

The Duncannon Dispatch

News and Information from the Borough of Duncannon

Work continues on water system upgrades

As lead sanctions are lifted, Borough begins big project

Good news for Duncannon residents and other customers of the Borough's water system — in September the state Department of Environmental Protection confirmed that no high levels of lead were detected in the Borough's water in two consecutive six-month periods. That means the Borough will not be required to undertake a project that likely would have forced digging up pipes all over town to search for possible sources of lead.

The Borough had faced that possibility since last fall, when routine water testing turned up two samples that tested positive for lead in amounts far exceeding the allowable limits. A subsequent investigation by the Borough found those two high samples were likely caused by issues with water filters at those two sources. No lead was detected in samples taken from those two sources with the filters removed.

Those follow up tests, though, could not be taken into consideration by DEP, which by law was required to direct the Borough to begin a public education campaign. DEP also required the Borough to do more frequent testing, and to sample more sources when doing that testing.



Pipe destined to be part of the new Chestnut Street water main sits waiting to be placed in the ground and connected to the Borough's system.

Because that expanded testing did not find high lead levels in any of the samples in two straight testing periods, the Borough will not be required to search for and replace any lead elements in its system. The Borough would have also been required to offer to replace any copper and lead pipes belonging to the homeowner (at the homeowner's expense).

This does not mean the Borough does not have to remain vigilant about lead. The expanded testing protocols remain in effect and any future lead violation would trigger reimposing the DEP sanctions.

In other good news for the water system, work got underway October 2 on the first phase of an almost \$1 million project to improve the system. Phase One involves installing a new main between the standpipe at

Cooper Field and High Street. The new main is expected to have significant positive impact on water pressure for many customers.

Not all is positive. Because of issues with faulty valves in the old pipes, and sandy conditions on the hill, work to tie the new main into the system is going to result in an expected three days of water being shut off to a significant portion of town during the day while the work is being completed. That work is expected to get underway on Oct. 30. Residents in that area will also be under a Boil Water Advisory for a minimum of five days.

The initial plan was for the contractor to prepare all the new pipes, then to do all the connections the same day. Those plans also anticipated only needing to shut the water off to less than 10 homes. But the faulty valves are forc-

ing the shut off to impact an approximately 20-block area.

It is hoped the work can be completed in three days. That depends, of course, on the weather and no unforeseen problems. If that happens, and the subsequent testing of the water shows no contaminants, the Boil Water Advisory could be lifted that Friday afternoon.

Residents in the impacted area will receive further notice prior to the start of the shutoffs as well as when that associated Boil Water Advisory is lifted.

Phase Two of the project, which is being funded by a Federal Community Development Block Grant, will involve adding a new well in the watershed area, and building a new booster pump station to get the booster pump out of the Sherman's Creek floodplain. That part of the project is currently in the final design and permitting process. Construction on Phase Two is expected to get underway next year.

Also on tap for the spring is work on modifications to the mix building near the standpipe, where water from the two wells located on the hill is blended before going into the standpipe, or into the distribution system.

Issues with the way the acidic raw water from the one well and the more alkaline water from the other are blended recently resulted in

— please see *WATER*, page 7

Borough Briefs

Wanted: Junior Council members

How important is it to develop the future leaders of the community? To answer that question you need look no further than the upcoming municipal elections. While there are five open seats on Duncannon's Borough Council, only two candidates filed petitions to run for Council in the spring primary. Two other candidates will be on the ballot after

successful write-in campaigns in the primary, but there will be nobody on the ballot for two of those seats.

It has also proven tough to find individuals to serve on other boards, commissions, and the Authority. That is why Borough Council has decided to start a Junior Council person program.

According to William S. Rossey, a vice president with the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, "We all know that baby boomers are retiring from public service and exiting their roles as borough officials at a rapidly increasing rate . . . it is time to begin planning for that change. Local government involve-

ment from every generation is critical. The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs' (PSAB) Junior Council Person

Program (JCP) is a great way to address this issue."

Junior Council members participate in council meetings, participate in borough business, and observe all council rules. JCPs cannot vote or participate in executive sessions, but they can attend budget hearings, public hearings, and community events.

In addition to being a first hand experience in civics and local government, serving as a Junior Council member is a noteworthy experience to include in that list of extracurricular activities on college applications and resumes.

To be eligible to serve as a Junior Council member, you must live in the Borough. The program is open to students in grades 7 to 12. To apply, submit a letter of interest to Mayor John Cappawana, Borough of Duncannon, 428 N. High Street, Duncannon, Pa., 17020. Letters may also be e-mailed to jcappawana@duncannonboro.org. Letters must be received by December 8, 2017.



Council deliberates 2018 Borough Budget, No tax hike planned

No tax increases are expected, but some utility fees could go up in the coming year under the first draft of the 2018 Borough Budget, which was presented to Borough Council at its October meeting.

The proposed budget holds the line on General Fund expenses and calls for no tax increases. Two of the four utility funds are also balanced in the draft budget. The Water Fund shows a \$13,000 deficit while the Refuse Fund currently projects a \$19,000 deficit.

The Borough recently accepted bids from private haulers to handle trash collection in the Borough. Those bids are currently being reviewed. The Finance Committee will review the analysis of those bids before making any recommendations to the full Council.

While no rate increase are currently needed to balance the Sewer, and Electric funds, that could change once Council gets the results of planned utility rate studies, which will take into account the impact of

— please see **BUDGET**, page 7



—The Duncannon Dispatch—

The Duncannon Dispatch is the official newsletter of the Borough of Duncannon. Published periodically, The Duncannon Dispatch is distributed to every residence and business in the Borough. For information on advertising in The Duncannon Dispatch, please call 717.432.8311.

Borough Of Duncannon

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Kraig Nace, Council President

Chris Adams • Darryl Croutharmel • Frank Eppley

Jeffrey Kirkhoff • Roger Williams • Christie Young

John Cappawana, Mayor

BOROUGH STAFF

Chris A. Courogen, Borough Manager

Robert F. Kroboth, Finance Director

Kathy Bauer, Borough Secretary

Michael Criley, Public Works Foreman

Volunteers needed for Borough boards

The Borough currently is in need of volunteers to serve on two of its appointed boards — the Planning Commission and the Uniform Construction Code appeals board.

The Planning Commission's role is to review, and advise Borough Council, about matters pertaining to land use and development. It meets as needed, which is not often given the limited amount of such projects that can take place in Duncannon, which is essentially built out and landlocked.

When such plans do arise, though, it is important to give Council the local perspective of the Borough's own Planning Commission, in addition to the input it receives from the Tri-County Regional

Planning agency.

The UCC Appeals Board hears, and rules on, appeals, requests for variances, and requests for extensions of time under the Uniform Construction Code. Unlike the Planning Commission, members of the UCC Appeals Board do not have to be a resident of the Borough. They do, though, have to be licensed as an architect or engineer, or experience in the construction industry, or as an inspector or plan reviewer.

If you are interested in serving on either board, please forward a letter of interest to the Borough Manager at 428 North High Street, Duncannon, Pa., 17020, or by e-mail to manager@duncannonboro.org.

“Watershed” road to be open to vehicles for deer hunting

For the first time in many years, the Borough will open the road in its “watershed” to vehicular traffic during deer season.

The gates will be open the first three days (Nov. 27, 28, and 29) and both Saturdays (Dec. 2 and 9) to allow vehicular access.

Hunters are asked to take care not to block the road for others when they park. Hunters are also reminded to exercise caution around the reservoir and Borough wells in the area.



DID YOU KNOW? The area known as the Borough’s “watershed,” is open to hunting through the Pa. Game Commission’s Hunter Access Program.

Borough working to develop a longterm plan for street paving

While there has been no significant road construction in the Borough the past two summers, expect that to change in 2018. The Borough staff, and Borough Council’s Streets and Utilities Committee, are working on a five-year streets plan that will kick off next year.

With assistance from the Borough’s engineers and an engineer from PennDOT’s Local technical Assistance Program, Borough Public Works Foreman Mike Criley inspected of all the Borough’s roadways that are eligible for state funding. The Borough receives about \$56,000 in Highway Aid annually.

Criley’s evaluations show what degree of maintenance or repair each section of street currently needs, ranging from crack sealing and a sealcoat layer to full deck restoration. Block by block cost estimates will be developed using that data.

The resulting plan will lay out a schedule of street repairs for the next five years. Expect each year to include a combination of bigger repaving projects and smaller sealcoat, or microsurface projects.

While it may seem to some that sealcoating a street in relatively good shape ought take a backseat to fully restoring a street in bad shape, it is important that preventative maintenance be a part of each year’s work. Studies show

— please see **STREETS**, page 7

Be aware of street closures, parking restrictions

Two upcoming street closures are scheduled that residents might want to be aware of.

The first will take place on Saturday, October 28, when a street closure and parking restrictions will be in effect on for the annual Halloween Parade. Market Street and Apple Tree Alley will be closed from 4 p.m. until after the parade, between Clark and Rachel streets.

In addition to the closing of Market Street, the following parking restrictions will be in place for the parade. Beginning at noon, until after the parade ends, there will be no parking on the northwest side of the Square (in front of the old PNC Bank).

Temporary no parking restrictions will be in effect from 4 p.m. until following the parade on the remainder of the Square, and on Market Street from the Square to Broadway Avenue. Parking restrictions will also be in place those same hours on North High Street between Route 849 and Clark Street.

The second street closure will take place on the evening of October 31, when North High Street will be closed from 5 to 9 p.m. between Clark and Hickory streets for the annual Light The Night event at the Assembly of God church.



3930-FM-BSDW0195 10/2015

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
MAINTAIN THE RANGE OF VALUES FOR WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS (WQP)

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE. HAGA QUE
ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

Duncannon Has Violated a Treatment Technique

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor the pH of your drinking water. Duncannon adjusts the pH of your drinking water to minimize corrosion of lead and copper piping. Duncannon is required by our DEP Operation Permit to maintain a minimum of 7.2 at each entry point and in distribution. Testing results during the January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017 monitoring period show that our system did not meet our permit requirement for pH at Entry Point 101 on thirteen (13) days and at a location representing Entry Points 102 and 104 on twenty-seven (27) days.

What should I do?

► You do not need to use an alternative water supply (i.e. bottled water). However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

► This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

What happened? What was done?

► Difficulties in balancing the pH levels at two of our wells resulted in issues in maintaining the pH levels required in our permit. The Borough has adjusted the manner in which it treats the water to achieve the proper pH levels. Additionally, modifications are being made to improve the mixing of the water from two of the Borough's wells to help achieve a better balance between the water from the two sources.

For more information, please contact the BOROUGH OF DUNCANNON, 428 N. High Street, Duncannon, Pa. 17020, phone: 717-834-4311.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place, or by distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Borough of Duncannon

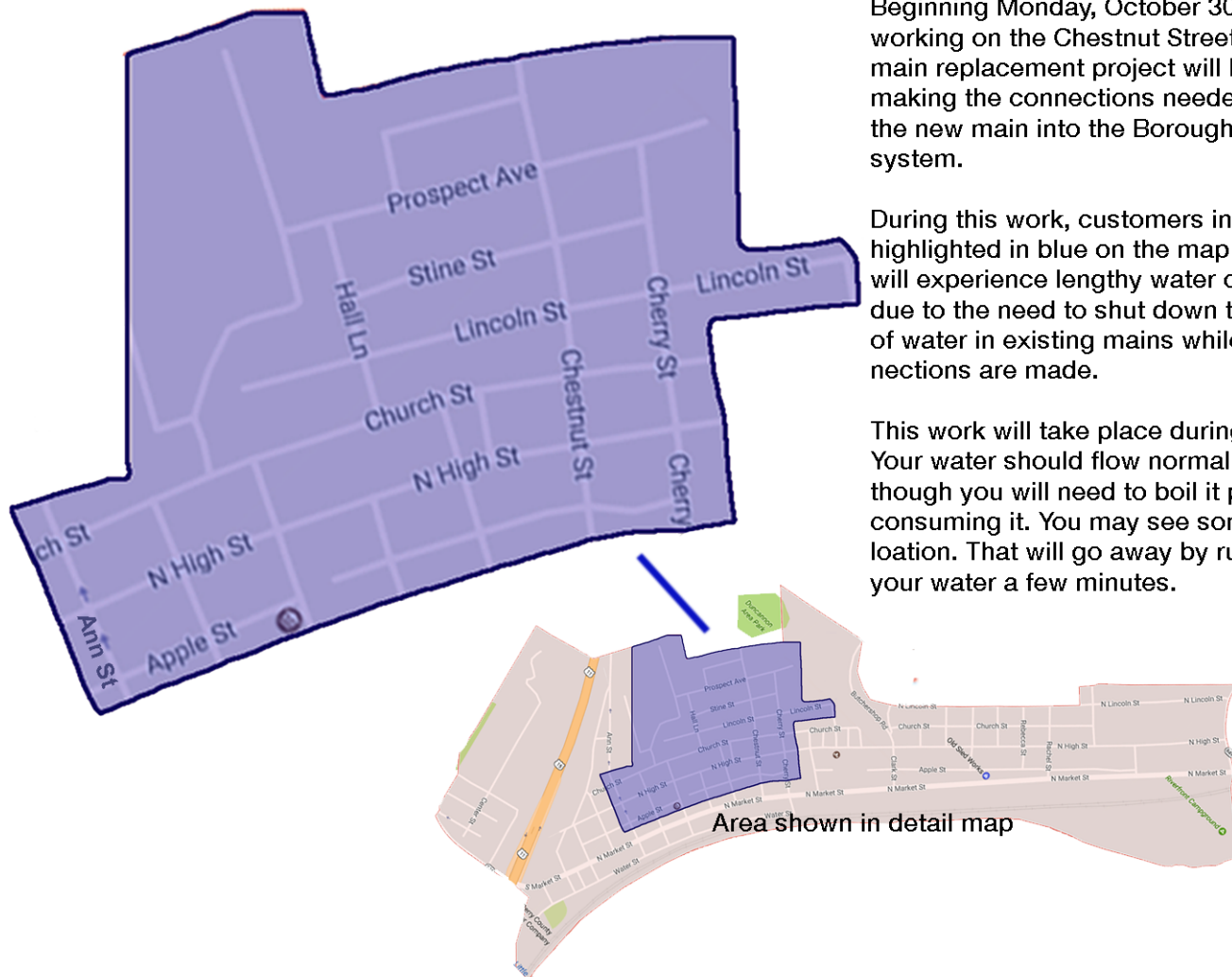


AREA OF ANTICIPATED WATER OUTAGES AND BOIL WATER ADVISORY DUE TO CHESTNUT STREET WATER MAIN PROJECT

Beginning Monday, October 30, crews working on the Chestnut Street water main replacement project will begin making the connections needed to tie the new main into the Borough's water system.

During this work, customers in the areas highlighted in blue on the map to the left will experience lengthy water outages due to the need to shut down the flow of water in existing mains while the connections are made.

This work will take place during the day. Your water should flow normally at night, though you will need to boil it prior to consuming it. You may see some discoloration. That will go away by running your water a few minutes.



The need to boil water will be due to the lack of pressure in the lines when the water is shut off. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regulations require a Boil Water Advisory (BWA) whenever pressure is lost in a line to safeguard against possible contamination entering the system when it is not pressurized. The Boil Water Advisory must remain in effect until two consecutive days of tests show no contamination.

It is hoped that the outages will be limited to Monday-Wednesday and that we will be able to lift the boil water advisory by the weekend. Please keep in mind that construction is weather dependant. Adverse weather, or unforeseen conditions, could delay the completion of this project

The Borough regrets this inconvenience to its customers. It had been hoped any outages/BWAs would be very limited, but the poor condition of valves on the existing main would not allow a smaller area to be isolated. This is stage one of a \$1 million, Federally funded, project aimed at improving water service in the Borough, part of our ongoing commitment to overcome the many years of deferred maintenance of Borough utility systems.

While the inconvenience of this work will be temporary, the improved water quality and increased water pressure that will be a result of this project will be permanent. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Codes Corner

Be in the know about snow removal rules

Here's the winter storm 4-1-1 on sidewalks, streets

With winter nearing, it's time once again for a reminder about a few snow and ice related ordinances in the Borough.

The first of those ordinances regards snow and ice removal from sidewalks. Under the Borough's ordinances, all properties are required to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks within 12 daylight hours of when snow or ice stops falling.

Unlike most codes related matters, the Borough is not required to issue any notices allowing additional time to comply. Instead, the ordinance allows the Borough to have its crew remove the snow and ice at the owner, occupant, or tenant's expense, including a 10-percent administration expense, in

addition to a fine of up to \$100.

The other Borough ordinance dealing with snow-related issues is the part of the Vehicles and Traffic ordinance that deals with "Snow Emergency Streets." Under this ordinance, it is illegal to park on designated snow emergency streets during a declared snow emergency.

The designated snow emergency routes in the Borough are: Ann St., from High St. to Borough line; Cemetery St., from High St. to Lincoln St.; Cherry St., from Market St. to Prospect Ave.; Church St., from Hall Ln. to Green St.; Cumberland St., from Market St. to the Borough line; Hall Ln., from Prospect Ave. to Church St.; High St., from Cumberland St. to Newport Rd.; Green St., from Church St. to High Street; Locust St., in Carver's Hill, for its entire length; Market St., from Broad St. to the Little Juniata

Bridge; Martha St., from High St. to Lincoln St.; Prospect Ave., from Cherry St. to Hall Ln.; Rachel St., from High St. to Market St.; Second St., in Carver's Hill, for its entire length.

When a snow emergency is declared, the Borough will notify residents using the Code Red alert system. To sign up for Code Red alerts, visit the Borough's web site at www.duncannonboro.org. Snow emergencies will also be posted on the Borough's web site and on its Facebook page.

Vehicles that remain parked on snow emergency routes are subject to towing, at the owner's expense, and a \$50 fine. The Borough will not issue any warnings during a snow emergency.

DID YOU KNOW: You can file a codes complaint at Borough Hall, or you can download a complaint form from the Borough web site and e-mail it to codes@duncannonboro.org

Borough Council sets November vote on backyard chickens

A proposed ordinance that would allow raising backyard chickens in parts of the Borough is scheduled for a vote at the November 21 meeting of Borough Council. The ordinance was drafted by Council's Revitalization and Development Committee, which was tasked with considering the matter following requests from residents who had been given codes enforcement notices for their backyard chickens. Current Borough laws do not allow raising chickens, or any other animals except household pets.

The Committee's proposal comes following two months of meetings to discuss the measure and to decide what rules and regulations backyard chickens would be subject to, if they are allowed. The draft ordinance is based upon similar ordinances in other boroughs in the state.

Among the key provisions of the proposed ordinance:

- A limit of 6 chickens (hens only) per property
- An annual chicken permit is required
- Minimum standards for the size and integrity of chicken coops and pens/runs



Chickens would be legal in some Borough backyards under an ordinance to be considered in November

- Permits limited to single family and two family dwellings (no apartments)
- If resident is a renter, the property owner must also be a co-permit holder and shares equal responsibility
 - All chicken coops/pens must meet zoning requirements for setback, etc.
 - An annual permit fee, expected to be set initially at \$50

If Council approves this ordinance, the next step will be to make changes to the Borough's zoning laws to allow the chickens in approved areas. The Committee is recommending chickens not be allowed in the "downtown" part of the Borough. Under the Borough's

Floodplain Development Ordinance, permanent chicken coops and pens will not be allowed in the floodplain. Residents in the floodplain may apply for a permit utilizing a portable coop/pen or "chicken tractor."

A copy of the full proposed ordinance will be placed on the Borough's web site as soon as the solicitor completes his review. A print copy will also be available at Borough Hall. Residents wishing to indicate their support, or opposition, to the ordinance are invited to comment prior to Council's vote at the November 21 meeting. Written comments can also be submitted at Borough Hall.

Community Calendar

Your guide to what is happening in and around Duncannon!

October

- 28 Halloween Parade
- 30 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 31 **Happy Halloween! Trick or Treat night, 6-8 p.m.**
- 31 Light the Night, Assembly of God church

November

- 2 Finance, Admin. & Communications Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Daylight Savings Time ends, turn back your clocks!
- 6 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 7 **ELECTION DAY**
- 9 Utilities, Streets & Infrastructure Committee, 6 p.m.
- 10 Borough Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- 11 **VETERANS DAY**
Borough recycling
- 13 Public Safety Committee, 6 p.m.
Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
Duncannon Fire Co. monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Revitalization & Development Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Senator DiSanto mobile office 9 to 11:30 a.m. (Borough Hall)
- 16 Fleet & Facilities Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- 20 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 21 Personnel, Legal, & IT Committee, 6 p.m.
Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- 23 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**
Borough offices closed

- 24 Borough offices closed (**REGULAR TRASH PICKUP AS SCHEDULED**)
- 27 NO TRASH PICKUP (*Dumpsters will be emptied Tuesday*)
Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 28 Parks & Rec Committee, 7 p.m.

December

- 3 **Duncannon Parks & Rec WINTERFEST, Clarks Ferry Tavern**
- 4 Public Safety Committee, 6 p.m.
Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 7 Finance, Admin. & Communications Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 9 Borough recycling
Duncannon EMS Breakfast with Santa, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- 11 Duncannon Fire Co. monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 12 Revitalization & Development Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Utilities, Streets & Infrastructure Committee, 6 p.m.
- 18 Duncannon Fire Co. monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Personnel Committee, 6 p.m.
- 19 Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- 20 Senator DiSanto mobile office 9 to 11:30 a.m. (Borough Hall)
- 21 Fleet & Facilities Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- 25 **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
- 26 Parks & Rec Committee, 7 p.m.
- 27 Duncannon EMS Sunday Dinner (BBQ Chicken), 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- 31 **Duncannon Parks & Rec Sled Drop, Clarks Ferry Tavern**

All items in **BOLD** text are Borough government meetings held at Borough Hall

WATER, from page 1

DEP issuing a Notice of Violation to the Borough for pH issues (*Please see the notice on Page 4 for more information*).

Modifications are expected to be completed by April. Until then, the Borough won't use water from the more acidic well.

Not all of our interactions with DEP are about problems. The Borough is in the process of enrolling in DEP's Capability Enhancement program for small public water systems. Under the program, DEP provides technical assistance at no cost to the Borough.

Among the services the program offers is help with a "water audit" to identify sources of water loss in the system. DEP will also help in developing an Asset Management Plan and a water system capital improvement plan. Both of the latter two were recommendations in the Borough's Early Intervention Program report.

BUDGET, from page 2

much needed capital improvements, especially to the water and sewer systems.

The Borough is currently in the midst of a series of upgrades to its sewer plant that have been mandated by the state Department of Environmental Protection. The estimated cost of those upgrades is around \$3 million. More than \$10 million in long-term upgrades needed by the water system have also been identified by the Borough's engineers.

In addition to requesting funding for the rate studies, which were recom-

mended in the Borough's Early Intervention Program report, Council is also seeking grant funding for a feasibility study to examine the idea of selling the water and/or sewer systems, another recommendation in the EIP report.

The Finance Committee is expected to discuss the 2018 budget further at its November 2 meeting before making its final recommendations to Council. The full Council will look to vote to advertise the budget at its November 21 meeting, with final adoption expected at the December 19 Council meeting.

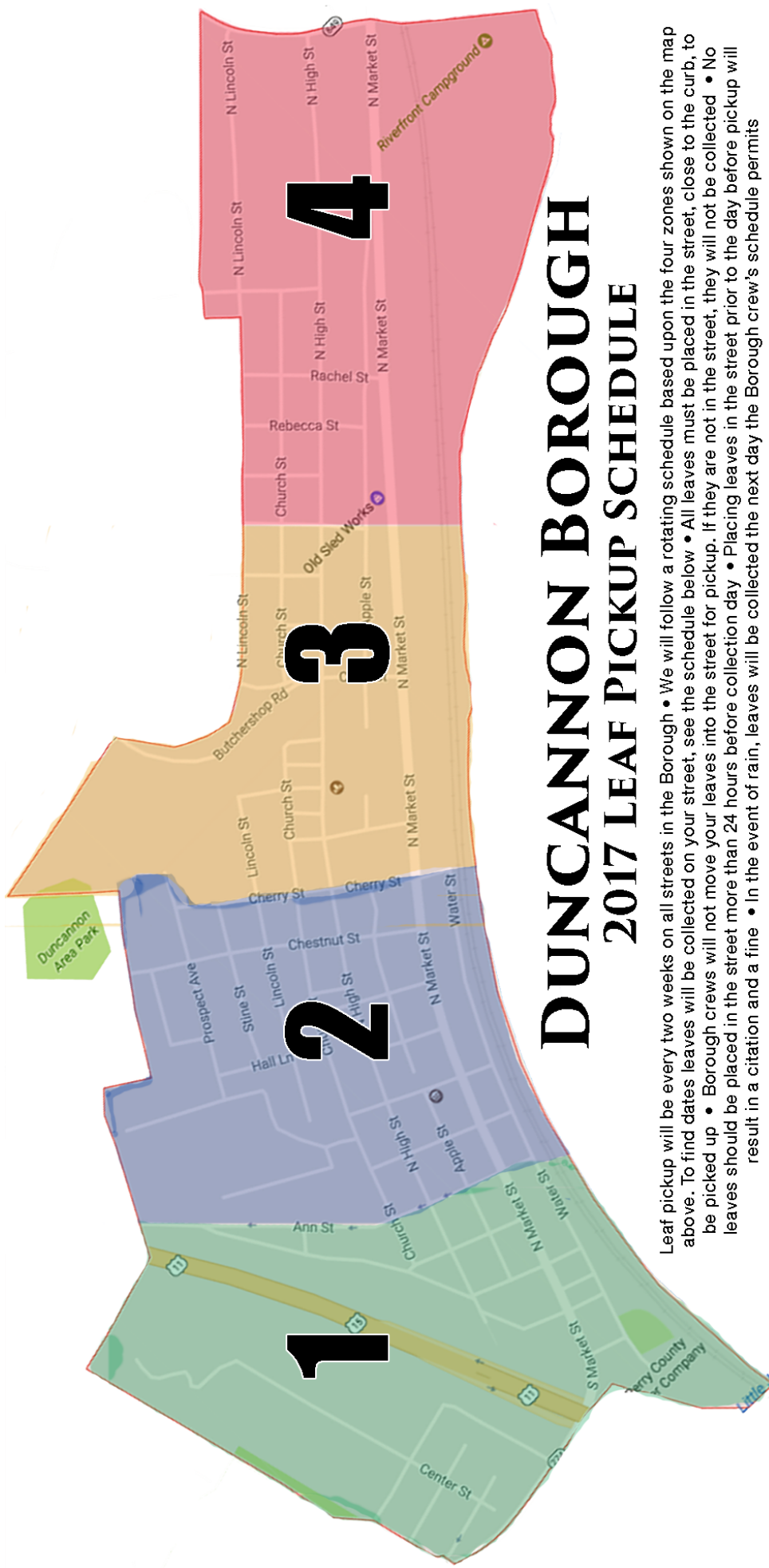
STREETS, from page 3

every dollar spent on sealcoating and maintenance can save \$12 in future construction costs.

The hope is that by establishing a long-term plan, which will be updated each year, once the Borough's streets are all in good shape it will be easier,

and more affordable, to keep them in good shape.

In addition to Highway Aid funding, the plan will also look at alternative funding possibilities, such as grants and low-interest loans, for projects which may be eligible.



DUNCANNON BOROUGH

2017 LEAF PICKUP SCHEDULE

Leaf pickup will be every two weeks on all streets in the Borough • We will follow a rotating schedule based upon the four zones shown on the map above. To find dates leaves will be collected on your street, see the schedule below • All leaves must be placed in the street, close to the curb, to be picked up • Borough crews will not move your leaves into the street for pickup. If they are not in the street, they will not be collected • No leaves should be placed in the street more than 24 hours before collection day • Placing leaves in the street prior to the day before pickup will result in a citation and a fine • In the event of rain, leaves will be collected the next day the Borough crew's schedule permits

ZONE 1

Carvers Hill to
odd side of Ann St.

Tuesdays
Oct. 10
Oct. 24
Nov. 7
Nov. 21
Dec. 5

ZONE 2

Even side of Ann St. to
odd side of Cherry St.

Thursdays
Oct. 12
Oct. 26
Nov. 9
Nov. 20 (Monday)
Dec. 7

ZONE 3

Even side of Cherry St. to
odd side of Susan St.

Tuesdays
Oct. 17
Oct. 31
Nov. 14
Nov. 28
Dec. 12

ZONE 4

Even side of Susan St. to
Route 849.

Thursdays
Oct. 19
Nov. 2
Nov. 16
Nov. 30
Dec. 14