



ASHTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

WHERE HERSHEY'S MILL BEGAN...



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is here, the pool is open, the sports facilities are humming with activity. With all the options available to us, get out there and enjoy!! It's a fun way to get moving and make friends! So stay hydrated and cool in this heat. A dip in the pool is fabulous for a nice cool down.

The last quarterly open meeting was very well attended. We had DiStefano Landscaping there for questions and there were lots of them!

We also enjoyed a wonderful presentation by the President of Princeton Village who graciously shared the YELLOW DOT+ program he initiated for the benefit of his village. He generously went on to share the gift of this program with all of Hershey's Mill. The packets were distributed to every house here in Ashton. It is up to the individual to take advantage, or not, of this program in case of medical emergencies. We are very grateful for his generosity in sharing this vital initiative, and to Linda Green for working on this project and distributing the packets to all of Ashton.



A warm welcome to our new neighbors:

- #25 Matthew and Sarah Coleman
- #113 Kristen Jaroshvich

Attention Ashtonians - if you have not already signed up, please join a committee! We welcome your input and ideas:

- **Architectural/Maintenance/Engineering**
- **Ashton Woods Project**
- **Decorating**
- **Landscape**
- **Newsletter**
- **Social & Welcome**

ASHTON VILLAGE OPEN MEETING

Please join Council and your neighbors at the third quarterly Open Meeting. Council will update everyone on what is happening in our Village. We will do our best to answer all questions!

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Ashton Village HOA
Open Meeting For All Homeowners
Tuesday, August 6 at 6pm

The Cove

We look forward to seeing you all there!

ASHTON VILLAGE PROJECT UPDATES

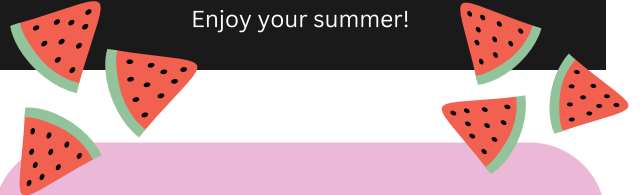
- **Railings and Guardrails** have been repaired or replaced and painted as needed.
- **Trash Reminders:**
 - **Free bulk trash pick up** is the first Tuesday of each month (except holidays). We are allowed 1 bulk item per home, per month. The item must be placed outside by the trash cabinets the evening before. No large appliances, propane or hazardous waste. Please do not leave large items sitting outside at any other time, unless you have arranged to have it picked up at your own cost.
 - Please contact Rebecca Malcom at AJ Blosenski to schedule removal if other than first Tuesday. Her contact information: 610-942-2707 or rebeccamalcom@ajblosenski.com.
 - If the item is not picked up, please contact Steve Erney at PENCO.
- **Storm drains** were cleaned in June.
- **Power washing** has started this year. A new approach has been adopted and approved by Council to fit our budget. It will be phased out over 3 years, one section of the Village per year. Each house will be done every third year. Phase One started at the top of the hill where it was the worst. All homeowners can opt to have their house (when it is not your year) and/or patio done as needed at your own expense while the company is working here onsite.
- **Window cleaning** at the Quads will be done yearly.
- **Mailbox Improvement/Replacement Project** has been completed. If anyone still needs numbers, contact Kathi Sullivan at Kmenig1@yahoo.com.
- **Gutter Cleaning** - cleaning of the gutters is underway.
- **Summer Pruning** - DiStefano has started the summer pruning of non-flowering bushes. They will also trim tree branches leaning on homes.



Ladies Lunch is on a summer hiatus.

The next lunch will be in September.

Enjoy your summer!



*ME-anderings
"Poor Me"*

by Connie Grazel

*I have no talent whatsoever
I cannot draw nor paint.
How come there are some who are so clever
And then there's me who ain't.*

*I cannot sing nor music play
Or bake or sew a stitch
But if I were able to crochet
I'd know I found my niche.*

*And gardening is not my speed
My thumb is far from green.
Any flower from my planted seed
Would be better left unseen.*

*My need to do just one thing well
Is becoming increasingly persistent.
But there's one thing at which I do excel
At least I am consistent!*





Summer Watering Tips

With this summer being so very HOT and DRY, we all need to water our gardens, so here are a few tips...

- *Keep in mind, the water source is community property, meaning it belongs to everyone in the Village. Everyone is able to use it.*
- *All homes in Ashton do not have outdoor spigots. Some have them in front and/or back, or none at all. Your neighbors have the right to use the ones located close to their homes.*
- *Please talk to each other about the water use. No one has the authority to refuse outdoor water use to a neighbor.*



Farewell to Curt Varallo

Our longtime trusted handyman/contractor extraordinaire is moving. We are so grateful for everything he has done for our Village and Hershey's Mill during all the years he's worked here. We are sorry to lose such a valuable asset to our community and wish him the very best in his new endeavors.



Ashton Woods Project

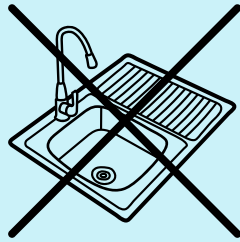
The Ashton Woods refresh is underway! New trees, shrubs and flowers have been planted. There will be more flowers coming this fall and in the spring. Hershey's Mill Master Association has repaired the sidewalk, and HMCTV approved a grant for the project. We still need donations and volunteers for the next phase. Please contact Christine McCormick to contribute in any way you can: christinemccormick061@outlook.com. A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time and hard work to make this beautiful project a success, especially Christine McCormick, Don Martin, and Sam Blank for watering all the new plantings!



HOUSEHOLD TIPS & TRICKS

As we know, our infrastructure (water and waste lines) is 50 years old. So let's talk about what **NOT** to put down our garbage disposals:

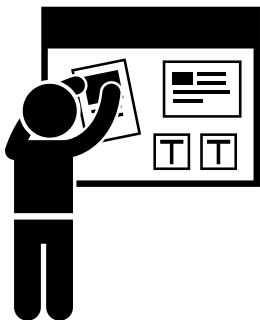
- Coffee grounds
- Banana peels or onion peels
- Egg shells
- Pineapple rinds
- Lemon, orange or lime rinds
- Bones of any kind
- Grease or oil of any kind
- Large amounts of refuse at once



All of these will clog your pipes and drains.

Hint: use Dawn or a good grease-cutting detergent and maintain with an enzyme cleaner once or twice a month to keep those drains clean.

Your garbage disposal and your pipes will thank you!



Did You Know?

Hershey's Mill has a bulletin board at the Community Center outside the library. It has all kinds of information from helpers to cleaners, handymen, rides to the doctor or airport. Check it out!

Garage Doors

There are several carports that have garage doors, and many that do not. Garage doors are optional and were installed mostly by previous homeowners. Garage doors and the maintenance, repair, painting, and replacement is the responsibility of the homeowner. Please inspect your garage doors and repair if needed.

Ashton Reminders:



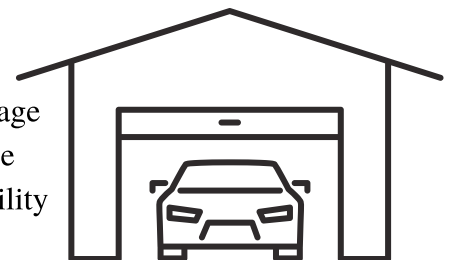
Chimney Cleaning

If you use your wood burning fireplace, it must be inspected and cleaned every 3 years. Send proof of service (copy of receipt) to Steve Erney at serney@pencomanagement.com. If you have a gas fireplace or simply don't use it, send that information as well.

Dryer Vents

If you haven't had your dryer vents cleaned, please do so. Send a copy of the receipt to PENCO.

Landscaping & Architectural Change Request Forms are on Hershey's Mill website: hersheysmill.org, under Villages, A for Ashton. You can print them out.





STUFF!

NEW ASHTON EVENT:

FREE FRIDAYS


One person's trash is another's treasure!

Beth O'Connell got this great idea from Devonshire Village and she thought it would be fun to implement it here in Ashton.

Here's how it works... if you have some "treasures" or good "junk" that you don't need or want anymore, put it outside your garage by 10:00 AM on a Friday. It's a great way to declutter.

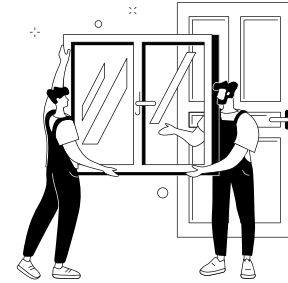
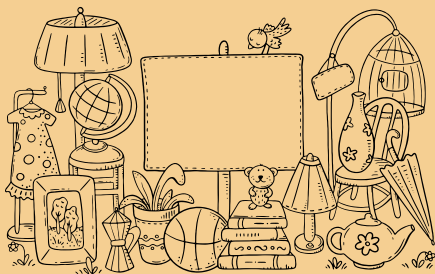
*Between **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**, all Ashtonians are welcome to walk around from garage to garage and take whatever tickles your fancy.*

Everything is free!

There is no need to stand by your treasures. Take a beverage  and walk around, meet, talk, and laugh with your neighbors!

After 2:00 PM, toss all your unclaimed goodies in your car and drop off at your donation location of choice (Greendrop, Goodwill, etc.)

*The first Free Friday will be **October 18th**. Rain date is October 25th. Mark your calendars!*



Paint Trim Colors in Ashton

As an HOA community, we all know there are uniformity requirements in place for the purpose of the aesthetics of our Village. The main purpose for this is to maintain and increase our property values. One of the requirements is the color of the outside trim around doors and windows.

- Window colors - dark bronze.
- Trim must match the siding (exception: those windows replaced at the time khaki was approved).
- Screens and patio doors - bronze or dark brown.
- WHITE or any other color is NOT acceptable and must be replaced.
- For those with white, we will contact you with instructions on painting and/or replacing.
- Our Village is a source of pride for all of us - let's work together to keep it that way!



Ashton's 2024 Council Members:

President - Kathi Sullivan
Vice President - Michael O'Connell
Secretary - Tarrissa Hockenberry
Treasurer - Linda Force
Member at Large - Linda Green

PENCO Manager - Steve Erney
Serney@pencomanagement.com
Phone: 610-358-5580