



Pocono Forest Sportsman Club, Inc.



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Spring 2019 Newsletter

Spring arrived! We made it through Winter, with its white beauty. Now for flowers, warmth, & longer days. A tip o' the hat to whoever replaced the worn American flag on the pole, and also to whoever filled the potholes on Monroe and Goldenrod – well done!

Quote of the Season (reprinted from Spring 2006):

“Be not concerned nor be surprised if what you do is criticized.

There'll always be some folks who can find some fault with every plan.

Mistakes are made, we can't deny; they are only made by folks who try!”

Open Board Meeting Sat., April 6, 2019:

The meeting was called to order with 10 members attending (out of 148). Business was discussed: budgets, roads and repairs, & moving the dumpsters to near the office. Good ideas about the roads – bravo! Someone brought coffee cake – thanks!

Next Monthly Meeting: Saturday, May 4, 2019, 9am. To discuss lawn mowing, the new dumpster location, road repair, common area renovation. Come to meetings - there is no arguing and we want to hear your suggestions!

Work and Service Bids: Lawn mowing bids must be submitted by Saturday, May 4, 2019.

Picnics and Gatherings: Earth Day cleanup Sat., April 20, at 10 am; meet at the mailboxes. Join the fun, keep our Community beautiful; bring work

gloves, trash bags, (snacks?).

Memorial Day picnic is Sat., May 25, 1 pm. The Board provides hot dogs, soft drinks, games. Bring your favorite covered dish, prizes to be chanced-off; and someone may bring a telescope for stargazing if the sky is clear. There will be a Raffle! Hope to see you.

PS: Lyrid meteor shower shooting stars - before dawn April 23, near the constellation Lyra.



Road Repair: The winter has been hard on roads, and work will start soon. We appreciate patience with plowing, cindering, potholes. You can use the modified stone in piles near the flagpole, or at the top of Chip Path (coming soon), to fill potholes. The Board received repair bids, and is discussing pros and cons. The limit is money – do the math: Yearly dues bring in \$33K; most goes to trash collection (\$1K/month), snow plowing, lawn mowing, insurance. Less than \$10K is left for roads. Two needy sections are: the straight run of Chip Path down the hill to Coolbaugh; the length of Monroe up hill to the top (we all think our own road section is the worst!). Bids for these 2 sections *only*: (a) fill potholes with modified stone (lasts several months) for \$24K; (b) oil and chips (only) for \$40K, but we first apply the modified (lasts a year); (c) they do oil, chips, and modified for \$50K; (d) asphalt paving for \$100K (lasts for years) but then no money is left for roads for 10 years. The best option may be applying some ground-up asphalt “millings” left over from major jobs – it is cheap (\$125 per dump truck); we roll it ourselves and seal with oil, but lasts years. Thanks to the member who suggested this! Another member suggested grading the roads down to the natural hard-pack, then cars pack it down more, which lasts years. There may be a white powder chemical that can harden the road surface over time (anyone familiar?). A dilemma - do we repair all roads now, cheaply with modified, to last a few months; or do we repair only two sections, expensively, but lasts for years? Maybe millings, or grading, can achieve both? You decide May 4.

Dumpsters: Per By-Laws and Rules, these are for members in good-standing (and limited-good-standing) only, for bagged household trash and recycling. If you have not paid anything in 2019, you may not use the dumpsters! Security cameras are being installed. Starting in 2020, a \$500 fine will be



charged per incident for unlawful dumping, including by residents who don't pay Dues.

Kudos to those who clean up trash near the dumpsters. If you can't open the dumpsters, put the trash bag on the ground near the front – not on top! Kind, strong people are happy to toss it in for you.

The “*Recycling Dumpster*” is only for **loose** cans, bottles, plastic, glass, cardboard, paper – and not for trash when the other dumpsters are full! Loose items only - NOT BAGGED or BOXED, else the trash service gets fined, and our costs go up. If you are unsure what to include, or can't empty your recycling into the dumpster – use the regular trash dumpsters.

Mattresses, sofas, tires are not for dumpsters! Our Dues must pay for their removal, with less money left for roads. Take them to the Coolbaugh Township Drop Off and Recycling Site, 549 Laurel Drive, Tobyhanna. Dates are: April 5 & 6, June 7 & 8, August 2 & 3, October 4 & 5, 7:30 am – 3:00 pm. Free recycling cards (for the drop-off) are at the Municipal Office, 5520 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna (bring residency proof, or property tax receipt). Refrigerators, A/C's, dehumidifiers, are not for dumpsters, *but*: PP&L will pick them up for free *and pay you \$35* <pplelectric.com/recycle>.

Dues & Assessments: The Board thanks all who paid their 2019 Dues and Assessments by the March 31 deadline. So far in 2019, 68% of members paid, with others on installment (\$35 or more a month - ask the Board!). Anyone not paying dues, burdens the rest of us unfairly. Those not paying owe a \$50 late fee; those more than three years late will be contacted by Sunrise Credit Services. Starting in 2020, liens will be put on properties owing more than a certain amount. So let's get our finances in order – for our services, nowhere else in the Poconos has dues as low as ours!

Drive Slowly: The Coolbaugh Road limit is **25 mph**; Community roads are **15 mph**! Driving above 20 mph causes potholes – Google it if you don't believe it. Driving fast costs us money; and yes – certain cars are



being noticed! If a child gets hurt – oh boy!!

Contacting the PFSC Office: The best way is by attending meetings – we know you have suggestions! The second best way is to leave phone messages, or by email. We don't have the staff to check these every day (any volunteers?). Clearly (and s-l-o-w-l-y!) leave your name, date, contact info, and **brief** statement. We will get to you. Also watch for notices sent by email, and posted on the Bulletin Board outside the office. We are still trying to get the website working – sigh! If you feel you are not getting proper services – take heart and be not discouraged – come to meetings!

Please use our **new** email: <pfsc1431@gmail.com>. Do not use the old one: <poconoforest@ymail.com> listed on our website - it is no longer supported.

For Your Info: If you dial 9-1-1, tell them you are in Monroe County, Coolbaugh Township, else calls will go to Lackawanna County, with longer waits. Have your address visible outside your home. For Assistance call:

FIRE: GOULDSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, Gouldsboro, PA 18424; 570-842-2663.

AMBULANCE: POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL EMS, Coolbaugh Township Station, 3040 Memorial Boulevard, Tobyhanna, PA 18466; 570-839-6819.

POLICE: dial 9-1-1 and request the POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL POLICE DEPT., in Pocono Summit, PA 18346; for non-emergency: 570-895-2400 (new number).

For-Sale Notices: Sorry - we cannot freely advertise for Community Members, but we can advertise local businesses for a reasonable fee. If you know of any local companies who will pay for an *ad* to reach over 120 people, let the Board know.

Our web site <www.poconoforest.yolasite.com> is in trouble; no one remembers the email address that was used to set it up. Meanwhile we are working with Yolasite to reset it. Suggestions are welcome.