

**November /  
December 2023**

## **As Winter Approaches**

As cold weather begins to move in, please remember the Borough has an ordinance that sidewalks must be kept in a proper state of repair and maintained free from hazardous conditions. All snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours of snowfall ending.

## **Holiday Office Closures**

The Borough of Blawnox Offices will be closed November 10<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veteran's Day, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving, and December 25<sup>th</sup> for Christmas. Trash and recycling pick-up will take place Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>

# **Blawnox Borough News**



## **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

Blawnox Borough will be hosting a food drive to help local families for the Thanksgiving Holiday. People who wish to donate non-perishable food items or gift cards may drop them off at the Borough by November 17<sup>th</sup>. Some non-perishable items of need include boxed potatoes, stuffing, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, pasta, sauce, and gravy. If you or someone you know are in need of a little help this holiday season, please contact the Borough Office at 412-828-4141.

## **Important Trash and Recycling Update**

Per the Borough's new contract with Waste Management, recycling services in Blawnox will end with the final trash and recycling pick up of 2023 on Tuesday, 12/26. Curbside hazardous waste disposal (by independently scheduled appointment) and bulk item pick up will continue. Residents are permitted to put out one bulk item a maximum of twice per month. Bulk item pick up will be every other week beginning January 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **Night of the Lights & Cookie Tour**

This year's Night of the Lights and Best of Blawnox Cookie Tour will take place Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please see enclosed flyer for all the cheerful details!

## Halloween Thanks!

The Borough and Blawnox Police Department would like to thank the following for their generous support of our Halloween festivities this year: Overbeck's Nursery and Landscaping, Tower Auto Sales, Blawnox Volunteer Fire Department and the Blawnox Auxiliary Police Department. We hope everyone enjoyed a fun and safe Halloween.

## Blawnox Business Spotlight

If you're interested in having your business spotlighted in our newsletter, please email [blxoffice@blawnox.net](mailto:blxoffice@blawnox.net) for more information.

## 2024 Rates

The 2024 rates for water, sewer, and trash, and tax millage will be set at the December Council Meeting. The Council's draft budget includes the following items:

- Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, the water rate for 2024 will raise to \$11.99 / 1000 gallons with a minimum use of 3000 gallons. This raise is in anticipation of an increase from PVSA.
- The sewage rate will remain the same at \$12.94 / 1000 gallons with a minimum use of 1000 gallons. The sewer per bill fee will increase to \$23.44. The per bill fee is a direct pass through of the increases the Borough will be receiving from ALCOSAN for processing our sewage. The first 1000 gallons will cost a total of \$36.38. The line fee will remain at \$45 per quarter.
- Trash will increase to \$77 per quarter for 2024, however that rate will remain the same for three years. Recycling services will be suspended.
- The tax millage is expected to remain the same.

## Blawnox Food Pantry

The Blawnox Borough Community Food Pantry, located within the Borough building, will be open from 11:00am-1:00pm on the following distribution days this fall and winter:

- Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>
- Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>
- Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

The food pantry will also be available for emergencies during normal Borough operating hours by appointment; please call 412-828-4141 if you need to schedule an appointment. Donations to the food pantry are welcome and can be dropped off at the Borough during normal business hours.

## Contact Us

### Company Name

Blawnox Borough

### Street Address

376 Freeport Rd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

### Phone

412-828-4141

### Email

blxoffice@blawnox.net

### Website

[www.blawnox.com](http://www.blawnox.com)

### Facebook

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

Be sure to check out our Facebook Page for neighborhood news and community updates!

### Blawnox Borough Council

Debbie Laskey,	President
Randy Stoddard,	Vice President
John Simmons,	Council Member
Meghan Kennedy,	Council Member
Katie Coban,	Council Member
Christine Carnevali,	Council Member
Elaine Palmer,	Council Member

Anthony Gross,	Mayor
Kathy Ulanowicz,	Borough Manager
Gordon Taylor,	Engineer
Jack Cambest,	Solicitor
Mallori McDowell,	Assistant Manager
Casey Cunningham,	Admin Assistant
Lou Ann Wright,	Code Enforcement

## A Message From the Tax Collector

Please note that all real estate tax bills are currently in the penalty phase of collection. If you have not yet paid, to avoid further fees, please submit your payment on or by December 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have a permanent name or billing address change, please contact the Allegheny County Treasurer's office to ensure bills are received in a timely manner next year.

3930-FM-BSDW0189 5/2019

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

#### FAILURE TO MEET THE DISTRIBUTION DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL TREATMENT TECHNIQUE

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE  
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.

From July to August 2023

Blawnox Borough Public Water System did not meet treatment technique requirements.

Disinfectant residual is the amount of chlorine or related disinfectant present in the pipes of the distribution system. If the amount of disinfectant is too low, organisms could grow in the pipes. We are required to maintain a minimum disinfectant residual concentration in the distribution system of at least 0.2 mg/L in the water supplied to consumers.

During the months of July and August, water samples showed a disinfectant residual concentration less than 0.2 mg/L in 4 samples. The standard is that the disinfectant residual cannot be under 0.2 mg/L in more than 1 samples for two months in a row. As a result of this treatment technique violation, there was a risk that the water may have contained disease-causing organisms.

#### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbial contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

*Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.*

These symptoms are not caused only by organisms in your drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms, and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

**What does this mean?** This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

**What is being done?** We did the following to return disinfectant to an acceptable level:

The Borough has been utilizing grants to work on the valves in the water system, we have finished approximately 14 valves and have another grant in the works for 8 to 10 additional valves. We also flushed the system in August.

For more information, please call Kathy Ulanowicz of Blawnox Borough at 412-828-4141.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by Blawnox Borough.

PWS ID#: 5020004

Date distributed: 11/10/2023



LOCAL

POSTAL CUSTOMER

PSRRT STD

ECRWSS

U.S. POSTAGE