



# Borough of Perkasie



NEWS FROM COUNCIL

FALL 2010

620 W. Chestnut St.  
Perkasie, PA 18944  
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[www.perkasieborough.org](http://www.perkasieborough.org)

John Hollenbach, Mayor  
Martin Gahman, President  
Richard Hendricks, Vice-President  
Matthew Aigeldinger  
Stephen Algeo  
Florence Frei  
Barbara Krantz  
Chris Nicolosi  
Jim Purcell  
Maria Slowik

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Borough Council:  
1st Monday at 7 p.m.  
Borough Council:  
3rd Monday at 7 p.m.  
Zoning Hearing Board:  
4th Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
PBA:  
1st Mon. & 3rd Tues. at 7 p.m.  
Planning Commission:  
4th Wed. at 7:30 p.m.  
Park & Recreation Board  
2nd Monday at 7 p.m.  
PWTA:  
4th Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
Please check [www.perkasieborough.org](http://www.perkasieborough.org) for updates to schedule.

## Council Amends Annual Fee

At the August 16<sup>th</sup> Borough Council meeting, Ordinance # 944 was approved to exempt certain apartment units and condominiums from the \$35 trash and recycling annual fee.

Ordinance # 944 automatically exempts multifamily units with 10 or more residential units from the fee, because they are required to provide proper collection and disposal of regulated municipal waste and designated recyclable materials by utilizing a permitted private collector to deliver such waste and recycling to an approved facility.

Multifamily units with four (4) to nine (9) residential units may be exempt from the Refuse and Recycling Removal Fee if the property owner provides all required trash and recycling services (including trash, commingled recycling, newspaper/cardboard, bulky waste, yard waste and Christmas trees).

Any fees paid for exempt multifamily units prior to the adoption of this provision will be refunded by the Borough. Any refunds granted under Ordinance # 944 will be paid back to the customer as a credit on their electric bill, as long as they continue to remain a customer. Otherwise they will be issued a refund check.



At the June public meeting, Borough Council authorized matching funds raised by the non-profit Skate Plaza Committee to repair several features in the Borough's skate park. Borough Public Works crews were assisted by several users of the park to perform the repairs. The Skate Plaza Committee will continue raising money to replace the current skate park with a concrete plaza. Visit [www.perkasieskateplaza.com](http://www.perkasieskateplaza.com) for more information.

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## Borough Receives Funding For AED's

The purchase of eight automated external defibrillators (AED's) has been approved for funding in the amount of \$10,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

The grant will cover the purchase of the equipment and training employees to use the devices. Four of the AED's will be used in police vehicles, two will be placed in electric bucket trucks, one will be placed in the Borough Hall building, and one will be located at the Public Works garage and recycling center. The defibrillators provide on-the-spot life-saving capabilities.

## Perkasie Borough's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Festival

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2010 @ MENLO  
PARK – NOON TO 5:00 PM

### Activities and Entertainment

12:00-2:00 – Sadie Green Jug Band

2:30-4:30 – Thunder Creek Bluegrass Band

What Knott Farm Petting Zoo

Sleepy Hollow Farm Pony Rides (1-4pm)

Craft Show – All Handmade Crafts

Free Crafts for Children – Boing Gymnastics Center

Children's Pumpkin Decorating

Scarecrow Workshop

Perkasie Carousel

Amusement Rides



Special thanks to all sponsors, vendors, crafters, volunteers, non-profit organizations and local businesses that are participating in this year's event.

COORDINATED BY THE PERKASIE BOROUGH  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

For more information, call (215) 257-5065.

## Borough Leaf Collection to Begin In October

Leaf collection will begin the week of October 18<sup>th</sup> and continue through November, weather permitting. Rake your leaves into the street along the curb line without blocking or clogging storm drains. Leaves will be collected when the schedule allows. There are no set collection days for areas of the Borough. The Public Works crew will follow a specific route and do so cyclically throughout the leaf collection period. Please check the Borough Web site for the final collection notice.

After the final day for collection, leaves will no longer be permitted to be placed in the street as per ordinance 108-1 of the Borough code. If you have any questions concerning the Borough's leaf collection procedure, please contact the Borough at (215) 257-5065.

To receive the E-Newsletter, e-mail the Borough at [admin@perkasieborough.org](mailto:admin@perkasieborough.org). In the subject line, insert "Please add me to Perkasie Borough's e-mail distribution list".

This year's winners of the Perkasio Pride Award really embraced the small town charm of the Borough: neatly trimmed landscaping with colorful flowers, ornate fencing, and charming brick structures. Nominated by friends, neighbors or passers-bys, this years winners were awarded their honors at Pennridge Community Day in Lenape Park by Council President Marty Gahman. Prior to the ceremony at a public meeting, Borough Council had voted 7-0 in favor of awarding the five homeowners with the prestigious Perkasio Pride Award. The Perkasio Pride Award was established by the Mayor and Borough Council to recognize up to five



properties within the Borough that have made a significant contribution to beautifying the town. Here is a list of the award recipients (in no particular order): Edward & Nancy Snyder, 818 West Callowhill Street (pictured; top); Scott & Bonnie Gehman, 2 South 7th Street; Dennis Walters, 911 Arch Street; Joseph Hartz, 501 Vine Street; Linda McDowell, 809 North 7th Street (pictured; bottom).

The Mayor and Council awarded a wall plaque suitable for outdoor display. This plaque is approximately 7 inches in diameter and contains the words "PERKASIE PRIDE AWARD", the date the award is given and is embossed with the Perkasio Hickory Nut Tree. The plaque also shows the year the building was constructed.

## Grant Pays for Installation of Mandatory Handicap Ramps

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Perkasio installed curb ramps for use by individuals with disabilities. Since that time, design standards for curb ramps have changed and most ramps must be rebuilt to conform to the latest standards. This important work is being advanced with the help of money from the Bucks County Department of Community & Business Development's Community Block Development Grant (CDBG) program.

Through the grant program, the Borough qualified for \$66,800 to complete the ramp replacement project. The grant money funded the engineering, inspection, construction and asphalt patching for twenty ramps. The new design standard for handicap ramps allows persons with disabilities to safely enter a crosswalk without entering the road. Trout Brothers, Inc. of Telford, Pa., was the general contractor on the project. The construction of 20 new ramps along Market, Walnut and Callowhill Streets was completed in September 2010.

## Help Protect Our Water Resources!

**Here's what to do with your yard full of leaves...**

***Rake it!***

Follow the guidelines for curbside pick-up. Wait until just before collection begins to put your leaves curbside. Never rake leaves into or near storm drains, ditches, creeks or the river. Decaying leaves use up the water's oxygen, harming aquatic inhabitants.

***Leave it!***

Mulch leaves by running over them with your lawn mower at next cutting. Leaves and grass clippings are the best fertilizer for your lawn.

***Or... rake it and leave it!***

Rake leaves into a compost pile for a nutrient-rich fertilizer to use on your garden next spring! To report an illicit discharge to the storm sewer system, please call (215) 257-5065.





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Permit No. 176



From Your Electric Department:

## “Vampire” Electric Usage

**What is vampire electric load?**  
A vampire (or phantom) load is the electric current consumed by an appliance when the appliance is switched to its labeled “off” position though it continues to draw electric current to perform functions other than its principal ones. The industry uses the term “stand-by” for this mode, although the appliance labels the mode as “off”.

**When an appliance is switched “off”, doesn’t that mean it is disconnected from the electric circuit?**  
Not these days. Most recently-manufactured appliances continue to draw current—usually at a substantially reduced level.

**Why do appliances have vampire loads?**  
The vampires power convenience features, such as touch pads, remote controls, memory presets, instant-on function, and digital clocks as well as background functions of set top boxes that download program information.

**Do vampires reside only in electronic equipment such as TV equipment and computers?**  
No. Until recently, major appliances had been fully automatic in that at the end of their cycles they shut themselves truly off by

automatically disconnecting from the electric circuit. Recently-manufactured washers, dryers, and dishwashers, including the Energy Star rated models, have vampire loads ranging as high as 5 watts. There seems to be no contemporary model that truly shuts off at the end of its cycle, and many do not include a manual “off” switch, but some do.

**What’s the scoop on those “wall warts”, my plug-in transformers?**  
The most obvious vampires, plug-in transformers like those used to charge batteries or to operate a cordless telephone or an answering machine, are modest offenders. They usually draw less than one watt when not charging or operating the appliance. They are often visible and convenient to unplug when not in use.

**By how much does the large size of a single vampire load matter?**  
45 vampire watts feeding off your electric power bill for a year totals nearly 400 kilowatt hours—enough energy, according to DOE, to operate a new 21 cu. ft. Energy Star refrigerator for 10 months.