



CASTLE SHANNON

EST. 1919

SPRING-SUMMER 2024

In This Issue

- UPDATES FROM OUR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS
- COMMUNITY SURVEYS TO BETTER OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
- WASTE MANAGEMENT & AUTOMATED TRASH COLLECTION



Contact Us



Municipal Center
3310 McRoberts Road
Castle Shannon, PA 15234



Municipal Administration
412-885-9200



Police Administration
412-885-9300



csboro@csboro.org



CastleShannonBorough



borough.castle-shannon.pa.us

Mayor

Donald J. Baumgarten

Members of Council

Nancy Kovach, President
Daniel Swisher, Vice President
William Oates
David Seiler
Kevin Brannon
Lisa Shartle
Jeremy Emph

Borough Manager

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Eileen O'Malley

Newsletter Editor

Vicki Copenheaver

Editorial Board

Christina Morrow

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The Castle Shannon Newsletter is a periodic, official publication of Castle Shannon Borough.

The Castle Shannon Borough Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Please see the Borough webpage for details:

<http://csboro.org>

The Castle Shannon Planning Commission meets the 3rd Monday of each month as needed. Please contact the Building & Zoning Department for more information.

From the Editor

Engage and Empower: The Importance of Community Surveys

At the heart of every vibrant community lies the collective voice of its residents. Your opinions, concerns, and ideas shape the direction of our borough, guiding us toward initiatives that truly reflect the needs and aspirations of our diverse population.

One powerful tool that allows us to hear your voices loud and clear is the community survey. These surveys serve as a direct line of communication between you, the residents, and us, your local government. They provide invaluable insights into what matters most to you and help us make informed decisions for the betterment of our borough.

Why are community surveys so important, you might ask?

First and foremost, they empower you, the residents, to actively participate in the decision-making process. Your input matters, and community surveys provide a platform for you to express your thoughts on various issues affecting our borough, whether it's improvements to local infrastructure, community events, or public services.

Moreover, community surveys enable us to identify emerging trends and areas where improvement is needed. By understanding your priorities and concerns, we can allocate resources more effectively and implement initiatives that directly address the needs of our community.

But the impact of community surveys extends beyond just gathering data. They foster a sense of ownership and inclusivity within our borough, reaffirming that every voice counts. Whether you've lived here for decades or recently joined our community, your perspective is invaluable in shaping the future of our borough.

So, how can you get involved?

Keep an eye out for upcoming community surveys, which we'll be distributing through various channels, including our borough website, social media platforms, and local events. Your participation is vital, as it ensures that your voice is heard and your priorities are considered in our decision-making process.

Remember, together, we can build a stronger, more resilient community that reflects the values and aspirations of each and every one of us. Let's continue to engage, collaborate, and make our borough a better place for generations to come.

Thank you for being an essential part of our community!

Vicki Copenheaver
Community Engagement Coordinator



Meet our new D.A.R.E. officer

Officer Alexa Siwecky
has joined the D.A.R.E. team.

**WELCOME TO D.A.R.E.
OFFICER SIWECKYJ!**



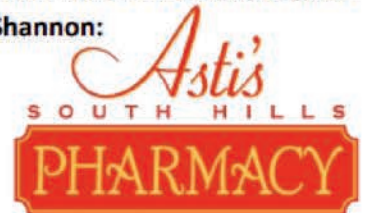
Congratulations to Officer Christine Platt Certified MCSAP Officer (Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program)



CSPD is again participating in the DEA's National Take Back event at three
(3) locations in Castle Shannon:



Saturday, April 27 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
DEATakeBack.com



Unwanted medication can be dropped off all year long at
Lebanon Shops Pharmacy ~ Asti's South Hills Pharmacy and
the Castle Shannon Municipal Center.

A word about Solicitation . . .

Our Borough Ordinance #905 states . . . No person shall engage in any transient retail business within the Borough of Castle Shannon without first having obtained from the Borough a license . . . at the expiration of any license . . . shall be required to file a new application . . .

This does NOT include . . . religious proselytizing, political speech, and the distribution of handbills . . . selling their own produce . . . the proceeds are applied to any charitable or philanthropic purpose . . . bread or bakery products, meat products, milk products . . . children under the age of eighteen (18) for newspapers, greeting cards, candy, bakery products or who represent the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts or similar organizations . . . funds for Charitable Purposes Act . . .

The complete ordinance can be viewed at the Municipal Center and/or copied for .25 cents a page.



If you do not invite solicitors to your home and/or want to prevent such visitors, there are ways to be proactive - go to csboro.com and under the Forms tab you will see "DO NOT SOLICIT FORM". Complete

this form entirely and you will automatically be put onto our list that is given to any solicitors within Castle Shannon Borough. **ONLY** your address is given to the solicitors that have already completed a process through the police department background checks and receive their Solicitor's License. This license **MUST** be carried with the solicitor at all times.

There are also signs that you can acquire on-line at <https://allegheny.crimewatchpa.com/cspd/24171/post/no-solicitors-list> to print your own sign to place on your door or window. Signs are also available for pick-up at the police department.

Should a solicitor come to your door, you should say - 'May I please see your Solicitor's Permit?' If they cannot produce a completed/signed permit with their color photo you should call 9-1-1 to report this solicitor.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

POLICE
CASTLE SHANNON POLICE DEPARTMENT
1000 Mountain View Blvd

Home: 412-261-1212

Do Not Solicit Form

Form Administration
[VIEW DASHBOARD](#)

Submission Notifications Recipient
spn@castle-shannon.com

Your Contact Information

First Name *

Last Name *

From the Fire Chief

It's that time of year again! Spring is here, and it's time to clean out all that clutter that has accumulated over the winter months. Longer days and warmer temperatures will give people more time to spend outside with family and friends. To make this spring safe and enjoyable, here are a few things we can do to get started:

- Go through your home room by room and thoroughly clean each of them. Rooms don't have to be done all at once.
- Set up a schedule and then stick to it. Get rid of unneeded and unwanted items.
- Have a yard sale or donate them to local charities such Goodwill or Society of St Vincent DePaul.
- Garage items such as household cleaners, chemicals or paint must be properly disposed of. The Allegheny County and The Pennsylvania Resource Council websites are good resources to check out for local upcoming Chemical Drop Off events and locations.

Rule of Thumb - If you have haven't used in over a year you likely don't need it!

Here's a quick checklist to make things go smoothly for springtime fun.

- Use barbecue grills, smokers outside only and at a minimum of 10 feet from your home or apartment and please do not use under overhangs or balconies and away from combustibles. Grills should never be left unattended.
- Dispose of smoking materials and charcoal properly.
- Never fill a hot engine with gasoline.
- Blow out candles before leaving a room.
- Practice a home escape plan and make sure all exit doors open easily for fast escapes.
- Change batteries in smoke alarms, flashlights, and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Never borrow smoke alarm batteries to use for toys or other equipment.
- Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Keep outdoor debris or dead vegetation away from your home.
- Properly dispose of oily or greasy rags. If these items must be stored, they should be kept in labeled, sealed, metal containers.
- Clean your garage of stored newspapers or other rubbish that can fuel a fire. Newspapers stored in damp or warm places may ignite spontaneously.
- If you store gasoline, keep it outside your home in a shed or detached garage. Keep only small quantities in tightly sealed containers. Use gasoline only as a motor fuel - never as a cleaning agent.
- Check fire extinguishers for serviceability monthly. Replace unit if they are older than 10 years old. Traditional fire extinguishers generally have a 10-12 year life expectancy.
- Add a Small Fire Blanket for fire extinguishment under the kitchen sink, garage, shed, and under the grill. They are simple to use and less messy.
- Replace cracked or broken outlet covers.

We are here for you: if you need anything or have a question please feel free to reach out to us at 412-884-7913



Help fundraise for the Castle Shannon Volunteer Fire Department and visit their online clothing and apparel store!

The online store will be open and available for purchases on April 8th through April 29th. Orders will be ready for pick-up or delivery by May 20th.

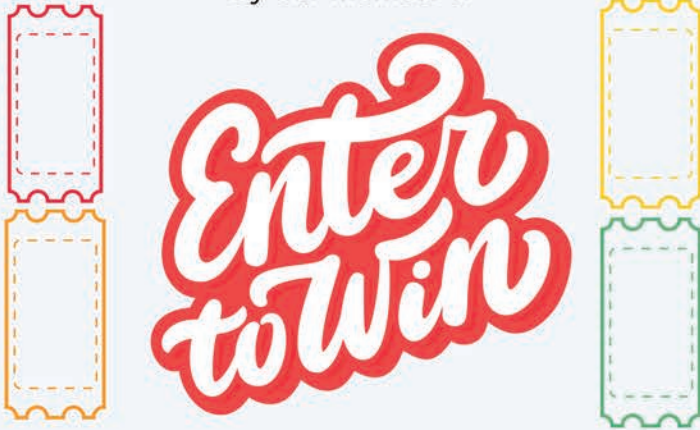
We are keeping it local and working with our friends at Shields Embroidery as our supplier.

Visit <https://shieldsembroidery.tuosystems.com/stores/csvfd2024%5C> to support our Fire Department and all the great work they do!

SPRINGTIME MEANS SUMMER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER...

Residents are reminded to keep an eye out for their resident ticket packets. Packets will once again be mailed to residents via USPS. Packets should start arriving around June 1st. One of the easiest ways to support our department is to purchase or sell your resident packet tickets, plus every resident that sells all their tickets are eligible to be entered into a special resident only raffle and a chance to win \$1,000.00. The past 5 years winners of the first prize have all been borough residents and won with a resident packet ticket.

Tickets will also be available soon in local businesses and sold daily in front of the firehouse by our members.



Castle Shannon Volunteer Fire Department Annual Car Raffle

1ST PRIZE:
ANY VEHICLE YOU WANT*
or \$21,000.00

2ND PRIZE: \$7,000.00

*Vehicle price, sales tax and extras
included are limited to \$30,000.00

Grand Prize Drawing Date:
July 27, 2024

TICKETS
\$2 each

Winners are subject to Federal/State Income Taxes. Must take delivery from an Official Drawing Partner. Non Transferable - Winner need not be present!

...AND SUMMER MEANS THE RETURN OF THE ANNUAL CSVFD CAR RAFFLE!

CSVFD is excited to announce that we will once again be teaming up with Castle Shannon Borough to combine our end of summer event with the boroughs Community Day. This year's event will take place July 24th-27th in the fire department parking lot and will have family friendly carnival rides, carnival games, food trucks and bands along with other community related activities. More information will be posted soon. Keep up to date on all event details via the Boroughs website and Facebook page or our website, www.csvfd.org or the Car Raffle Facebook page @Castle Shannon VFD Annual Car Raffle.

Public Works Seasonal Hires

Part-Time Employment opportunities are available with the Public Works Department for the summer of 2024. Applicants must be 18 or older; a high school senior or graduate who will enter their first year of college preferred.

For a full job description please visit <http://csboro.org>. Applications are available at the Municipal Center in the Administration offices. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm.



From Representative Miller

We are excited to announce that our 11th Annual Disability & Mental Health Summit is coming up on April 18th and 19th, back to two full days of events and resources for self-advocates, supportive families, and professionals alike!

Our biggest summit in years finds us returning to our home at Beth El Congregation of the South Hills at 1900 Cochran Road in Scott Township. This year's summit will feature over 20 free informational sessions over the two days, as well as resource fairs, bipartisan legislative panels, and special guest speakers on both days of the event. Some of the breakout sessions you can attend this year include "The Loneliness Epidemic: Embracing the Power of Social Connection;" "Your Child's First IEP;" and "Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Veterans." Please visit DisabilitySummit.com to see the full list!

Continuing education credits will once again be available for teachers, lawyers, rehab counselors, and social workers and other related professionals. You can find details about continuing ed on the Sessions tab at DisabilitySummit.com.

We also want to highlight our new Thursday evening programming. First, we will be hosting a Festiv-ALL from 4 to 6 p.m. featuring art and music created by local artists from our disability and mental health community. This will be followed by a special panel of students and parents sharing their insights about the school-to-adult transition process beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Finally, from 6 to 8 p.m., we will be hosting a Futures Fair in partnership with Keystone Oaks School District and other local districts. The Futures Fair will give transition-age students with disabilities and mental health diagnoses an opportunity to connect with resources tailored to their unique transition journeys, including education, employment, social/recreational opportunities, and support services.

The Summit is, as always, free to attend. Walk-ins are welcome on the day of the event, but we encourage you to pre-register at DisabilitySummit.com to ensure that you have a seat at the sessions you are most interested in. We hope to see you there.

While progress has been made on some fronts regarding the lives and opportunities for people with disabilities and mental health challenges, we still have a long way to go to make sure that acceptance, success, happiness, and independence are a reality for everyone. We will not stop pushing for that!



State
Representative
Dan Miller,
42nd District

From Senator Brewster

Senator Brewster will be continuing his Satellite Office Hours in Castle Shannon for 2024!

A staff member from his office will be available to speak with residents on the third Monday of each month, from 10:00am-2:00pm.

January 15th - Federal Holiday/CLOSED
February 19th - Federal Holiday/CLOSED
March 18th - 10:00am-2:00pm
April 15th - 10:00am-2:00pm
May 20th - 10:00am-2:00pm
June 17th - 10:00am-2:00pm

July 15th - 10:00am-2:00pm
August 19th - 10:00am-2:00pm
September 16th - 10:00am-2:00pm
October 21st - 10:00am-2:00pm
November 18th - 10:00am-2:00pm
December 16th - 10:00am-2:00pm

If a session is cancelled or delayed, we will have a notice posted on our Facebook page and the Borough Website.



Cool off this summer with Castle Shannon's partnership with Dormont Pool!



Castle Shannon pays 50% of the season passes for our residents at Dormont Pool. Current resident season passes, with the discount, are priced at:

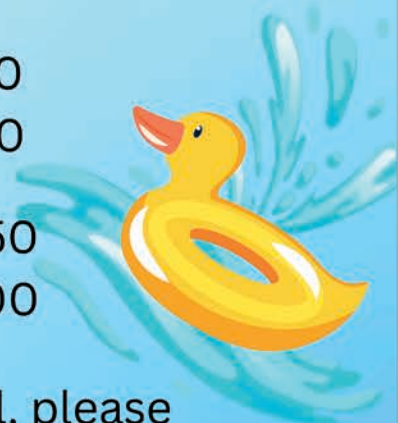


Child: \$42.50

Adult: \$52.50

Family: \$92.50

Senior: \$35.00



To register for a season pass at the Dormont Pool, please contact the Borough of Dormont at 412-561-8900x1 or email Beth Bachman at bbachman@boro.dormont.pa.us

Youth Association

The Castle Shannon Youth Association set up 3 indoor workout sessions for both the male and female athletes throughout February and March to prep us for our upcoming spring session. Our time at D-Bat was an enriching experience that catered to players of all ages and skill levels, from 8U to 15U softball and pony baseball. Each aspect of our training program, whether it was hitting, fielding, pitching, or agility and strength development, was thoughtfully tailored to meet the unique needs of players across this wide age range.

For our youngest athletes in the 8U age group, the focus was on laying down a solid foundation of fundamental skills. Coaches employed engaging and age-appropriate methods to introduce basic hitting mechanics, fielding techniques, and the principles of pitching. Agility and strength exercises were designed to enhance coordination and build a strong physical base.



As players progressed into the older age groups, the intensity and complexity of our training sessions increased accordingly. Hitting drills evolved to incorporate advanced techniques such as timing adjustments and pitch recognition, while fielding sessions emphasized positional play and defensive strategies suited to game situations. Pitching instruction became more refined, with a focus on developing a diverse repertoire of pitches and honing control and accuracy on the mound.

Throughout our time at D-Bat, agility and strength training remained a constant, with tailored workouts designed to improve speed, power, and overall athleticism. Whether players were 8U or over 15U, the emphasis on physical conditioning helped them unlock their full potential on the field.



Overall, our experience at D-Bat exemplified a commitment to comprehensive player development across all age groups. By providing a diverse array of training opportunities and personalized coaching, D-Bat empowered players of every age to excel in hitting, fielding, pitching, and overall athletic performance. We look forward to the sun shining down on us for our spring season. Come on out and support your local teams this season at the Municipal field behind the borough building.



Summer Recreation

It's time for some fun with Summer Recreation!

Summer Recreation will take place from Monday, June 24th through Friday, August 2nd, at Riehl Park.

Registration will take place on May 18th at the Castle Shannon Library, from 10:00am-12:00pm.

- One child: \$30.00
- Family with 2 or more children: \$60

Registration Forms can also be turned in at the Borough Offices if you are unable to attend registration day. Please have registration forms and fees turned in by Friday, June 21st.

Interested in working as a counselor? You can find the application at <https://borough.castle-shannon.pa.us/employment>. Counselors can work as paid or for volunteer hours. Application must be received by Friday, June 7th. Applications can be turned in at the Borough Offices, or by emailing the Summer Recreation Director at bryg7200@gmail.com.

From Planning and Codes

As the weather changes from the chill of winter and gives way to the warmth of spring, it's not just the flowers that begin to bloom – yards across the neighborhood come to life with new growth. However, with the thaw comes the inevitable task of spring yard cleanup. As a codes official with years of experience, I've seen firsthand the importance of proper yard waste management during this seasonal transition.

One of the primary concerns during spring cleanup is the disposal of yard waste. From fallen branches to dead leaves and excess foliage, yards accumulate a plethora of debris over the winter months. Improper disposal not only detracts from the aesthetics of our neighborhood but can also pose environmental hazards if left unattended.

To tackle this issue effectively, it's crucial for homeowners to familiarize themselves with local regulations regarding yard waste disposal. Our trash and recycling pickup is provided by Waste Management, and residents should follow their guidelines when disposing of yard waste. Yard waste must be bagged and fit inside the provided trash carts. If you have extra bags of waste that don't fit inside your cart, you may leave it alongside the cart **ONLY** on bulk pickup days at the end of the month. By adhering to these guidelines, homeowners can ensure their yard waste is disposed of responsibly, minimizing its impact on the environment.

Furthermore, composting presents an eco-friendly alternative for managing organic yard waste. Grass clippings, leaves, and other biodegradable materials can be composted to create nutrient-rich soil for gardening and landscaping projects. Compost not only reduces the burden on waste management systems but also promotes sustainable practices within the community.

If you are planning to compost, it is best to follow these basic guidelines to **avoid attracting rodents.**

- If using a compost bin, it is important to reinforce the bin with a lid and potentially a floor. There should be no gaps in your bin that are larger than 1/4 inch.
- Maintain the proper ratio of material in your compost: two to three parts carbon-rich material (browns) to one part nitrogen rich material (greens).
- Ensure that you cover and bury your food scraps in your compost pile.
- **DO NOT** add meat, dairy, or greasy foods to your compost pile.

In addition to disposal methods, it's essential to address the issue of yard maintenance to prevent future accumulation of waste. Regular pruning of trees and shrubs can help minimize the buildup of dead branches and foliage, while proper lawn care techniques, such as mowing and aerating, promote healthy grass growth and reduce the need for extensive cleanup.

In conclusion, spring yard cleanup is not just a seasonal chore – it's a collective responsibility to preserve the beauty and sustainability of our neighborhoods. By adhering to regulations, exploring eco-friendly disposal options, and adopting proactive maintenance practices, homeowners can make a positive impact on their surroundings. As codes officials, we stand ready to support and guide our communities towards a cleaner, healthier future, one yard at a time.

If you have any questions about our local codes or zoning, please give us a call!

Michael Moog
Code Enforcement Officer



From the Library

If you haven't stopped into the Community Library of Castle Shannon lately, you have to!

The Library held a Vendor & Craft Fair in November. With the profit the Library made from the Fair and an end of the year gift from the Jack Buncher Foundation, we made updates to the main level of the Library.

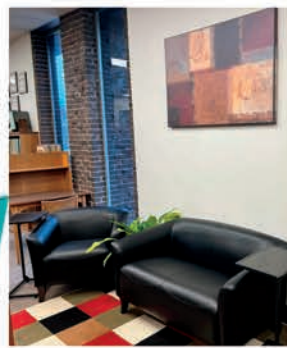
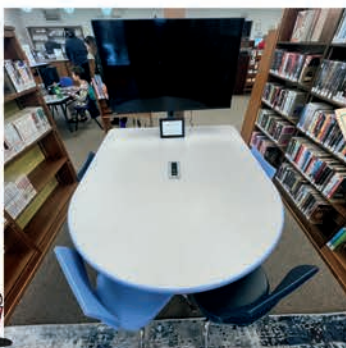
We made a reading-study area in the Library that has comfy furniture and end tables. It is a great place to catch up on the latest book you are reading or a nice spot for you and your laptop to hang out!

We made our Makerspace area bigger to include seating for adults and children and shelving for all of the supplies. We LOVE seeing the children and their families create artwork that everyone is very proud of! We could not thank Castle Shannon resident and small business owner Kim Kanoza of Blaze of Glory enough for designing & donating the lettering!

We were able to purchase additional Young Adult materials to go with our new Young Adult area. Shelving was removed, shelving was added to create an area just for them to study, hang out and have programming in. *

We still have that small community library feeling but with modern twists!

****The creation of the Young Adult area was made possible by monetary donations in memory of Helen McGervey.***



We are gearing up for Summer Reading for ALL AGES! The theme this summer is Adventure Begins at your Library! Please check out our website and social media pages for more information. We hope to see you this summer as you *navigate* the Library!

LET'S GO
ADVENTURE



ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY



Allegheny Regional Asset District

@RadWorksHere

We are happy to announce that the Allegheny Regional Asset District, RAD, has provided \$3.1 million for the purchase of 2,464 computers plus additional equipment for the 76 public libraries in the county! We are honored to know that RAD thought about the libraries and how important technology is in our region! Our new computers and equipment should be available this summer.



Stay Up to Date on Library Information, Programs & Events

Make sure to like our Facebook page, follow us on X and Instagram, check out our website www.castleshannonlibrary.org, or ask to be put on our email list by emailing us at castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org so you always know what is going on with the Library and it's programs and events!

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday:
10:30am-7:30pm
Wednesday and Friday: 10:30am-4:30pm
Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm
Sunday: CLOSED

You can help make our wishes come true!

A donation to the library benefits the whole community.

Purchasing an item from our Amazon wishlist is a meaningful way for you to shop and donate items directly to the library.

View our wishlist here: <https://a.co/8rwG2kw>



Holiday Closures

- Saturday, May 25th - Library Hours are 10am-2pm
- Monday, May 27th Memorial Day
- Wednesday, June 19th Juneteenth
- Thursday, July 4th Fourth of July
- Saturday, August 31st - Library Hours are 10am-2pm
- Monday, September 2nd Labor Day
- Monday, October 14th - Library is Closed for a Library Staff In-Service Day
- Thursday, October 31st Halloween - Library Hours are 10:30am-5:00pm
- Monday, November 11th Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 28th-Friday, November 29th Thanksgiving Holiday
- Tuesday, December 24th-Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Holiday
- Tuesday, December 31st-Wednesday, January 1st New Year Holiday



Ways to Donate to the Castle Shannon Library

We greatly appreciate the generosity of our patrons!
There are many ways to donate to the Library:

- Make a monetary contribution in person, by mail or online at www.castleshannonlibrary.org/donate
- Commemorate someone special for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, graduations, retirement, holidays and other special events. You can also provide a memorial for a loved one. For each gift of \$25 or more, we will place a personalized bookplate in a new book for our collection.
- Join the Friends of the Castle Shannon Library. Membership dues begin at \$10.
- Contribute to our Friends of the Castle Shannon Library through the United Way. Please designate the Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon and use the code number 10319077 when making your contribution.
- Consider a gift to the Library in your will.

More information about donating to the library is available at the library and online at

<https://castleshannonlibrary.org/donate/>

Accepting Donations of:

- Personal Care Items
- Paper Products
- Nonperishable Food

Located in the Back of the Library.

Become A Friend Of Your Library



Friends of the Castle Shannon Library Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: (Please include city & zip code)

Home Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: Home Cell Text Msg Email

I look forward to help with the following:

Enclosed is my Membership Dues of:

Flea Markets

\$10 (Minimum)

\$25

\$ Other

Book Sales

Baking for Misc. Events

Community Events

Checks can be made payable to the Friends of the Castle Shannon Library. Memberships forms and payment can be mailed to the Library or dropped off at the Library.

Students 13-18 can get volunteer hours as well.

Registered 501(c)(3) organization and all contributions are tax deductible.

Friends of the Castle Shannon Library

Who are the Friends?

How do I become a Friend?

The Friends of the Castle Shannon Library help fund library events, programs and services. The Friends support the library through fund-raising and volunteer activities such as the Book Sales and the Flea Markets throughout the year.

You can help support the library and become a Friends member by donating a minimum of \$10. Fill out the form above and return it to the Library in person, by mail, or by emailing castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org

The Friends of the Castle Shannon Library are also looking for volunteers to help out a few hours a year at their fund-raising and community events.

Please visit <https://castleshannonlibrary.org/friends-of-the-library/> for the 2024 Calendar of Events.

Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon and the United Way

Please designate the Friends of the Community Library of Castle Shannon for your United Way contribution. Please use the code number 10319077 when making your contribution. Thank you!

Programs and Events for Adults & Seniors



Evening Writers Café

A group for creative writers, whether beginner or seasoned. We will meet monthly on the third Thursday of the month from 6pm-8pm. Each session will open with a discussion on an element of the craft of writing followed by time for sharing, and time for writing. Coffee and tea provided.



Join our Monthly Book Discussion group on the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30pm.

Request a copy of the book through the online catalog: <https://librarycatalog.einetwork.net/>
Download an electronic version through the Libby app from Overdrive:

<https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/>
Copies of the book are available at the Library.

Upcoming Dates:

May 13th - Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner
June 10th - The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
July 8th - Beautiful World, Where Are You by Sally Rooney
August 12th - The Color Purple by Alice Walker
September 9th - The Orchid Thief by Susan Orlean
October 21st - Hallowe'en Party by Agatha Christie (Special Date)
November 8th - American Sherlock: Murder, Forensics, and the Birth of American CSI by Kate Winkler Dawson (Special Date)
December 9th - The Christmas Box by Richard Paul Evans



Crafternoon/Crafterdark

Adults 18 & older are welcome the Third Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise noted). Choose 1:30-3:30 pm or 6:30-8:30 pm. A small donation of \$5 and registration is appreciated. Email us at castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org or call 412.563.4552 to save your spot!

Upcoming Dates:

April 17th
Taxidermy Butterfly - No real butterflies will be used! Mount your butterfly in a shadow box or on a wood plaque for a pretty decoration.

May 22nd

Handmade Soap - Make your own soap! Choose your scent, plus molds will be on hand to make cute decorative soaps.

June 26th

Whimsical Fairy Wreath - Decorate a grapevine wreath to look like a fairy garden.

July 17th

Beaded Garland - Wooden beads of all colors will be available to create garland. Add tassels to make it even better!

August 21st

Suncatchers - Pretty glass beads will transform into a hanging suncatcher.

September 18th

Glass Jar Pumpkin - Paint a small jar, add some lights and a lid with a stem and you have the cutest pumpkin.

October 16th

Spooky Plates - Add spooky clip art to vintage plates.

November 20th

Wine Cork Trivet - Make a hot plate or coasters out of wine corks.

December 18th

Mini Book Tree - Use tiny books to make a decorative tree.

BINGO

Bingo for Adults

Stop by the Library on the 4th Friday of the month at 1pm to play 10 games of Bingo and win prizes! FREE to play. Doors Open 15 Minutes Early—Games Start at 1pm Registration is required. Please sign up at the front desk, by calling the Library at 412-563-4552, by emailing the Library at castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org or messaging us on our Facebook page!

Special Dates in November & December. Bingo will be held on November 15th and December 20th.



Last Thursday of the Month Evening Book Discussion Group

Join us for our monthly Thursday Night book discussion every month at 7pm. Monthly book selections will be posted in the library, on the Library's website and on social media. Request a copy of your book through the online catalog: <https://librarycatalog.einetwork.net/>
Download an electronic version through the Libby app from Overdrive: <https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/>
Copies of the book are available at the Library. Special Dates in October and December. Book Discussion will be held on October 24th and December 19th. There will be no Book Discussion in November.



Cook the Book Discussion Group

Cook the Book is a fun book club that involves eating! Prepare your meal at home then bring it in the night of the discussion. Books will be available at the library to borrow. Email us at castleshannon@castleshannonlibrary.org or call 412.563.4552 to register. 18+ please...

Upcoming Dates:

May 29th Cook with Me by Alex Guarnaschelli
September 25th The Pioneer Woman Cooks—Dinner's Ready!: 112 Fast and Fabulous Recipes for Slightly Impatient Home Cooks by Ree Drummond



Dress for Success Event for Women

We are proud to collaborate with Dress for Success Pittsburgh to host a FREE events to support your needs for employment readiness! Dress for Success Pittsburgh's Mobile Boutique will be here to provide free clothing, accessories, and personal care items to any self-identified woman. Their mission is to empower women who are entering and returning to the workforce across the region. You can learn more about them by visiting <https://pittsburgh.dressforsuccess.org>. These events are free and open to the public, no registration needed!

Location: Back parking lot. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held inside.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, June 26th from 3:30pm-6:30pm
Wednesday, September 18th from 3:30pm-6:30pm



Chair Yoga Classes Held on the 1st & 3rd Monday of the Month from 2PM-3PM

Yoga is for everyone! Join Megan Bianco of Blue Awning Yoga & Wellness for a gentle yoga practice that you can do seated in a chair on the 1st & 3rd Monday of the Month from 2pm-3pm. This 60-minute class incorporates grounding exercises, pranayama (breath work), mindful movement, and an extended guided meditation. Ideal for students with any physical limitation. This class is filled with adaptive and accommodating postures for all skill levels and body types. These classes are FREE due to a donor. Registration is appreciated but not required.



Page to Screen Book/Movie Club

A movie club for individuals interested in answering the question, "Was the book really better than the movie?" A short discussion period will follow the showing of the film. Books will be available to check out at the library. Light refreshments will be provided. We will meet quarterly on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 1pm.

•Upcoming Dates:

- June 4th-Me Before You by JoJo Moyes
- September 3rd-The Color Purple by Alice Walker
- December 3rd-Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann



Library Board of Trustee Meetings

Please join us at the Library Board of Trustees Meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the lower level of the Library. For more information about the Board of Trustees, Meeting Agendas, Meeting Minutes, etc. please visit <https://castleshannonlibrary.org/board-of-trustees/>.



Ghost Hunting: Haunted Teachings with Whispering Souls Paranormal Investigations

Wednesday, April 10 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Have you ever wondered how to talk to a ghost? Are you ready to step into a new dimension of ghost hunting? Are you curious about what lurks among us? If so, join us for this exciting paranormal event when the investigators from Whispering Souls not only share their expertise on how to communicate with ghosts, but bring their awareness and education about the spirit world through their personal experiences, scientific methods, and equipment. Get ready for some chilling and hair-raising moments when this haunted class is in session. Be sure to reserve your spot for this spine-tingling program which is suitable for all ages.



Poetry Event: Poetry Reading

Thursday, April 18 @ 7:00 PM

April is National Poetry Month and we're diving into the magical and expressive world of poetry. Join us as we celebrate the poetic works that enrich our lives and enjoy the writings of local poets—including Fred Shaw from the University of Pittsburgh—as they share their poems.



Western Pennsylvania Passenger Rail Service

Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 PM

ALL ABOARD for this fascinating discussion, led by Mark Spada, president of Western Pennsylvanians for Passenger Rail. Join us for a review of the history of western PA passenger rail service beginning shortly before the creation of Amtrak leading up to today, as well as look at future developments.

Mark Spada is President of Western Pennsylvanians for Passenger Rail and a Council Member at Rail Passengers Association.





Poetry Coffee House at the Library

Friday evening, April 26

Doors open at 6:30PM/First Reading is at 7PM

Save the date! We're wrapping up National Poetry Month by hosting a Poetry Coffee House at the Library. Details for this imaginative event are forthcoming. Keep an eye on our website at castleshannonlibrary.org or our FB page. Registration is appreciated.



Author Visit: Chris Whitlatch, "Notorious Pittsburgh"

Thursday, May 9 at 7:00 PM

Notorious Pittsburgh is a collection of stories from Pittsburgh's past. It includes stories about the first bank robbery, a famous jailbreak, as well as tales from the former red-light district and the prohibition era. Step back in time into the dark alleyways, back rooms, and boardrooms with author Chris Whitlatch as he discusses Pittsburgh's seedier past. Hopes have been crushed. Fortunes gained. Lives celebrated while others were snuffed out too soon. In the shadows, where corners are cut, and ambition unchecked—that is where the notorious stories live.

Chris Whitlatch is an author, game creator, and nonprofit marketer, but likes best to be known as a storyteller. He has hosted walking tours in downtown Pittsburgh, telling stories of the Burg's notorious past. He's collected those stories, as well as a few more favorites into his book *Notorious Pittsburgh*. He has a journalism degree from New York University. He grew up in Southwestern Pennsylvania and returned to the area in 2000.



Zine-Making Workshop

Saturday, May 18 at 12:00 PM

Join us for this collaborative, fun, and crafty class. Each participant will create a page of their own to contribute to our Literary-Themed Zine. Come with a quote from a favorite book, cherished author, or a well-loved book title. Supplies will be provided but feel free to bring in any special embellishments for your page.

The workshop will be facilitated by local illustrator, cartoonist, and zine maker, Angela Oddling and local writer, M. A. Lanik. Angela is an instructor at the Center for Creativity at the University of Pittsburgh.



Author Visit: David Rullo, "Gen X Pittsburgh: The Beehive and the '90's Scene"

Thursday, May 23 at 7:00 PM

In the early 1990s, before coffee shops were popular, before Starbucks settled in Pittsburgh, the Beehive Coffeehouse & Dessertery opened on East Carson Street and helped transform Pittsburgh's South Side.

It wasn't long before the Beehive became a favorite hangout for artists, writers, students, and local folks. In his book *Gen X Pittsburgh: The Beehive and the '90s Scene*, author David Rullo not only explores the Coffeehouse as a gathering spot for creatives of all sorts, but he also delves into the '90s cultural scene that emerged around it.

David Rullo is Senior Staff Writer for Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle and author of the book "Tired Scenes from a City Window," a collection of his poetry.



"THE REBELS ARE COMING!" - The Department of the Monongahela During the Gettysburg Campaign

Monday, June 17 at 7:00 PM

Join us when Rich Condon of Civil War Pittsburgh discusses when President-Elect Abraham Lincoln visited the City of Pittsburgh in February 1861 and lauded this section of Pennsylvania as the "banner county of the Union" - a region where he imagined if the country were threatened its citizens would willingly pick up the shovel as well as the rifle. His vision came to fruition in June 1863 as an estimated 11,000 residents contributed to the construction of 37 earthen defenses around the city in anticipation of a Confederate invasion. The U.S. War Department likewise sanctioned the creation of the Department of the Monongahela.

Rich Condon is a public historian from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with a BA in public history from Shepherd University. For over a decade he has worked with a multitude of sites and organizations including The Battle of Franklin Trust, Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Flight 93 National Memorial, Reconstruction Era National Historical Park, and Catoclin Mountain Park. Condon has written for Civil War Times Magazine, The American Battlefield Trust, as well as Emerging Civil War, and operates the Civil War Pittsburgh blog, which focuses on sharing stories related to western Pennsylvania's role in the Civil War.



Mini-Literary Festival

Saturday, June 22 at 1:00 PM

Whether you are an avid reader, a lover of literature, a creative writer, or just inspired by all things literary, this across-genres literary festival is for you. Join us when Pittsburgh authors read from and discuss their works. The festival will include such notable locals as novelist and short story writer Catherine Gammon and poet Barbara Edelman among others. Registration is appreciated.





What is RAD Pass?

Allegheny **R**egional **A**sset **D**istrict

Visit <https://radpass.org/> for more information!

RAD Pass is an online ticket lending system that allows Allegheny County library cardholders ages 18+ to access free or discounted tickets to regional attractions. RAD Pass helps make our region’s cultural resources available and accessible to everyone.



NOW CIRCULATING!

EXPERIENCE KITS

Thanks to our partnership with the Heinz Center Affiliates Program and other Allegheny County libraries, we are offering FREE ADMISSION for up to four people to a number of museums and historical sites around Pittsburgh! Plus, each pass comes with virtual access to educational information, itinerary ideas, and other fun content.

Our kits this year include:

Duncan & Miller Glass Museum

Heinz History Center (includes admission to Fort Pitt Museum and Meadowcroft Rockshelter)

Historic Fort Steuben



Merrick Art Gallery*

Old Economy Village

Somerset Historical Center

West Overton Village Museum & Distillery

*Pass used in lieu of suggested donation; check with the site about ticketed events.



Library Donations Accepted



The library accepts donations of gently-used newer books, audiobooks, DVDs, music CDs, puzzles, board games and video games. Please place items in our GRAY DONATION BIN near the lower level elevator entrance. Donations are either added to the library’s collection or sold at the Friends of the Library Book Sales to support the library.

Programs and Events for Youth & Teens



Bookworm Babies Mondays at 11AM

May 6th – May 20th, June 10th – August 5th*
Bounce, sing, and hear a story all while working on the earliest skills of literacy at this storytime! Specially designed for caregivers and their children 6-18 months.

Registration is not required.

*There will be no Bookworm Babies on July 1st



Let the Adventure Begin: Summer Reading Kick Off Party

June 7th at 12PM

Get signed up for the 2024 SRP and grab something to snack on! We will be set up in the front of the library handing out pizza and popcorn (while supplies last) just in time for the early dismissal on the last day of school.

Registration is appreciated but not required.



Time for Tots

Wednesdays at 11AM

May 1st – May 22nd, June 12th-August 7th*

A storytime that is specially designed for toddlers and their grown-up! We will hear stories, sing songs, and may have a special activity! This program is designed to promote early literacy skills for ages 18-36 months with an accompanying adult.

Registration is not required.

*There will be no Time for Tots on June 19th or July 3rd



Preschool Storytime

Thursdays at 11AM

May 2nd – May 23rd, June 13th – August 8th*

Join us every Thursday for Preschool Storytime at the library. We will listen to stories, sing songs, and sometimes have a craft! This program is designed to promote early literacy skills for ages 3-5.

Registration is not required.

*There is no Preschool Storytime on July 4th



LEGO Club

May 3rd, June 14th, July 12th, August 2nd.

Ages 5 - 12

Visit the library for a chance to create something awesome! Lego bricks will be provided and there will be a free hour to build whatever you'd like! All creations built must be deconstructed and put away at the end of the event. NOTE: Usually Lego Club is the first Friday of the month however this summer the dates are altered to accommodate summer reading programs. Registration is not required.



Around the World Club

Monday's at 3:30PM

June 10th – August 5th*

Ages 5-10

We will take a look around the world at different cultures, environments, and more! Join us in exploring snacks, crafts, and other activities from places around the world!

Registration is appreciated but not required.

*There will be no Around the World Club on July 1st



The Adventurer's Guild

Thursdays at 3:30PM

June 13th – August 8th*

Ages 8 – 12

Accept the invitation to adventure by joining us on Thursdays at the library! We will be experimenting with things such as map making, learning codes, testing our investigation skills and so much more! Registration is appreciated but not required.

*There will be no Adventurer's Guild meetings on July 4th



Summer Reading Program

June 7th – August 9th

All Ages

Adventure Begins at Your Library! Take up the challenge this summer to complete daily reading goals, engage in fun and educational programs, and see where the library can take you! Summer programs are still being developed at this time so please check our website and social media for more information!



TEENS:

Teen Tuesday's

Tuesdays @ 3:30PM

May 7th -28th, June 18th, July 16th, August 6th

Ages 12-17

Join us at the library for some fun teen activities. Crafts, snacks, movies, video games, board games and volunteer hour opportunities! Registration is not required.



2023

Year in review

Did You Know? Some Interesting Facts about the Library from 2023...

Registered Patrons in 2023: 2,990

Total Circulation in 2023: 56,276

Total Circulation of Electronic Materials in 2023: 17,553

The library's collection totals 30,144 cataloged items.

71,238 people visited the library in 2023.

412 In-Person Programs were held.

Total attendance at these programs was 5,810.

FRIENDS OF THE CASTLE SHANNON LIBRARY

SPRING FLEA MARKET



BAKE SALE

REFRESHMENTS

50/50 RAFFLE

20+ TABLES

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH 9AM-2PM

Lower Level of the Library

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FRIENDS!

eLibrary



EBOOKS | AUDIO | MAGAZINES | RESEARCH

- ✓ READ EBOOKS
- ✓ WATCH A MOVIE
- ✓ GET READ-A-LONG KIDS' BOOKS
- ✓ LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE
- ✓ FIND A NEW OR USED CAR
- ✓ RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

ALL FOR **FREE** WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD!

eLibrary.einetwork.net

ALLEGHENY COUNTY'S DIGITAL RESOURCE



*with a \$5.00 minimum purchase



Parks Plus Plan Updates

The Parks Plus Plan is moving along, and Hamilton Park updates will be completed in the fall of 2024! We are excited to see our contractors working quickly to keep this project on their initial timeline.

Lower Hamilton

Sewer lines have been placed, the field is ready for new turf, and construction on the new pavilion and bathrooms will be starting any day.

Middle and Upper Hamilton

Old structures have been torn down and a new shelter is being placed in the Middle Hamilton section. Construction and assembly of the Splash Pad have begun on Upper Hamilton, and will be completed in conjunction with Lower Hamilton work.



Residents can view the Parks Plus Plan by visiting the borough website at <https://borough.castle-shannon.pa.us/parks-recreation/> or at the Municipal Center Administration offices.

Columbia Gas

Utility Construction

Columbia Gas will be continuing utility work along Castle Shannon Boulevard this spring.

Work is planned to start along Castle Shannon Blvd then progress to Cooke Lane, Crystal Drive and Arlington Park. This project is tentative for a late March start date and will be completed in September.

Cooke Lane will be closed to through traffic for the duration of the bore. This will need to be a permanent closure for Columbia Gas's work. Access to the Rite Aid and the bank will be permitted. The plan will be to close Cooke Lane between the two entrances/exits to the Rite Aid parking lot. This work is estimated to take 3-5 weeks.

The work is expected to begin soon between 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with Saturday and night work possible. Motorists can expect road closures and parking and lane restrictions during working hours only.

Please note, our crews will be working on Castle Shannon Blvd from 6 p.m.- 6 a.m. to minimize traffic restrictions. Adequate notices will be provided once we receive the dates the bore contractor is available.

The focus of the crews is to accomplish this work as quickly, efficiently, and safely as possible. We apologize for any inconvenience, and we appreciate your continued patience while we complete this important project to maintain safe and reliable natural gas service to homes and businesses in the community.

During this time, you may see our contractors or employees performing work and inspections on your street, public rights-of-ways and customers' properties and meters. You may also notice survey flags or stakes near your property. The purpose of these flags is to locate underground facilities before the project begins. This project may include replacing your service line and moving any indoor gas meters outside at no additional cost to you.

Your safety and the safety of our workers is our first priority. Please use extreme caution when traveling through our work zone. Please slow down and obey flaggers and all posted signs including detours and parking restrictions. We apologize for any inconvenience and will make every effort to limit traffic restrictions.

Revitalization

Did you know that there are over thirty places to eat and drink in Castle Shannon?

Last year Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation hosted the inaugural Castle Shannon Restaurant Week to help promote and support our great dining establishments. This Spring and Fall we look forward again to hosting Castle Shannon Restaurant Week! During Restaurant Week, look for your favorite restaurants to have a special menu item or discount on a menu item. This is a great way to try a new place to eat and support your local Castle Shannon restaurants. Follow our Facebook page at @Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation to see what specials participating establishments are serving.



Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation takes extreme pride in honorably displaying our Military Tribute Banners from Memorial Day to Veteran's Day each year. To honor these heroes, we strive to keep our banners in the best condition possible and this means that banners are replaced on a regular basis.

If you currently have a banner that is in need of replacement, CSRC will reach out to let you know with further instructions. Unfortunately, some of our banners become orphaned and no longer have a contact for replacement.

We are always looking for donations to help support the Soldier Banners. If you would like to help keep these banners displayed, you can donate any amount to the Military Banner Tribute Program. Scan the QR code here to donate or to order a new banner.

Always forgetting to put out your flag on the holidays? Let us take care of that for you! Introducing Stars and Stripes over Shannon, a flag fundraiser supporting Castle Shannon Revitalization Corporation. We will place a full-size flag in your front yard around the following holidays: Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Patriot Day and Veterans Day. To sign up or to renew your service, scan the QR code.



Want to help revitalize Castle Shannon? Castle Shannon Revitalization meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Center. We encourage you to join us and become a member and volunteer for your community. Contact us at csrc15234@gmail.com

Waste Management is proud to be your environmental solutions provider! As part of our new contract with Castle Shannon Borough, all residents will receive automated curbside collection. Our automated collection service will provide residents with a 96-gallon carts for trash and a 65-gallon cart for recycling. Cart delivery will take place between Wednesday, March 27th-Tuesday, April 2nd. Additional information packets will come with the new carts.

General Information

Trash will be collected once every week. Recycling will be collected every other week. Despite our best efforts, we occasionally miss scheduled collections. If you believe you missed service, visit www.wm.com or call us at 1-800-866-4460.

Residents can also sign up for a My WM Account to conveniently report missed pickups.

Automated Trash Collection

- Residents will receive a 96-gallon cart for automated trash collection. Cart delivery will take place between March 27th-April 2nd.
- Place your cart at the curb after 4:00 p.m. the night before your scheduled collection or by 6:00 a.m. on your service day.
- Bulk items will be collected once a month during the 4th full week of the month. Please reference the calendar for your 2024 bulk collection dates.
- Make sure there are at least three feet between your carts and any obstacles –mailboxes, parked cars or trees.



Automated Recycle Collection

- Residents will receive a 65-gallon cart for automated recycling collection. Recycling carts will be delivered with trash carts during the Spring of 2024.

Bulk Items and Overflow Material

- WM will only collect material that fits inside your trash and recycling containers. All trash must be bagged and fit inside the provided cart.
- Recyclables must be placed loose into your recycling cart and boxes must be broken down.
- Additional carts can be purchased for an annual fee of \$110 per year, with a 7% increase each year through the contract. To request an additional cart, residents must contact WM at 800-866-4460 and say "service change" or visit www.wm.com.
- WM will collect two bulk items once per month during the 4th full week of the month at no additional charge. Place your bulk items at the curb on the same day as your trash collection during your bulk collection week. Bulk collection can be scheduled at www.wm.com.

Learn more about WM

As a resident of Castle Shannon Borough, visit wm.com to learn more about Waste Management's offerings.

Manage your Service with My WM

It's easier than ever for residents to manage their services with a My WM account. Find your collection day and time, sign up for service alerts, schedule one-time services or use a variety of other self-serve features. My WM helps residents do more with their account anytime, anywhere. Create your My WM account or download the My WM app on iTunes or Google Play store.

Service Information & Guidelines for Proper Cart Placement

Place your carts at the curb with wheels facing your house, before 6:00 AM on your scheduled collection day. Remove carts after collection. Keep your carts at least three feet from parked cars, mailboxes or other obstacles.

Why Cart Collection?

Cart collection is safer and quieter for the community. Wheeled carts are easier to roll and place at the curb, and the attached lid helps keep material from blowing into the street. The lid also helps keep recycling dry to make sure items get a second life as something new.

- Asbestos
- Biological waste
- Medicines and prescriptions
- Ammunition and explosives
- Commercial or Business supplies
- Liquid mercury
- Radioactive items
- Unknown or unlabeled materials
- Bulky items, appliances and furniture
- Incandescent light bulbs
- Tires
- Containers over 5 gallons

What Belongs in Your Cart?

Trash

Place common household trash such as food waste, chip bags, paper towels, and plastic bags in your cart. Do not place construction waste, auto parts, tires, hazardous waste (paint, oil, household cleaners), or medical or e-waste in your carts.

Recycling

Place clean and dry plastic bottles, jars and jugs, cans, paper and cardboard (break down your boxes) directly into your cart. One dirty item can contaminate an entire truckload, so make sure recyclables are clean and dry. Don't bag your recyclables. Keep plastic bags out of your recycling.

Additional Recycling Resources

Become a recycling expert. Visit <https://www.wm.com/us/en/recycle-right> to learn the three basic rules of recycling, download in-depth guides and resources, and find everything you need to recycle right, every day.

Keep These Dangerous Items Out of Your Carts

Everyday household hazardous waste can inadvertently cause a fire in your cart or inside a collection truck. Help keep our community safe by keeping these household items out of your cart.

- Leaking or empty containers
- Smoke detectors
- Lamp fixtures
- Construction-related materials
- Improperly packaged items

Municipal Center
 3310 McRoberts Road
 Castle Shannon, PA 15234

Presorted Standard
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Pittsburgh, PA
 Permit No. 2401

2024 Recycling and Bulk Collection Schedule

JANUARY 2024

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