



# Dallas Township NEWSLETTER

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## Dallas Township Launches Volunteer Tax Credit Program



Residents of Dallas Township now have added incentives to become involved and volunteer with our local fire departments and nonprofit emergency medical service agencies. Active volunteers of Back Mountain Regional Fire & EMS and Kunkle Fire & Ambulance, who reside in Dallas Township and use their property as their primary residence, are now eligible to apply for the Volunteer Service Credit Program. This initiative stems from a recent ordinance passed by the Dallas Township Board of Supervisors during the February 2024 meeting.

The eligibility criteria for this program were established following the guidelines of Act 172 of 2016 and Act 91 of 2020, as outlined in Resolution 2024-2. Volunteers meeting the requirements in 2024 stand to receive a refund (excluding any late fees) of their 2025 paid Township real estate taxes.

To qualify for the program, volunteers must complete all required training and reside in Dallas Township, serving at either Back Mountain Regional Fire & EMS or Kunkle Fire & Ambulance. The eligibility period spans from January 1st to November 30th each year, with the Chiefs responsible for maintaining activity logs and submitting a notarized eligibility list to the Township Manager by December 15th annually.

Volunteers begin by paying their tax bill and then applying for the credit with the Township. Upon approval, they receive a rebate check. Certification of volunteer status and residency is mandatory. It's important to note that the credit won't be reflected on tax bills, so volunteers must actively apply to benefit from this recognition of their service.

Act 91 of 2020 expanded the tax relief incentive to counties and school districts while also increasing the allowable value of the real estate tax credit from 20% to 100% of the tax liability imposed by local government. As of now, neither Luzerne County nor the Dallas School District has implemented this program.

Dallas Township takes pride in extending this support to our dedicated resident volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel who diligently serve our community.

## Road Department News

The Dallas Township Road Department has been hard at work ensuring our roads are safe and clear for all residents. With each snowfall, they have been diligently preparing for and clearing snow to maintain safe driving conditions.

In addition to snow removal, the Road Department recently completed the Toby Creek stream bank stabilization project along North Main Street on the Township border. This important project helps protect our waterways and surrounding areas from erosion, ensuring their long-term health and stability.

### Upcoming Events

**March 5, 2024 - 6:30 PM**  
Supervisors' Meeting

**March 12, 2024 - 7:00 PM**  
Planning Commission Meeting

**March 18, 2024 - 6:30 PM**  
Zoning Hearing Board Meeting

**March 21, 2024 - 6:30 PM**  
Neighborhood Watch Meeting

*All Township meetings are open to the public. If you wish to attend virtually, the Township Supervisors ask that you call or email: [meetings@dallastwp.org](mailto:meetings@dallastwp.org) to reserve your spot. The meetings will continue to be streamed LIVE on the Dallas Township Facebook page. The Neighborhood Watch is excluded from live streaming.*



### Dallas Township

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

### Dallas Township Police Department Secures COPS Grant

We are delighted to announce that the Dallas Township Police Department has successfully secured a grant from the Department of Justice's COPS Hiring Program. This three-year grant will cover 75% or up to \$250,000 of the salary for two new officers. It is worth noting that our department is the sole recipient of this grant in Luzerne County, underscoring our commitment to public safety. We commend Chief Higgins and the entire team for their hard work and dedication to keeping Dallas Township safe. For those interested in applying for a position, more details can be found on our website. The department will accept and consider applicants without Act 120 certification or training.



### Dallas Township Buzzing as Potential Wawa Site



Dallas Township Zoning Hearing Board convened to hear a presentation from Dallas Development Partners, LLC. Confirming rumors, it has been revealed that Wawa has identified the vacant site adjacent to Tractor Supply, situated at the junction of Upper Demunds Road and State Route 309. Pending approval of a traffic study, Wawa plans to proceed by presenting its proposals to the Dallas Township Planning Commission.

### Dallas Township Notified of Closure at OPM Facility

Dallas Township has received official notice from Offset Paperback Mfrs. ("OPM") regarding the closure of its facility situated at 2211 Memorial Highway, Dallas.

Employee separations are anticipated to commence over a 14-day period starting April 15, 2024. A total of 106 employees will be affected by the plant closure.

