Carlisle All-America City 2021

Carlisle Gazette

Fall 2025 Edition

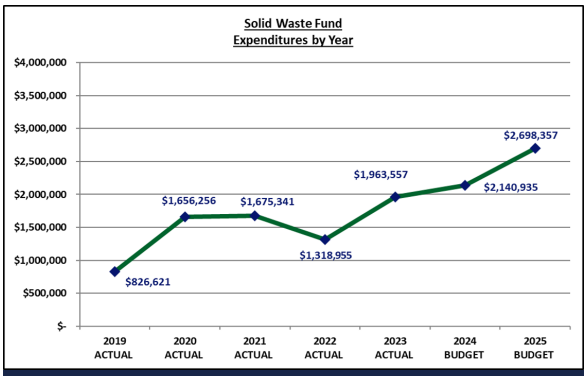
www.carlislepa.org

Sustainable Pennsylvania Certified Platinum Community

Borough Considers In-House Trash Program

For decades, Carlisle Borough has relied on outside haulers to collect solid waste and recycling in the Borough. Due to major changes in the recycling market and a lack of competition between haulers, the Borough is now considering bringing the entire program in-house.

Our Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) program began over 30 years ago to comply with Pennsylvania's Act 101, which required curbside recycling. The PAYT model encouraged residents to reduce waste and recycle more. However, beginning in 2018, the global recycling market shifted when China banned the import of certain plastics and other "contaminated" materials. Haulers went from selling recycling for about $20 per ton to having to pay to have recycling processed. As a result, we saw our program costs nearly double with our 2020–2022 contract.



At the start of the 2023 Program, the Solid Waste Fund became a "pass through fund" where costs for the hauling service match revenues collected.

In 2023, the Borough switched to a Hybrid PAYT plan to cover the expenses of the program, but received only one contract bid, which includes annual 7% rate increases. Without market competition, cost control is limited.

In 2025, a Solid Waste Municipalization Subcommittee, consisting of Borough Councilors, staff, and community members, was formed to evaluate a potential Borough-run program. After extensive research, they proposed a conservative, cost-conscious plan addressing staffing, vehicles, containers, infrastructure, and operations.

Remaining consistent with the Borough's responsible budget practices, the committee recommended taking a conservative approach to anticipating program needs. Several key factors were considered when designing the program.

Staffing

Waste management is a vital service that requires adequate staffing to be successful. There must be a balance between minimum staffing and overstaffing. The proposed plan includes adding several new positions: an Operations Manager, full-time truck drivers and loaders, and a hybrid driver/loader.



The subcommittee recommends incorporating staffing redundancies such as additional loaders and a hybrid position to provide coverage when crews are short. The subcommittee suggests that the hybrid position could also drive the fifth truck on heavy waste-generating days or assist with bulk item collection.

Because staffing needs were budgeted conservatively and with redundancies, potential savings could be realized with this proposed program. Pay rates and medical insurance coverage, as well as evaluating crew sizes, were also considered.

Vehicles



The subcommittee proposes purchasing five vehicles so the Borough would have sufficient coverage if any vehicle is out for maintenance or during periods of high waste generation. The rear loader system is the preferred system of the subcommittee. Rear loaders can handle containers, bags of trash, and bulk items. These vehicles are estimated to need to be replaced in a 5–10 year span, with the trucks handling garbage likely needing replacement first. The fifth vehicle would be rotated into service as vehicles are replaced.

Containers

The subcommittee recommended that each customer be provided one 35-gallon trash receptacle to match the existing recycling containers. The program may eventually be able to accommodate tiered programming rates by offering various container sizes. For those properties unable to accommodate the trash container, the subcommittee proposed issuing those properties 52 bag tags each year.

The in-house program would continue to offer trash tags at an additional fee that allow extra bags of trash to be placed outside of the container.

Tipping Contracts

Even if we brought the solid waste program in-house, we would still need a place to haul and process the solid waste and recycling. The subcommittee recommends seeking multi-year contracts directly with the service provider or with a third-party transfer station.

The subcommittee also suggested that we could consider installing our own transfer station in the future to help reduce the number of daily trips to the recycling center.

Funding Considerations

As designed, the program requires $2.4 million in capital costs to get started, including vehicles, containers, and infrastructure. The subcommittee proposed two funding methods for launching the program.

Bond Program

- $2.4 Million Capital Bond
- $1.1 Million Operating Loan
  - Consider internally-funded loan
- 5-Year Pay-Off with savings realized in 6th year

Internal Loan Program

- $3.5 Million Internal Loan
- Assumed 20-year payback at 5% interest
- Savings realized in 2nd year of the new program

If Borough Council decides to proceed with an internal solid waste and recycling program, the next steps would include launching a public outreach campaign. This would include hosting public meetings, sharing information on social media, and conducting public surveys, among other efforts. Look for updates via our website at www.carlislepa.org/solid_waste.

INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE

A GLIMPSE OF CURRENT & UPCOMING PROJECTS

You might not always see it, but our infrastructure systems work hard behind the scenes every day, keeping our water clean, protecting our environment, and ensuring our community runs smoothly. We're continuing to invest in repairing, replacing, and upgrading these essential systems. Here's a look at some of the projects underway, and a few that are in the pipeline.

Biddle Mission Park Riparian Buffer Project



The LeTort Spring Run forms the western border of Biddle Mission Park. Currently, the vegetation along the creek includes canopy trees, invasive exotic vines, and non-native honeysuckle.

This project will expand and enhance the forested riparian buffer. A riparian buffer is a strip or zone of vegetation along the banks of a water body that acts as a protective barrier between water and land. The improved buffer will more effectively reduce the discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment into the stream.

This buffer includes planting 25 trees and 66 shrubs, along with the relocation of a gravel trail to help reduce stormwater runoff. Work is expected to be completed by the end of October. This project is funded in part by a Cumberland County Clean Water Grant.

PFAS Testing



A pilot program is underway at our Water Treatment Plant to determine the most effective and efficient method for PFAS removal. The Borough began working with Gannett Fleming in late 2023 to design plant upgrades that will meet both federal and state standards. The testing protocol evaluates how effectively different filtration media reduce PFAS levels and will determine the necessary upgrades. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection requires at least nine months of pilot testing before a construction permit can be submitted for the treatment system.

Biosolids Management Upgrade

The Borough is currently in the design phase of an upgrade to its biosolids management program. The existing system has been in place for almost 40 years, with much of the equipment nearing or having reached the end of its operating life.

The upgrade would replace the current Class B liquid lime stabilization process and the outdated dewatering system with more modern treatment and dewatering processes capable of producing Class A biosolids. Benefits of this upgrade include reduced hauling and disposal costs and lower related emissions.

Water Main Replacement Project

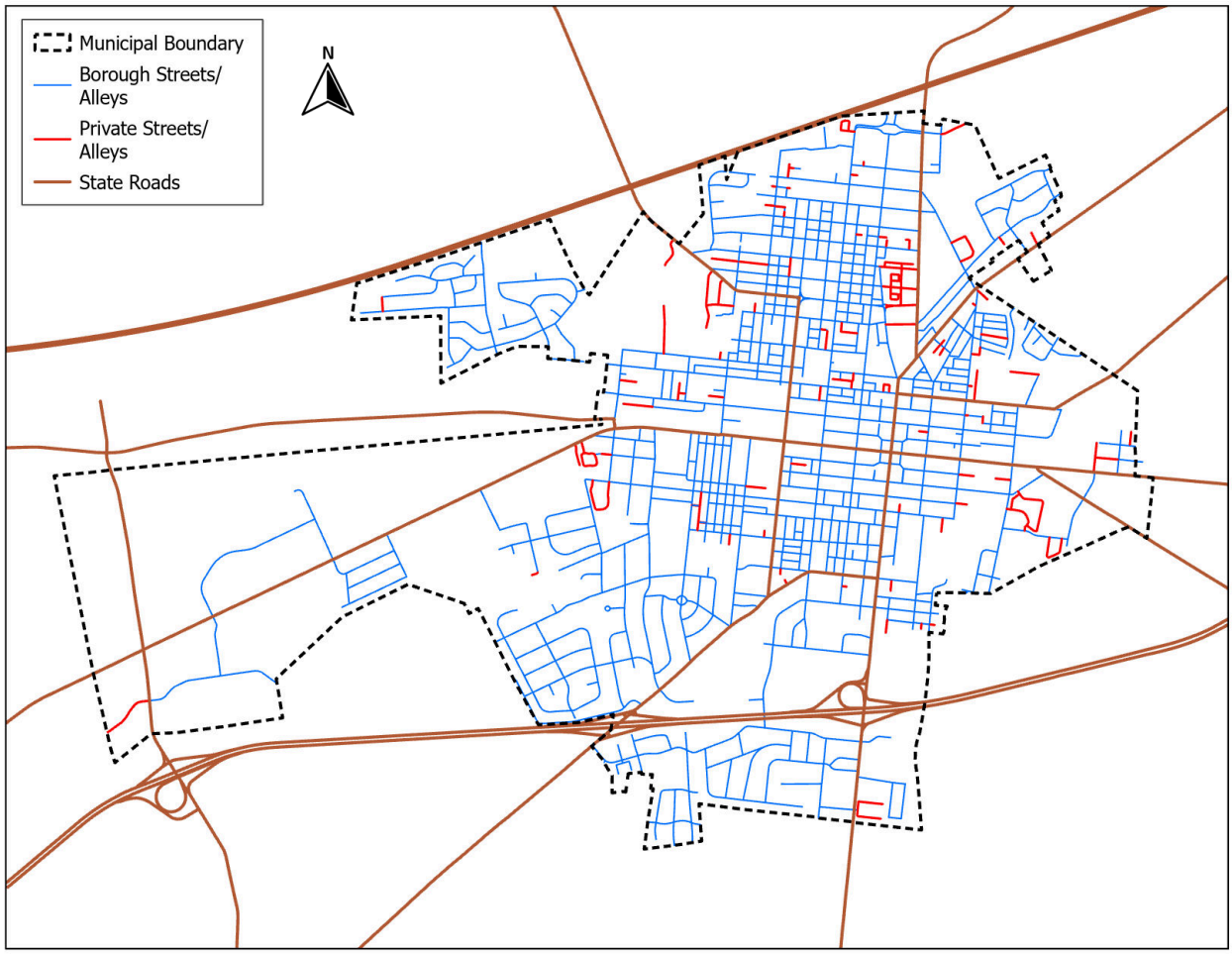
The next phase of our Water Main Replacement project is entering the design phase. Each year, the Borough aims to replace one to two miles of aging water main. With PennDOT planning future roadwork on East High Street and York Road in 2026, we adjusted the project's scope to focus on replacing water mains in this area before PennDOT's paving efforts. By coordinating closely with PennDOT, we can ensure that our underground infrastructure work is completed ahead of paving, preventing the need to disturb newly finished roads and maximizing the value of both projects.

Keeping Carlisle Moving - A Look at Road Maintenance

Carlisle Borough maintains a transportation network that includes approximately 57 miles of road and 18 miles of alleys. Our Field Operations team is responsible for maintaining and repairing Borough-owned roads year-round, including snow plowing during the winter months. While we oversee many of the streets residents use every day, not all roads within the Borough are actually under our jurisdiction.

Many roads in Carlisle are owned and maintained by either PennDOT or private property owners. On the map, Borough-owned roads and alleys are marked in blue. PennDOT roads appear in brown and private roads and alleys are shown in red.

You can also explore our interactive map at www.carlislepa.org/gis to view road ownership details.



PennDOT-Owned Roads

- Allen Rd.
- B St. from N. College to Borough Line
- Carlisle Springs Rd.
- East & West High St.
- E. North St.
- N. College from B to W. High
- North & South Hanover St.
- Ritner Hwy.
- S. College St. from W. High to Walnut Bottom
- Trindle Rd.
- Walnut Bottom Rd.
- W. Willow St from S. Hanover to S. West
- York Rd.

How Do I Report a Pothole on a Borough-owned road?

Call 717-240-1238

Visit www.carlislepa.org and click on Report an Issue

How do I Report a Pothole on a PennDOT-owned road?

Call 1-800-FIX-ROAD (349-7623)

Visit customercare.penndot.pa.gov

Please be as specific as possible when providing the location of a pothole!

What causes a pothole?

Potholes form when the top layer of pavement and the material beneath cannot support the weight of traffic and is further eroded by stormwater.

Moisture seeps into the pavement through various cracks and erodes the material underneath, causing the pavement to sink down and break. During winter, the water under the pavement freezes and thaws. This cycle can cause the pavement to crack. Once cracked, the pavement can rapidly deteriorate under the weight of traffic, and stormwater erosion, weakening the road surface and creating potholes.

How do you repair a pothole?

First, crews remove any loose debris, dirt, and standing water from the pothole. Next, they fill the potholes with cold patch. Cold patch is made of stone, oil, and tar and can work even in cold temperatures. Once the hole is filled, the crews compact the material.

Cold patch is not a permanent solution, but it helps extend the life of the pavement until it can be repaved.



As of August 1, our field operations crews have repaired 177 potholes throughout the Borough in 2025.

Do you coordinate with other utilities when paving?



Yes, we coordinate internally with our water and sewer departments, as well as with outside utilities like UGI, to minimize disruptions to newly paved roads.

However, emergency repairs in recently paved areas can sometimes be unavoidable.

Why don't you repave the road if the pothole repairs are only temporary?

Road maintenance is funded by the Municipal Liquid Fuels Grant funds we receive from PennDOT annually. The limited funds allow us to only mill and pave a certain number of areas each year. Learn more about our annual maintenace program on page 10.

Since repaving roads is expensive, is there a more cost-effective way to extend their lifespan?

Yes. Our crews perform crack sealing throughout the year. It's one of the most affordable preventative maintenance treatments, helping to extend the life of roads by preventing water from seeping into cracks and damaging their structural integrity.



Street Smarts

Carlisle Borough is a community where people walk, bike, and drive side by side each day. Safety is a two-way street, and we all share the responsibility of keeping safe.

Road safety isn't just about following the rules; it's about staying alert, showing respect, being patient, and looking out for others. Here are a few reminders for all of our road users.

Drivers

- Put down your phone. You are risking the safety of yourself and everyone around you when you drive distracted.
- Slow down! A few extra seconds can make a huge difference, especially in residential neighborhoods and near crosswalks.
- Always yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Be alert and prepared to stop if a pedestrian is approaching or appears ready to enter the crosswalk.
- Watch for children, especially near schools, bus stops, and parks.
- Give cyclists at least four feet of space when passing. If you cannot, you must wait to pass.

Pedestrians

- Avoid distractions like phones or headphones while walking near traffic.
- Cross at marked crosswalks or intersections whenever possible.
- Always make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street, even when you have the right of way. Never assume they see you.
- Use sidewalks when they are available. If there's no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from vehicles as you can.
- If you are walking at night, wear bright or reflective clothing so you can be seen.

Bicyclists

- Stay alert. Don't wear headphones or use your phone while riding. Keep your eyes and ears on the road.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic and follow all traffic signals and signs.
- Use hand signals to let drivers and pedestrians know your intentions.
- Helmets can save your life. Wear a properly fitted helmet while riding. It's the law for those 12 and under.
- Be predictable. Don't weave between cars or make sudden, unexpected moves.
- Equip your bike with lights and reflectors for riding in the dark.



Be a Role Model

It's never too early to teach children the rules of the road. Kids pay attention and will model the behaviors they see. Be sure to model safe and respectful habits and talk to them about the importance of safety.

Stay safe, stay smart, and share the road!

Carlisle's Bicycle & Pedestrian Trail Network





Did you know that Carlisle is home to a 15-mile network of trails perfect for biking, running, and walking? Our Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail network includes both on- and off-road trails that connect our parks, schools, and Downtown Carlisle! Start at any one of our parks and follow the Trail & Bike Routes to explore the network. Trail maps are available online and at the Stuart Community Center at 415 Franklin Street.

Along the trail, you'll find the Carlisle Pumptrack! Located at Valley Meadows Park, the pumptrack is a self-contained circuit featuring hills and curves that can be ridden both by beginners and advanced riders. The track helps riders work on their momentum and balance in a safe environment.





In collaboration with Cumberland Youth Cycling Development, Carlisle Parks & Recreation will be hosting a free Bike Rodeo class at the track on Saturday, November 8, at 9:00 a.m. Participants will rotate through stations that focus on balance, braking, signaling, and navigating simulated street scenarios. Visit www.carlislepa.org/register to sign up!



Paul Miller's Law

Pennsylvania's new distracted driving law, known as Paul Miller's Law, went into effect in June. Paul Miller was killed in 2010 by a distracted driver. The law prohibits the use of hand-held mobile devices while behind the wheel, including while stopped at a red light.

Driving is a skill that requires 100% of your attention 100% of the time.

Carlisle Fire Police: A Proud Legacy of Service



Photo Courtesy: Carlisle Regional Special Police

Did you know the Carlisle Regional Special Police have been serving our community for more than 90 years? Commonly referred to as the Fire Police, these dedicated volunteers play a vital role in public safety. You'll often see them directing traffic at fire and accident scenes, helping kids get to and from school safely, and keeping parades and other large events running smoothly.

History of the Fire Police

The history of Fire Police in Pennsylvania dates back to 1895, when the first officers were appointed in Meadville, Crawford County. Carlisle followed suit on June 1, 1932, officially appointing 25 Fire Police officers, five for each of the Borough's five fire houses at the time. Initially, Fire Police Officers held the same authority as firefighters, but were primarily tasked with protecting fire company equipment at emergency scenes. Over time, legislation expanded their powers, allowing them to exercise police authority during non-emergency events and provide support for other organizations. At one point, the Fire Police even served as back-up patrol when Borough police officers were on vacation.



The early Fire Police Officers often wore hand-me-down uniforms from the Carlisle Police.

Like the Carlisle Fire Department, the Carlisle Regional Special Police can be dispatched to areas outside of the Borough when necessary. One notable example came in 1989, when they were called to assist during the Camp Hill prison riots.

School Crossings

One of their biggest and most important duties is serving as crossing guards for the Carlisle Area School District. Fire Police Officers help students of all ages get to and from school safely. It's important to note that these officers have the full authority to regulate traffic. When you see them directing traffic, you must follow their cues and signals!



Spirit of Service

The Fire Police draw from a wide range of backgrounds, not just retired firefighters. One of the most recently sworn-in officers moved here from Arizona, where he had retired as a biochemist. Despite their differing backgrounds, you can ask any fire police officer why they got involved, and you will hear the same thing: to give back to the community.



Photo Courtesy: Carlisle Regional Special Police

Captain Bob Wertz has been a member for over 30 years. "I was an insurance salesman. I had been a manager and I was doing well in insurance and I thought I could give back to the community in some way."

That spirit of service runs deep. While the Fire Police do receive compensation for certain paid events, most activities, including July 4th celebrations and Trick or Treat, are strictly volunteer. Some members even decline pay when it's offered. Many of their volunteer efforts focus on supporting children and honoring veterans. Officers helped provide local families in need with Christmas presents and volunteer with the local Toys for Tots program, directing traffic as hundreds of families arrive to collect their presents.

Going the Distance

Over the years, the Carlisle Regional Special Police have responded to major incidents and worked marathon shifts. One of the most memorable for Captain Wertz was the August 25, 2007, severe storm that arrived during the annual Corvette Parade. Heavy rain and high winds brought down trees and utility wires, blocking multiple streets. Almost half of the Borough was without power, and most downtown traffic signals were out of service. Many officers had already been on the job assisting at the Corvette Show since 6:00 a.m., but they did not hesitate to stay and help manage the storm recovery. Some even worked upwards of 24 hours!



Photo Courtesy: Carlisle Regional Special Police

This event sparked a new level of preparedness, encouraging the Borough to invest in sturdier, more effective barricades and a trailer that was outfitted as a disaster response unit. “We’re prepared for most any situation right now that we can handle pretty much ourselves, as long as we get the [volunteer] response we’ve been getting,” according to Captain Wertz.

Always Welcoming Volunteers

There are currently around 40 volunteer officers. Even if someone is only able to come to one or two scenes a month, they are still needed. “We might not be the first ones to arrive on scene,” Captain Wertz said, “but we are almost always the last ones because we wait for the fire trucks to leave, and then we wait for EMS to leave, and then we wait for the police to leave. We’re there to make sure all of them leave safely before we go.”

If you are interested in volunteering with the Carlisle Regional Special Police, visit www.carlislepa.org/fire and fill out an application! Click on “Fire Police” under Volunteer Opportunities.

Back to School!

The streets are once again filled with school buses and students walking or biking to school! This means it’s time for a safety refresher! These rules may seem elementary, but they keep everyone safe.

Drivers:

- Slow down and be patient.
- Watch out for children who may run out into the street without looking.
- Traffic must stop when the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended.
- Pennsylvania’s School Bus Stopping Law requires motorists to stop at least 10 feet behind a school bus with its red lights flashing far enough back to give kids space to enter and exit the bus safely.

Students:

- See and be seen. Make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street..
- Walk on the sidewalk. If no sidewalk is available, walk facing traffic.
- Stay in the crosswalk when crossing the street and obey the crossing guards and traffic signals.
- Board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver has instructed you to get on. Never walk behind the bus.

Annual Street Improvement Project

Roadway life varies based on several factors, including, but not limited to the type, amount, and weight of the vehicles traveling over the pavement, pavement thickness and age, pavement type, weather conditions, and drainage characteristics Each year, the Borough undertakes a program to maintain its roadway network, using a variety of road surface treatments depending on a road segment's physical condition and priority ranking. Treatments have ranged from crack-sealing to base repair, micro surfacing, ultra-thin bonded wearing course (UTBWC) application, overlay pavement, and surface milling and repaving. Milling and paving are generally performed at the end of the road's surface pavement life.

As of the time of publication, 2025's Street Improvement Project, which includes milling and paving and UTBWC, was nearing completion.

Milling & Paving

Milling & paving involves the mechanical removal of the top 1 ½ to 2 inches of existing road surface to remove unsound material and facilitate drainage. After milling occurs, those sections are repaved.

Sections of West Street, Noble Boulevard, South Street, and Walnut Street are a part of 2025's program.

UTBWC

UTBWC is a pavement preservation technique involving a thin layer of asphalt mix applied over a polymer-modified emulsion membrane. The membrane acts as a bonding agent and seals the existing surface, preventing water intrusion.

Sections of West Baltimore Street, Arch Street, and South Pitt Street received this treatment in 2025.

Carlisle Connectivity Project Update

Construction on the final phase of the Carlisle Connectivity Project (CCP) continues. This final phase includes improvements on North Hanover Street and Carlisle Springs Road. The North Hanover Street and Carlisle Springs Road intersection will be realigned to bring the approach to a 90-degree angle and then signalized. Further south, a 5-point roundabout is being constructed at the intersection of North Hanover Street, West and East Penn Streets, and Fairground Avenue.

Crews have been focusing their efforts on the western side of the work area. Much of the construction of the last few months has included installing storm sewer lines in the area, paving, including ADA ramps, and prepping for the installation of the traffic signal at Carlisle Springs Road and North Hanover Street. The 5-point roundabout also continues to take shape, with much of the western side complete.



For much of the remaining project, state roads are currently envisioned to remain open without the need for detours. Some work may require closures or restrictions. A road closure will be necessary for an estimated two-week period during Norfolk Southern's railroad work. A PennDOT-approved detour will be implemented during this timeframe. The construction schedule also includes blackout dates when no construction or closures can occur on state roads.

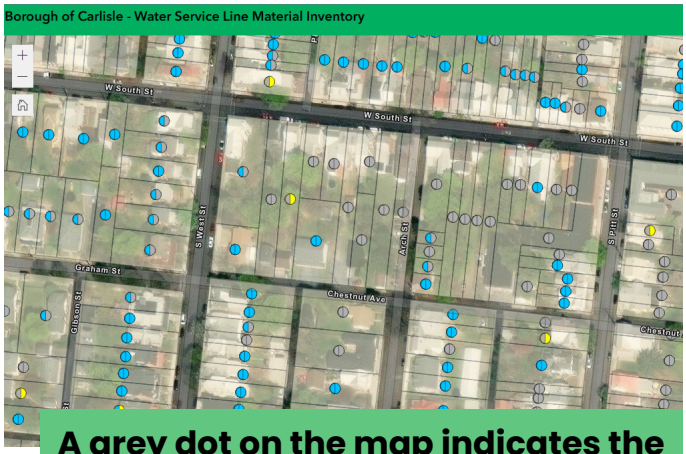
For regular updates, please visit www.carlislepa.org/ccpfinal.

Help Us Identify Your Water Service Line Material

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring all public drinking water systems to inventory their water service lines by 2027 to determine where lead pipes still exist. Any lead and galvanized steel service lines identified during the inventory process, plus service lines of unknown materials, must be replaced between 2028 and 2037.

We began our inventory in 2024 and have identified the material for about 60% of the service lines in Carlisle. However, we still need to identify around 2,800 more.

It is especially important for us to reduce the number of unknowns, so that we are not required to needlessly replace non-lead and non-galvanized pipes.



A grey dot on the map indicates the material is unknown.

Your help is crucial! Visit www.carlislepa.org/servicematerial to view our interactive map and check if your property's service lateral on the customer side is listed as "unknown". If so, follow the instructions at www.carlislepa.org/lead to submit your information.

Property owners, renters, and business owners are all encouraged to participate.

Need help? Please call us at 717-240-1238, and our staff can assist over the phone or even visit your property to document your service line material for you. An updated inventory is due to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection this October, so time is of the essence.

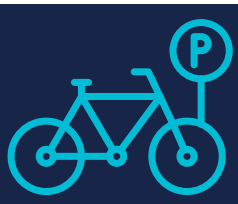
Land Use Reform Subcomittee Update

The Borough's Land Use Reform Subcommittee continues its important work of reviewing Carlisle's adopted land use policies and regulations and considering recommendations for improvement.

In April, the Point at Carlisle Plaza on East High Street, along with surrounding parcels, was rezoned from Shopping Center/Mixed Use to Urban Mixed Use (UM). The UM designation allows for a broader range of land uses, including residential, non-residential, and open space. The former Frog, Switch & Manufacturing site across the street was rezoned as UM in late 2023 as well. The Borough also recently received a Municipal Assistance Grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development to support the development of the East High Street and North Hanover Street corridors. This plan will encourage UM development, enhance pedestrian access, and help preserve the Borough's historic charm.

In July, Borough Council voted to adopt a zoning ordinance amendment permitting artisan industry in the Commercial, Industrial, and Mixed-Use districts. Artisan industry refers to small-scale manufacturing activities, such as the production of arts and crafts, food, beverages, clothing, and similar goods. There is typically a retail component, allowing businesses to produce and sell their items on-site. Previously, such uses required a special exception or land use variance. By formally recognizing artisan industry as a permitted land use, the Borough aims to attract small-scale, creative businesses that align with its character.

For the latest on the Land Use Reform Subcommittee's work, visit www.carlislepa.org/lur.



An amendment was passed requiring new developments with 10 or more off-street parking spaces include bicycle parking facilities for at least 2 bicycles per 10 vehicle spaces.

Check Out Downtown Carlisle!

There's so much to love about Downtown Carlisle! Our historic downtown offers the perfect blend of charm, community, and culture. When you explore Downtown Carlisle, you'll find unique shops and boutiques, vibrant art galleries, inviting breweries and wine bars, and cuisine from all around the world. There's truly something for everyone!



The Downtown Carlisle Association (DCA), one of Pennsylvania's oldest and most established accredited Main Street Programs, is dedicated to supporting local businesses, growing tourism, and creating economic development opportunities. The DCA also hosts a variety of signature events that bring crowds to Downtown Carlisle.

Check out the calendar for upcoming events and learn more about DCA's mission and activities at www.lovecarlisle.com.

LoveCarlisle
DOWNTOWN CARLISLE ASSOCIATION

Upcoming Events

September 27, 10 am - 5 pm
Harvest of the Arts

October 11, 2 - 5 pm
Molly Pitcher Birthday Bash

October 22-26
Spellbound Halloween Event

November 8
Holiday Open House

November 29
Small Business Saturday

December 4, 7 pm
Making Spirits Bright Holiday Parade

December 6, 3 - 6 pm
Holly Jolly Jubilee & Tree Lighting

December 12 - January 3
Nutcracker Stroll & Silent Auction

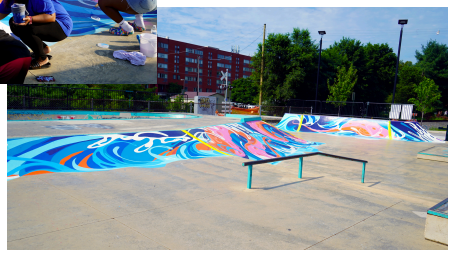
December 31, 6 - 9 pm
Hotchee New Year!

New Mural at the Carlisle Skate Spot

The Carlisle Skate Spot is now home to a work of art! The octopus and waves mural was recently painted on the embankment walls of the bowl and the quarter pipe.







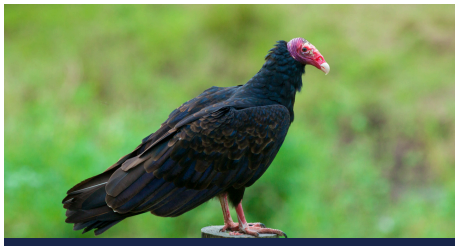
This mural was a true community effort! Our Parks and Recreation Department received a grant from the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, with program funding provided by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts through its Arts and Education (AIE) residency program. Local artist and muralist Aron Rook led the project as the Teaching Artist. She helped create the mural design with local skateboarders.

Community involvement was strong, as nearly 200 volunteers participated in seven painting nights to help create the 900 square-foot mural. The project fostered significant community engagement and pride, with contributions from residents of all ages. Grauer's Paint and Decorating, a Benjamin Moore Paint Store located on York Road in Carlisle, generously donated the paint and brushes used in the project.

In alignment with the skateboarding culture, the bowl area at the Skate Spot will continue to serve as a space for appropriate graffiti art. To support ongoing artistic expression, Carlisle Parks and Recreation will periodically repaint sections of the bowl, providing a refreshed canvas for new artwork.

Managing Vulture Damage

Turkey vultures have historically made the northeast, including Pennsylvania, home. In the last 50 years, black vultures have also expanded into Pennsylvania and the Carlisle area.



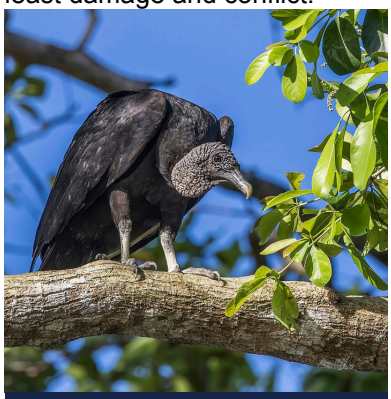
Turkey vultures can weigh up to 4.5 pounds and have wingspans that can reach 6 feet.

Vultures are very social creatures that travel together in large groups, known as “roosts.” They often roost in tall trees and on large structures, such as the Ridge Street Water tank.

Unfortunately, vultures can bring numerous problems to a community. Their droppings can contaminate water sources, walkways, and public and private property. Not only does their waste have a strong odor, but it is also very acidic and corrosive, causing property damage.

Vultures are also drawn to rubber materials. They have been known to tear at window caulking, roof shingles, vent seals, rubber roof liners, pool covers, and even tire valve stems.

To address these issues, the Borough contracted with USDA Wildlife Services to manage vulture activity. The goal of the program is not to eliminate the vulture population but to relocate the roosts to a location where they will cause the least damage and conflict.



Black vultures weigh less than 4 pounds and have a wingspan of less than 5 feet.

USDA developed an Integrated Damage Management Program using humane deterrent methods, including lasers, paintballs, and effigies. Effigies, realistic-looking decoys, act as visual warnings that an area is unsafe. These were placed at key roosting sites, including Thornwald Park and the Ridge Street water tank. As of April, 236 black vultures and 3 turkey vultures were successfully dispersed.

How Can You Help?

Residents and businesses can also do their part to manage the vulture population in the Borough. Residents should refrain from leaving outdoor food bowls for pets and limit access to outdoor trash by utilizing trash bins with lids.

Vultures are naturally drawn to overflowing dumpsters. If your business uses a dumpster, make sure the dumpster lid remains securely closed at all times. All food waste must be placed inside the dumpster, and the lid must be properly closed after each use. If the dumpster lid is damaged or broken, please contact your waste hauler for repair or replacement. Finally, if you find your dumpster is frequently overflowing, please consider increasing the size or scheduling more frequent pick-ups.

If you are experiencing damage caused by vultures, please contact Parks and Recreation at 717-243-3318 or parksandrec@carlislepa.org.

Open Burning Reminder



Recently, Borough and Fire officials have responded to complaints about open burning in Carlisle. Please remember that burning garbage, rubbish, trade waste, and yard waste is strictly prohibited at all times.

Limited exceptions are outlined in the Borough’s Open Burning Ordinance (Chapter 307). For example, chimineas and factory-built novelty stoves are allowed if used per the manufacturer's instructions and placed at least 15 feet from any structure.

These rules help protect community health and safety. View the full ordinance at www.carlislepa.org or call 717-240-6615 with questions.

Homeowner Assistance Programs

Many programs are available to help pay for certain home repairs to correct residential code deficiencies of qualified homeowners. Items covered include: updating electrical wiring, heating systems, roof repair or replacement, insulation, doors, windows, siding, interior and exterior painting, chimneys, spouting, kitchens, bathrooms, foundation repairs, etc. Funding is available through the Borough's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and is in the form of an interest-free deferred loan. There is also assistance available to residents who must correct curb or sidewalk deficiencies.

Additionally, Cumberland County has a program designed to help fund emergency repairs through an interest-free deferred loan. Items include roof or furnace repairs, plumbing or wiring emergencies, foundation stabilization, roof repairs, etc.

AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

Emergency Repair Loan: Provides up to $10,000 to Cumberland County homeowners needing emergency home repairs through an interest-free deferred loan. Contact cwise@cchra.com for more information.

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation: Provides up to $20,000 in assistance to help property owners maintain their homes. This program pays for home repairs, focusing on those that correct code deficiencies. Contact cwise@cchra.com for more information.

Homeowner Utility Assistance: Provides up to three months of public utility assistance (water, sewer, trash, and stormwater) to low-to-moderate income homeowners. Contact cwise@cchra.com for more information.

Energy Assistance: Provides financial assistance to property owners for home improvements to increase energy efficiency. This is a grant-based program for low-to-moderate-income eligible homeowners. Contact jwoolston@carlislepa.org for more information.

Sidewalk Repair Assistance: Grant program that helps qualified individuals in the event their sidewalks need to be repaired. Contact cwise@cchra.com for more information.

Tree Removal & Replacement: Provides grants to low-to-moderate income property owners needing to replace Borough shade trees in front of their properties. Contact jwoolston@carlislepa.org for more information.

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Moderate Income	$59,050	$67,450	$75,900	$84,300	$91,050	$97,800	$104,550	$111,300
Low Income	$36,900	$42,200	$47,450	$52,700	$56,950	$61,150	$65,350	$69,600

Learn more about these programs and download applications by visiting www.carlislepa.org/assistance.

Second Leaf Vacuum Added

New for 2025's Fall Leaf Collection – a second leaf vacuum!

The additional vacuum is a 16-cubic-yard leaf vacuum truck, which is smaller than the 25-cubic-yard vacuum truck. Since the 25-cubic-yard vacuum was too large to safely collect leaves in areas with narrow streets or heavy parking demand, this smaller vacuum will be able to maneuver those streets, resulting in improved service.

The second leaf vacuum can also serve as a backup for the main vacuum if any mechanical issues arise.

The new leaf vacuum was purchased with proceeds from a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Grant, as well as Stormwater funds.



Fall brush pickup will take place from October 6 through October 10. The fall leaf collection program will run from October 13 through December 5. Additional details can be found at www.carlislepa.org.

Consider Leaving the Leaves!

Leafcycling is an eco-friendly alternative of lawn maintenance that involves leaving shredded or mulched leaves on your lawn and in your garden beds.



Benefits Include:

- Reducing stormwater runoff
- Enriching the soil's nutrients by recycling nutrients
- Improving the lawn's root system, making your grass drought and disease-resistant
- Reduces weeds in the spring grass

Compost Facility Hours

The Borough's Post Road Compost Facility continues to operate under its Spring/Summer hours through Saturday, August 30.

Spring/Summer Hours
Wednesday: Noon to 8:00 p.m.
Thursday: 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Saturday: 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Fall Hours begin on September 3
Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Thursday: 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Saturday: 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Borough residents can use the site to drop off leaf and yard waste and pick up mulch. Loading assistance is available on the second Saturday of every month from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 22

Halloween Parade
7:00 p.m.



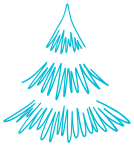
Friday, October 31

Trick or Treat Night
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Thursday, December 4

Holiday Parade
7:00 p.m.



Don't miss out on the fun!
Visit www.carlislepa.org/events to learn more!

CodeRED™

Sign Up for Emergency Alerts!

New to the area? Be sure to sign up for CodeRED, the Borough's emergency notification system!

Once you are registered for CodeRED, you will be notified of emergency information through phone calls, text messages, and/or e-mails. These alerts may include, but are not limited to: boil water notifications, emergency street closures, missing persons, and evacuation notices.

To sign up, visit www.carlislepa.org/CodeRED. If you do not have a computer or need help signing up, please call 717-240-6916, and we will get you registered!

Recently Moved?

If you recently moved within the Borough, you will want to register again and enter your new address to ensure you stay informed!

Carlisle All-America City 2021

CARLISLE GAZETTE
NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY
BOROUGH OF CARLISLE
53 WEST SOUTH STREET
CARLISLE, PA 17013
717.249.4422

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CARLISLE, PA
PERMIT NO. 20

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL
CARLISLE PA 17013