

Authority Times

News and Information for Customers
of the Borough of Conshohocken Authority

Volume VIII Issue 1
Summer 2021



Outdoor Water Saving Tips

Looking to conserve water this summer? Here are some tips that can help:

- Water lawn 1 - 2 days a week instead of 5 days a week can save 840 gallons per week.
- If you have a sprinkler system, be sure to check it for leaks, over spray and broken sprinkler heads and repair if needed. Doing so could save 500 gallons of water per month.
- Using a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks will save 150 gallons

each time.

- Installing a smart sprinkler controller that adjusts watering based on weather, soil type, amount of shade and plant type will save 40 gallons per day.
- Watering plants in the early morning or evening reduces evaporation and ineffective watering due to wind and saves 25 gallons each time.
- Using organic mulch around plants reduces evaporation and saves hundreds of gallons a year.

Why You Should Call Before You Start Digging

When you see our operators spray painting these marks on the streets, do you know what they are doing? They are locating and marking our sanitary sewer pipes because someone plans on digging in that area. Locating and marking sewer pipes greatly reduces the risk of damage to underground utilities. Examples of such utilities that may run beneath your property are electric, gas, water, cable TV/Data and telephone. You may have seen signs or stickers on construction and municipal vehicles that read "Call Before You Dig" and "811." These are lawful requirements under PA Act 287, also

known as the Underground Utility Line Protection Law.

PA One Call is just what it implies, you make one call to notify all utility owners in your area. If you are planting a tree in your yard, you are required to call 811 and submit a web ticket request with the assistance of their telephone representatives. That one call generates email notices to every utility owner in your area, notifying them that you will be digging and that they are required to mark their utilities that are within the worksite described on the ticket.

(Continued on Back Page)

BOARD MEMBERS

JANENE REILLY
Chair

CAROL SMITH
Vice Chair

FELIX RAIMONDO
Secretary

KYLE ELLIOTT
Treasurer

JANE FLANAGAN
Board Member

MEETINGS

July 27

August 24

September 28

October 26

November 23

December 21

**Meetings are held in
the Authority office:
601 East Elm St.
Conshohocken**

Meeting time 6:30 pm

Call Before You Start Digging

(Continued From Front Page)

Once a web ticket is dispatched, the utility owner has 3 business days to respond. In the event of an emergency call, they have only 2 hours to respond. The markings on the street are very specific and are meant to communicate with the digger, where they need to use additional caution. In our case, sanitary sewer pipes must be marked with green paint or green flags when marking over softer surfaces. Each utility is assigned a color to tell the digger what exactly is below the ground. The sample picture illustrates marking most often used in Conshohocken. The number indicates the diameter of the pipe below, which in Conshohocken, ranges from 6" to 30." The top letters indicate what material the pipe is made from. VCP stands for Vitrified Clay Pipe and is what most sewer mains in Conshohocken are made of. The bottom letters tell the digger who the utility belongs to. BCA is Borough of Conshohocken Authority.



Many considerations must be taken when marking PA one calls. Safety is an important concern since most of our markings are on streets. Some roads require additional operators to watch traffic for the marker. Another

important aspect in marking utilities is accuracy. Accurate markings, along with thorough documentation protects the utility owner from being responsible for damages to their facilities caused during the excavation.

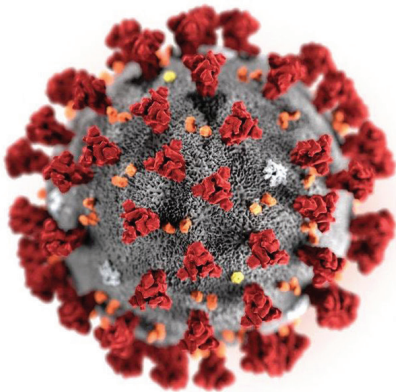
Authority Welcomes Summer Intern

The Borough of Conshohocken Authority has awarded the 2021 Summer Internship to Brian Longo. A graduate of the Souderton Area Senior High School, Mr. Longo is currently a junior at Drexel University majoring in Environmental Studies and Sustainability. Brian has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Some of his activities include volunteering for the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, Nature Conservancy, and the Salvation Army Learning Zone.

COVID-19 No Flush List

More time at home sometimes means more “bad” items disposed of down the toilet

Remember: Do Not Flush



- Baby Wipes
- Pesticides
- Tampons
- Diapers
- Paint
- Metal or Plastic
- Fat, Grease, Oil
- Paper towels
- Pharmaceuticals
- Cat litter

Authority to Resume Liens for Delinquent Accounts

During the pandemic, the Authority instituted a moratorium on placing liens on properties with past due accounts. Beginning with the September 2021 billing, the Authority will resume the lien process for overdue accounts.

If you are having difficulty paying your bill, please call the Authority at (610) 828-0979 to set up a payment plan.

Here is how the lien process works:

- Bills are due 30 days after the bill date

- Account holders with balances over \$250 will receive a 30-day lien letter if property has not already had a lien placed against it.

- Liens are implemented for every balance of \$250 or more in \$250 increments.