

Chalfont Borough Lamplighter



Image Credit: Dawn Tremmel

FALL/WINTER 2025

VOLUME 25 No. 2

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As we welcome the arrival of cooler weather and the changing colors of fall, we can begin to bid farewell to the dog days of summer. I would like to sincerely thank our Chalfont Borough Public Works crew for all their hard work, especially in the harshest of weather conditions. Their dedication to road repair, storm clean-up, mowing, park and trail maintenance, and general upkeep of borough property is not always easy in extreme temperatures. We appreciate the year-round efforts put forth by our fantastic Public Works crew consisting of foreman, Pat Hallman, and laborers; Ron Root, Josh Robert and Kyle Milligan. We appreciate everything you do!

Chalfont Borough would also like to express its continued appreciation for the dedication of Bird Town Committee volunteers who worked in the summer heat to help with the upkeep and beautification of Chalfont's parks and open spaces. Special thanks for everything you do!

The Borough would like to encourage all of its residents to subscribe to receive "Chalfont Borough News" through the Borough's website, www.chalfontborough.com. While on the homepage, scroll down to the "Chalfont News" banner at the bottom and sign up to receive emails about important Borough news. **At some point in the near future, we'll be transitioning to electronic delivery of newsletters (only), so it's imperative that you sign up now so you can stay connected and receive important news and updates.**

In other news:

- PennDOT gives online updates on their scheduled projects and the Bristol Road Extension timeline has recently been updated to show this multi-year project beginning sometime in 2028. As of this publication, PennDOT is expected to hold another public meeting in Chalfont regarding this project sometime in late 2025. Stay tuned to the Borough for updates and details as they become available to our office.

- AQUA PA's new wellhouse building on Hillcrest Avenue to house a PFOS/PFAS filtration system for Chalfont Well #11 is almost complete. Part of this project included AQUA installing a portion of the Northern Neshaminy Greenway Trail on their property, which is now complete.

(article continued on page 10)

CHECK OUT PAGE 9 FOR THE 'CONCERT IN THE PARK' EVENT ON OCT. 5TH

Chalfont Borough

Administration office located at
40 N. Main Street, Chalfont, PA 18914

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Phone: 215-822-7295

Fax: 215-822-5528

Email: info@chalfontborough.com

Borough Officials

Mayor: Brian D. Wallace

Council President: John R. Engel

Vice President: Tracey Bowen

Marilyn Jacobson

Michael Kelly

Mitchell Meyerson

Lisa Cardinale

Dan Colbert

Borough Manager/Public Works Director:
Shawn Curran

Asst to Manager/Borough Secretary/AORO/
and Newsletter Editor:
Dawn Tremmel

Monthly Meetings

Council meets the 2nd Tuesday
of each month @ 7:00 PM

HARB meets the 1st Monday
of each month @ 7:00 PM, as needed.

Planning Commission meets the 4th Monday
of each month @ 7:00 PM, as needed.

Meetings take place at Borough Hall,
40 N. Main Street, Chalfont

For up-to-date meeting information,
check the Borough's website:

www.chalfontborough.com

Also visit us on:

[facebook.com/chalfontborough](https://www.facebook.com/chalfontborough)

[instagram.com/chalfontborough](https://www.instagram.com/chalfontborough)

[x.com/ChalfontBoro](https://www.x.com/ChalfontBoro)

Property Taxes

County & Borough Municipal Tax

Chalfont property owners receive two different property tax bills each year. The first is a County & Municipal Real Estate Tax Bill, which is mailed out to residents at the end of February. This tax is collected by Chalfont Borough. If you did not receive your bill, or you have recently moved, please contact Chalfont Borough at 215-822-7295.


If your property taxes are escrowed, **forward one portion of your bill to your mortgage company** and keep one portion for your own records.

County & Municipal Real Estate Tax Bill payments are made out to "Chalfont Borough." To take advantage of the discount, payments have to be postmarked by April 30, otherwise the face payment amount is due by June 30. Payments can be sent by mail or dropped off in person to Chalfont Borough, 40 North Main Street, Chalfont, PA 18914. The Borough's administration office is open 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday (closed on holidays). If you pay by mail and would like a stamped receipt, you will need to enclose a SASE with your payment along with the entire tax bill.



Image by studlogstock on Freepick

School Tax Information

The second bill is a School Real Estate Tax Bill, and is mailed out to residents annually on July 1. This tax is collected by **Nicole Percetti**, who works out of New Britain Twp's office. If you did not receive that bill, still need to pay that bill, or have recently moved, please contact Nicole by email at newbritaintax@gmail.com, or by telephone at 215-822-2930. The discount period ended on August 31. The face amount is due by October 31. After that date, penalties will apply. 

Acknowledging 28+ Years of Service!

Borough Council Member, Marilyn Jacobson


Chalfont Borough would like to acknowledge the many years of community service by current Councilor, Marilyn Jacobson, who began as a councilor back in August 1997 when she was appointed to fill a member vacancy. Marilyn began running for office and winning elections in November 1997 and has served on council since then.

Through the years, Marilyn also served on the Borough's Steering Committee and the Chalfont Challenge 5K Committee, which began in 1992 under then Manager Bea Barr. Marilyn directed the 5K event until it was retired in 2023. Marilyn was also Chalfont's representative for the following initiatives: the 202 Parkway Committee, the Bucks County Bike Master Plan, the Bucks 5K Series, and the Bucks County Open Space Committee, which helped develop guidelines for the County Open Space Referendum.

Some of Marilyn's proudest accomplishments while serving on Chalfont Borough Council were helping to turn Chalfont into a walkable community by the addition of missing portions of sidewalks in various locations throughout the borough as well as the long stretch of sidewalk installed along Butler Avenue from Meadowbrook Lane to the railroad tracks at Bristol Road, the acquisition of Twin Streams Park, and all the amazing new trail portions that are helping to form the Northern Neshaminy Greenway Trail System. Marilyn would like to point out to her predecessors that the missing sidewalk portion between Hellberg Avenue and Peace Valley Road still needs to be funded and constructed.

Marilyn's fond memories of her dealings with Chalfont Borough have included things like seeing joggers running across a new pedestrian bridge in the borough just two days after it was installed; meeting a runner who was resting on bench in Derstein Park before their return trip back to Doylestown; enjoying the Chalfont Challenge 5K and all the many volunteers who helped make it a success for 31 years; stopping the construction of 76 town homes on Oak Avenue with an unexpected 4-3 vote; years ago, being stuck in traffic while riding with the Secretary of Transportation after a meeting (arranged by then Rep. Kathy Watson) on the bridge near Beaver Construction and together observing the holes in the pavement to where you could see the water below and watching the Secretary relay these road deficiencies on his blackberry only to have that portion of Butler Avenue milled and repaved later that same month during overnight hours; attending many ribbon cuttings; and attending a meeting with other local officials at the Governor's office in Harrisburg and mistakenly taking a wrong turn and winding up in the Governor's washroom... oops. All were fond memories made while helping Chalfont and its residents.

Marilyn has decided not to run for Council in the future to allow for more scheduling flexibility in her "go" years as she begins to travel more frequently. Chalfont Borough would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to Marilyn for her tireless efforts in supporting Chalfont. Marilyn's hope for Chalfont is that subsequent Councils will continue to plan well for Chalfont's future, that they will preserve the principal amount in the Water Reserve Fund account, and find ways to enhance our small town while appreciating its "excellent borough staff employees."

"After my term is up, I will miss my fellow Councilors, borough staff employees, and all the volunteers who have given their time to make Chalfont a great hometown." - Marilyn 



Chalfont Chemical Fire Company No. 1

2025 Upcoming Fund-Raising Events

Here are some upcoming fundraising events to support Chalfont Fire Company. All events take place at the fire station, which is located at 301 N. Main Street in Chalfont. Your support is needed!



October 12; 8:00am to 12:00pm; Breakfast Buffet (Oct. 12 is the correct date!)

October 26; 9:00am to 2:30pm; Craft Show and Bake Sale

Nov 30; 4:00pm; Christmas Sing and Santa's arrival!

Dec 6; TBD Plant Sale

Questions? Call 215-822-3434

Chal-Brit Regional EMS

Chal-Brit Regional EMS provides 9-1-1 advanced life support emergency medical services to residents of Chalfont Borough, New Britain Borough, New Britain Township, Hilltown Township, Warrington Township, Sellersville Borough, Silverdale Borough, and surrounding agencies. They have a dedicated staff made up of experienced professionals who work to help keep our community safe and recently welcomed newly hired Chief, Clifford Mungavin. Special thanks to all the Emergency Medical Technicians in our area for the help you provide and the all the work you do! 🚒



Central Bucks Regional Police News



CONGRATULATIONS! After successful completion of the competitive oral and written examination process, Officers Matthew Peppelman and Tim Conboy were promoted to the rank of Corporal at the April 24, 2025 Police Commission meeting. In other congratulatory news, CBRPD's Corporal Sean Tropiano is a member of the 597th class of officers to graduate from the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety's School of Police Staff and Command. As one of the most challenging and rewarding law enforcement management programs in the nation, the Center for Public Safety provides comprehensive training for senior law enforcement leadership.

NEW OFFICER SWORN IN. Officer Rhiannon Browne was sworn in as a full-time Police Officer at the Central Bucks Regional Police Commission meeting on May 22, 2025. She has been a PT officer in Dublin Borough and FT Deputy Sheriff since 2023. Welcome Officer Browne!

Police Commission meetings are open to the public and remaining 2025 meeting dates are: Sept 25, Oct 23, Nov 24, and Dec 18. Meetings are held at 7:00pm at CBRPD HQ located at 229 N. Broad St. in Doylestown Borough. Dates, times, and location are subject to change. <https://bucks.crimewatchpa.com/centralbucksregionalpd/17396/content/police-commission> 🚓



Officer Rhiannon Browne, 3rd from left

Chalfont Borough 2025-2026 Collection Calendar

■ Holiday - Service Is Delayed One Day
 ■ Recycling, Trash and Bulk Collection Day
 ■ Yard Waste Collection Day
 ■ Christmas Tree Collection Day

JUNE 2025							JULY 2025							AUGUST 2025							SEPTEMBER 2025						
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OCTOBER 2025							NOVEMBER 2025							DECEMBER 2025							JANUARY 2026						
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FEBRUARY 2026							MARCH 2026							APRIL 2026							MAY 2026						
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- Report a missed pickup
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- Find new products and services

Call 215.723.0400 to get started!

Please log in to your account to update your information.



For more information, call or visit:

- Republic Services: 215.723.0400
- Chalfont Borough: 215.822.7295
- Chalfont Borough website: Chalfontborough.com
- Bucks County Recycling: Buckscounty.gov/recycling
- Electronics/HHW disposal: Buckscounty.gov/recycling

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To activate the discount, please contact our customer service team at 215.723.0400 with documentation of proof of age.



Sustainability in Action



Bird Town News

Source: birdtownpa.org/listen-for-owls
Michele Keane-Moore, text contributor

During the cold and dark days of the year, one silver lining is that this is a great time to see and hear owls. Maybe you've heard hooting in your neighborhood in the evening or even been woken up by a vocal owl. Pennsylvania is home to six species of owls, not including an additional two species that come down from farther north during winter. Thanks to conservation efforts, many of these owls can be found in our neighborhood parks and backyards, if you know when and where to look. We also can all participate in these conservation efforts to help protect owls and other raptors through the choices we make.

Pennsylvania is home to Great Horned, Barred, Eastern Screech, Barn, Northern Saw-whet, and Long-eared Owls. Other owl species, such as Short-eared Owls and Snowy Owls, sometimes will migrate into Pennsylvania during the winter months. There have even been rare sightings of Great Gray Owls in the northern part of the state. The first three, Great Horned, Barred, and Eastern Screech Owls, are the most common and likely species you might see or hear. It is wise to learn how to recognize these three by sight and sound. Some good additional tips for finding owls can be found on websites such as Birds & Wetlands.

Most of the resident owl species do their courtship during the winter months and, luckily for us, this involves a lot of hooting! In the evening and overnight hours, you may hear them calling. It's either to find a mate, or it's a pair bonding to each other, or it's even a territorial dispute. The calls of the Great Horned Owls are what most people think of when they think of owl sounds. Their call is sometimes represented by "Who's awake?" "Me, too." Barred Owls are represented by the expression "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?" Eastern Screech Owls don't hoot in a traditional fashion, and their 'screech' is actually a soft, descending, musical tremolo. You might also be able to see these three species. Great Horned Owls and Barred Owls roost during the daylight hours and favor perches in tall trees that face the sun, so they can bask. Eastern Screech Owls are found in tree cavities (often maple trees) that also have sunny exposures for the same reason.



Great Horned Owl. Image Credit: JD Photos on Unsplash

There are also some environmental efforts that affect both owls and many of our raptor species (such as hawks and eagles) that we can all support. One shared concern for these birds, which need to eat small mammals like mice, is humans' use of rodent poisons. Despite what our pest control companies may tell us, there are no truly safe rodenticides that do not have a negative impact on the birds that eat poisoned mice and rats. Poisoned rodents are actually more likely to become prey because they are not as swift or able to react. We can protect our resident hawks and owls by using methods other than poisons to kill household rodents. The best method is to prevent the rodents' entry in the first place, though this can be challenging. Refusing to use rodenticides in your house or on your property is one of the most important actions you can take to help the conservation of owls and hawks in our state!

If you farm or have a larger property, you can also consider setting up nesting boxes for owls, or participating in the PA Game Commission's project to conserve land for owls. If you are a raptor enthusiast, a trip to the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is a wonderful place to visit, especially during the fall migration season. The National Aviary in Pittsburgh offers opportunities to meet some of their rescued owls if you want a live owl encounter. There are many ways to interact with, and learn more about, the owls and raptors in our state.

For most bird lovers, seeing an owl in the wild is a pinnacle experience, and we're coming up on the time of year when it is most likely to occur! I encourage you to go out and look for 'tree bumps' that are actually camouflaged owls and listen carefully in the evening and overnight hours for hooting. I have been woken up by both Barred Owls and Great Horned Owls in our backyard and have never minded the lost sleep. Embrace these charismatic and intriguing feathered friends and take a pledge to do your part to protect them.



Barn Owl. Photo credit: Joshua Cotten on Unsplash

Additional owl information and conservation resources:

Project Snowstorm (Snowy Owls) and Northern Saw-whet conservation at the Ned Smith Center

<https://nedsmithcenter.org/research-and-support-2/>

Owl encounters and information

<https://www.aviary.org/programs-encounters/animal-encounters/owl-encounter/>

Penn State Extension's Long-eared Owl information

<https://extension.psu.edu/protected-species-in-pennsylvania-long-eared-owl>

The Pennsylvania Farmland Raptor Project (Barn Owl and Short-eared Owl conservation)

<https://www.hawkmountain.org/conservation-science/active-research/raptor-conservation-studies/farmland-raptors>

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (hiking and raptor/owl information & conservation projects)

<https://www.hawkmountain.org/about/who-we-are>



Barred Owl. Photo credit: Philip Brown on Unsplash

For more information on Chalfont's Bird Town program, visit: **www.bird-townpa.org**

Also visit Chalfont Bird Town on Facebook: **www.facebook.com/Chalfontbirdtown**

If you have any questions or wish to volunteer, please contact Trish Harrington, Committee Chair of Chalfont Birdtown, by email: **Trish-ah6520@gmail.com** 

Year-Round Stormwater Tips

Plant Buffers along our Streams and Ponds

What is a Buffer and Why is it needed?

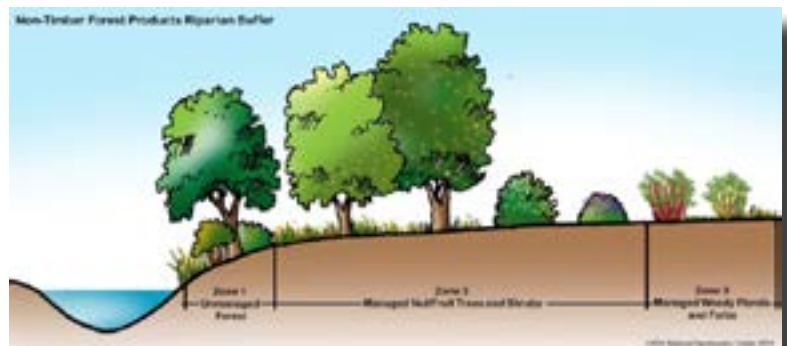
A riparian buffer along a stream, creek or pond is a vegetated area to help the water quality in the waterway. The vegetated area provides shade, filters the water that runs off the adjacent land into the waterway. During a rain event the water running to the streams picks up soil, fertilizers and pesticides from lawns, and oil and grease from roads or driveways. Slowing the water down before it reaches the stream also helps to prevent erosion of the soil and streambanks.



How do I plant a Buffer?

Typically a buffer area consists of 3 zones. The size of each zone will vary depending on the space available.

- Zone 1: Along the edge of the stream, creek or pond should be planted with native trees and shrubs that can tolerate wet conditions.
- Zone 2: Adjacent to Zone 1, plant native trees and shrubs plus wildflowers and grasses to provide a transition.
- Zone 3: Next to Zone 2, plant an area of native grasses and wildflowers to slow the water and allow some to be absorbed into the ground.



How do I Maintain the Buffer?

- Initially, the buffer will need to be maintained with watering and weeding to help the plants establish and remove invasive plants.
- The grasses and wildflowers in Zone 3 should be mowed twice a year, in the spring and fall, to prevent overgrowth.
- Trees and shrubs should be pruned to remove any dead, dying or diseased branches.

Where can I learn more about Buffers?

Information about buffers and appropriate plants can be found on the following websites:

- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/Water/RiparianBuffers/Pages/default.aspx>
- PennState Extension: <https://extension.psu.edu/riparian-buffers-pennsylvanias-best-solution-for-protecting-its-waters>

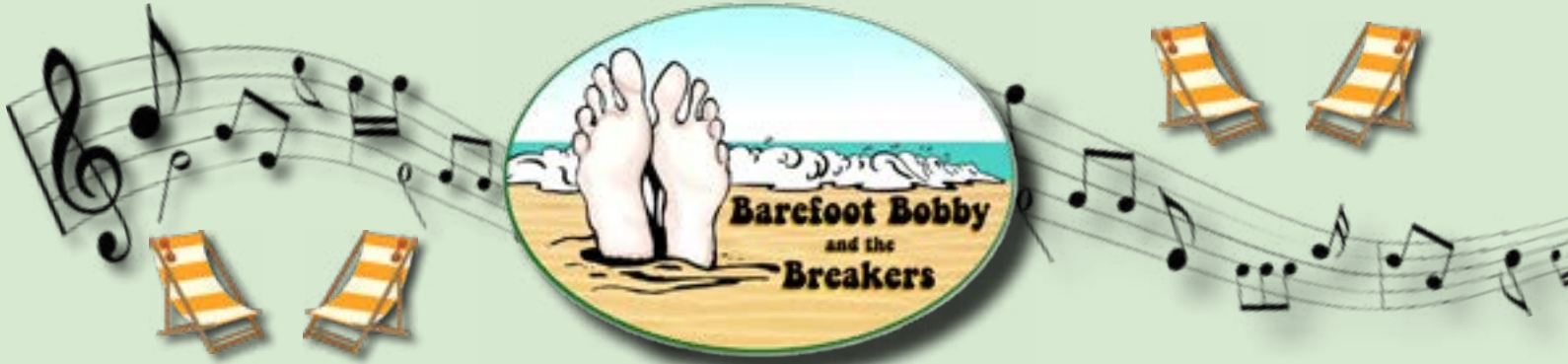
For more stormwater information, please visit the Borough website at <https://chalfontborough.com/stormwater/>

For any questions or concerns regarding stormwater or if you observe pollutants entering the storm sewer or stream, please call the Borough at **215-822-7295**.

Free Concert in Kelly Park!

Featuring Barefoot Bobby and the Breakers!

- **Sunday, October 5th, 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM** (weather permitting).
- **Barefoot Bobby and the Breakers** will be headlining the entertainment.
- Bring a blanket or beach chair.
- Refreshments will be available in the parking lot at Krupp Park (use pedestrian bridge).
- Parking will be available in the lot on Kerns Ave (across from 40 N. Main St.).
- Walkers to the event are encouraged. Come enjoy the fun!!!




General Information

Tuesday, **November 4, 2025**, is the date of the General Election which is also called a "Municipal Election" in odd-numbered years because there are no federal or state office races on the ballot. In a Municipal Election, votes are cast for county and local officials, which also includes judges and magisterial district judges.

The polling place for all Chalfont Borough residents is Chalfont United Methodist Church located at **11 Meadowbrook Lane in Chalfont**. Polls open at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM. 



Borough Commission Vacancies


As of this publication date, there is a vacancy on the Civil Service Commission, which serves the Central Bucks Regional Police Department, and a vacancy on Chalfont Borough's Planning Commission. If anyone is interested in serving on either Commission, please submit a completed Volunteer Application form to the borough administration office by mail or in person at 40 N. Main Street, Chalfont, PA 18914, or send by email to: info@chalfontborough.com. Application forms can be found on the "Forms and Fees" page of the Borough's website, www.chalfontborough.com. Descriptions of each Commission can be found at www.chalfontborough.com/boards-and-commission/ Please call borough staff at 215-822-7295 with any questions. 

(front page article continued)



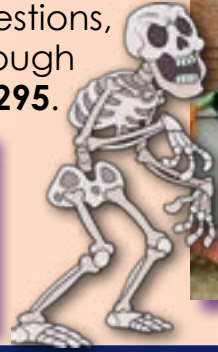
- Chalfont Borough passed a new ordinance, which is an enforceable law, that all property owners should be aware of. **Ordinance No. 474** states that prior to the sale of any property within Chalfont Borough, the Property Owner shall have the existing sewer service lateral televised by a plumber licensed in the Commonwealth. The licensed plumber shall certify that the existing sewer service lateral has no visible defects and accepts no infiltration or inflow. A copy of the certification and the video, on an approved digital format, shall be submitted to the Borough as part of your U&O application for approval through the Authority before a Use and Occupancy Certificate will be issued.

- Central Bucks Regional Police Department has been in negotiations with the Police Commission for a new contract.

I encourage all residents to get involved in our community by attending monthly borough meetings, volunteering when needed, or getting involved with the Neshaminy Watershed Association or Chalfont Bird Town's. I would like to thank my fellow councilors, our mayor, borough staff, volunteers, members of the Chalfont Fire Department, Chal-Brit Regional EMS and the Central Bucks Regional Police Department for their service and dedication to Chalfont Borough residents. To stay engaged, receive news relevant to the Borough, and for **future newsletters received in electronic format**, please sign up for "Chalfont News" on the website www.chalfontborough.com. You can also stay tuned to news regarding Chalfont Borough on its Facebook, X, and Instagram accounts. I hope everyone has a safe and warm winter! - John Engel, Borough Council President 

SPOOKTACULAR SCARECROWS

Chalfont Borough will provide the frames and the straw, you provide the creativity! We invite you to make a scarecrow to be displayed in the Borough for Halloween! We welcome all groups, families, or individuals that would like to participate. Pick up your supplies in the parking lot of the Borough's administration building located at 40 N. Main Street from **October 3rd to 5th**. Supplies will be on a first come, first served basis, no orders or reservations can be taken. Please return your completed scarecrows any time between **October 11th-12th**. They can be left propped up against the side of the Borough's administration building along the wall with stairs to the side entrance. Our dedicated Public Works crew will install the scarecrows on the street light poles along Main Street and Butler Avenue in time for Halloween. If you have any questions, please call the Borough office at **215-822-7295**.



2025 Yard Waste Clean Up Dates

Yard Waste Dumpster

On November 13, 2025, a yard waste dumpster will be located in the parking lot behind Borough Hall, 40 North Main St., and remain until filled.

The dumpster will be available to residents for **YARD WASTE DISPOSAL ONLY**. Acceptable materials include biodegradable-bagged grass clippings, brush, and tree limbs not exceeding four feet in length. (No root balls allowed).

Dumpster Rules

PLEASE NOTE

- No plastic bags allowed in the dumpster.
- Do not fill over the top.
- Do not leave anything around the outside of the dumpster.
- NOTHING OTHER THAN YARD WASTE IS ALLOWED INSIDE THE DUMPSTER.

NO SWING-SETS!

- If your amount of yard waste does not fit, you must take it with you.

2025 Curbside Leaf Collection Dates

Leaves should be placed in biodegradable leaf bags and placed curbside the night before pickup. No twigs or twig bundles allowed in bags with leaves. This curbside pick-up is for **LEAVES ONLY**.

Remaining Dates

- October 18, 2025
- November 15, 2025
- December 6, 2025





CHALFONT BOROUGH
40 N. MAIN ST.
CHALFONT, PA 18914

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Doylestown, PA
Permit No. #640

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

- **AQUA Pennsylvania** (Chalfont Borough's water service provider): 877-987-2782
- **Borough & County Tax Collector for Chalfont Borough:** Barbara Klingerman, 215-822-7295
 - **School Tax Collector (CBSD) for Chalfont:** Nicole Percetti for Central Bucks School District, 215-822-2930
- **Bucks County Recycling Program including E-Waste Info:** <https://www.buckscounty.gov/recycling>
- **Central Bucks Regional Police Department (CBRPD) administrative office:** 215-345-4143
- **CBRPD Dispatch** (non-emergency situations requiring a timely police response): 215-328-8511
- **Central Bucks School District** (main number): 267-893-2000
- **Chal-Brit Emergency Medical Services** (non-emergency number): 215-822-1308
- **Chalfont Fire Company** (non-emergency number): 215-822-9685
- **Emergencies: 9-1-1**
- **Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewer Authority:** 215-345-1225
- **Chalfont Post Office:** 215-822-0659
- **Keystone Collections Group:** Earned Income Tax and E-File, 888-328-0565; all other inquiries, 724-978-0300
- **PECO Emergency Line:** 800-841-4141
- **PennDOT pothole reporting for State-owned roads:** Bristol Road, Butler Avenue, Limekiln Pike South, N. Main St., Park Avenue, Sunset Avenue; call 800-349-7623; (Borough has no maintenance control over state-owned roads.)
- **PennDOT Highway Maintenance District 6-1** (*urgent* issues on local state-owned roads): 215-345-6060
- **Republic Services** (Borough's contracted residential trash & recycling service provider): 215-723-0400



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