August 30, 2025  
[www.havtwp.org/ News/Havtwp\\_Shredding\\_Events\\_Info\\_Page.html](http://www.havtwp.org/News/Havtwp_Shredding_Events_Info_Page.html) - Time: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (or until the truck is full) - Location: Township Building

**Save the Dates**

### Police Department Events

Jun. 14th, 2025 - Summer Cop Camp - Sign up starts Feb. 18th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. - sign up and more info at [www.havtwp.org/Police\\_Department.html](http://www.havtwp.org/Police_Department.html) - Camp for Ages 10 & 11 year olds **\*\*Residents Only\*\***

Aug. 05, 2025 - National Night Out - Time: 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. - Location: Township Building

Oct. 26, 2025 - 10th Annual Delaware County Police K-9 Competition - starts at Noon located behind Haverford Middle School.

**Save the Dates**

### Parks & Recreation Events

Mar. 03, 2025 - Registration for ECP (Extended Care Program) begins for Township Residents at 8:00 a.m.

Apr. 06, 2025 - Summer Camp Registration for Playground Camp starts at 4:00 p.m.

Apr. 06, 2025 - Summer Camp Registration for all other Summer Camps starts at 4:15 p.m.

All signs up for Summer Camps can be found by going to [www.havtwp.org/Parks\\_and\\_Recreation.html](http://www.havtwp.org/Parks_and_Recreation.html)

Oct. 04, 2025 - Haverford Township Day

**\*\*Reminder:** All Real Estate Tax bills should be received by Feb. 15th. Please call the Township for a duplicate at 610-446-1000 ext. 2242\*\*