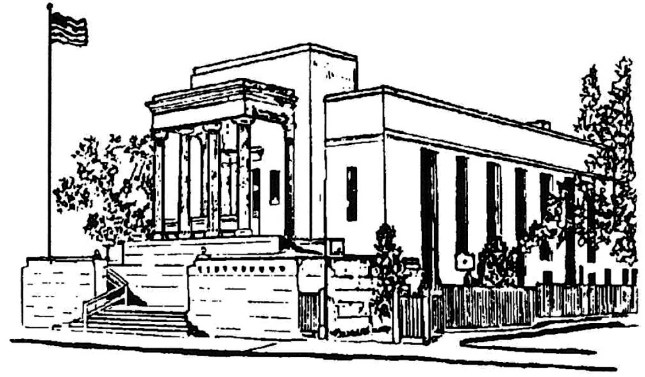


Marcus Hook News



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THE MARY M. CAMPBELL MARCUS HOOK PUBLIC LIBRARY HAS REOPENED AND CELEBRATED 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Mary M. Campbell Library is now OPEN! It had been closed for renovations for the past year. On October 21, 2023 the Library celebrated 100 years of service to the community. The Library was started in 1923 by Mabel Talley, a Marcus Hook resident who also founded the Marcus Hook Century Club. She was also responsible for establishing a baby clinic and a playground. Under the combined efforts of Mabel, the Century Club, local businesses, and citizens of the Borough, the library was first opened on October 2, 1923, when 112 people applied for library cards. The Library is named in honor of Mary M. Campbell, the first secretary of the library board and also the secretary of the local school board at the time.

In addition to new lighting and bathrooms, a children's library was included in the renovations. The children's library is in the space where the former Council meeting room was located. The Library has programs for all ages including a 4H Club, crafts, Lego club, scavenger hunts, reading challenges, and STEM programs, along with monthly drawing workshops, watercolor, card making, painting workshops and grab and go kits. Also offered are Mobile-Wi-Fi, DVD's, and passes to places such as the Tyler Arboretum, Brandywine Zoo, and the Colonial Planation. The Library is part of the Delaware County Library System where books and other items checked out can be returned to any library in the county.

The 100 years of service was celebrated with cake, food, drinks, crafts and music. Vincent and Joanne Pierdomenico, owners of "Keep Music Alive," (www.KeepMusicAlive.org) brought an array of instruments to share, and art instructor Kay Rzucidlo taught the art of card making.

Stop by the Mary M. Campbell Library today and sign up for your free Library Card. The Library is located at 1015 Green Street, 2nd Floor.



Photos L to R: Circulation Assistant, Deborah Brown (left) and Library Director Tianjia Wang (right). Local children sharing the "Keep Music Alive" instruments. Residents and Library staff enjoying the centennial celebration.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We hope your holidays are filled with joy as we approach the New Year together. We greatly appreciate you, our residents and local businesses, who are dedicated to making our community better for everyone! Our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones for a happy, healthy, and successful 2024.

Sincerely,

Mayor Gene Taylor, Borough Council, and Staff of Marcus Hook Borough

MARCUS HOOK BOROUGH'S FIRST FEMALE FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER

The Marcus Hook Police Department and the Borough of Marcus Hook would like to congratulate Officer Claire Burkert on becoming the first full time female Police Officer in the 131 year history of the Borough. On November 6, 2023, Borough Council voted to promote Patrolman Burkert to the rank of Patrolman First Class, promoting her to the status of "Full time Police Officer" from Part-time.



Patrolman First Class, Officer Claire Burkert

Officer Burkert grew up in Mohrsville, PA, Berks County. She is a graduate of Schuylkill Valley High school and Widener University. From Widener she earned a Bachelors' of Science in Criminal Justice with a minor in Computer Forensics in 2020. Officer Burkert started her career with the Marcus Hook Police Department in February of 2022.

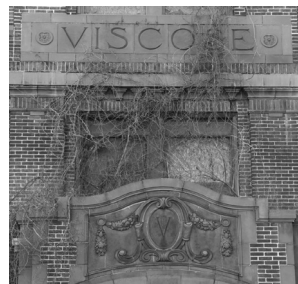


Officer Burkert is thrilled to have this opportunity and is excited to begin her full time career with Marcus Hook Borough. Her goal is to one day become a detective within the department. She is delighted to form new relationships, and make current relationships stronger within the community.

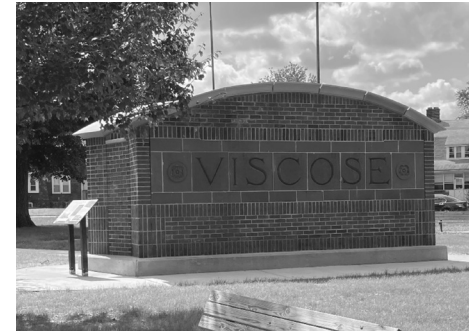
Left: Officer Claire Burkert (center), and family. Right: Officer Claire Burkert getting sworn in as Marcus Hook's first female officer by Magisterial District Judge David Griffin. Her sister is holding the Bible.



THE VISCOSE MEMORIAL AT HAEBEL PLAZA



As part of the review process for the redevelopment of the former FMC/Viscose site, Borough Council asked the developer to come up with a plan to salvage the two sign markings on the middle of the three buildings that fronted on 10th Street. The developer Duke Realty, now Prologis, agreed to salvage these unique identifying elements of the building to commemorate the previous use of the site. A plan was prepared that repurposed the two signs as part of a 'V' shaped memorial that would be located within Robert E. Haebel Plaza.



The two signs were delicately extracted from the front of the building during the demolition process. One sign was the panel above the door with the "V" and medallion, and the other the "VISCOSE" panel at the base of the 3rd floor.

It was determined that the commemoration of the American Viscose Company should stand alone and placed at a location that is accessible and easily viewed. The location in the park and adjacent to 10th Street was deemed preferable due to the direct connection to the former industrial site and Viscose Village (Viscose Village was constructed in 1912-15 to house the workers at the first artificial fiber manufacturing facility in North America, the American Viscose Company Artificial Silk [Rayon] Mill). The Viscose memorial can be seen by motorists driving west into town and is also the entrance into Viscose Village. The medallion panel faces west. The existing historical sign in the park was relocated to the front of the new memorial pulling everything together by providing the history of the "Factory and the Village."

The historic roadside marker at the park was provided by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and dedicated on October 5, 2002. It reads as follows:

American Viscose Company: The first company in North America to successfully manufacture an artificial fiber (rayon). Plant employees, many of whom were women, lived in Viscose Village, a planned community built in 1912-1915 designed by Ballinger & Perrot of Philadelphia in the English Domestic Revival style. The Marcus Hook plant contributed significantly to the country's defense in both World Wars – supplying fiber for many military applications.

Major General Haebel summed it up in his remarks on May 23, 1987 on the occasion of the park being named in his honor. He said "Marcus Hook is a town that remembers its past – while at the same time celebrating its future."

MARCUS HOOK RECREATION TABLE AND TREAT

The Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board hosted a "Table and Treat" event for Halloween at Market Square Memorial Park on Sunday, October 29, 2023, with a large turnout of over 300 attendees. Participating were local businesses, the Marcus Hook Police Department, Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department, Borough Council, municipal employees, churches, and residents, each hosting a table and handing out candy, toys and goodie bags. A huge thank you to all who contributed to the success of this program.

If you would like to get involved with the Marcus Hook Recreation and Park Board, and would like to stay up to date and informed of Marcus Hook recreation events, please send an email to MHRecBoardEvents@yahoo.com and join the mailing list.



Left: Pictured Left to Right- Josephine Laird, Larry Killinen, Joe Flynn, Janette Weigand, Cheryl Everngham, Michael Manerchia, and Bill Cox.



Right: The Yates Family

MARCUS HOOK BOROUGH PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN

On August 7, 2023 Borough Council adopted the newly published Marcus Hook Borough Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan (the Plan). The Plan is intended to be a “user’s guide” to the park and recreation system of Marcus Hook Borough. This Plan identifies the proposed enhancements to several existing and popular parks that have served the Borough for many years. Also included are insights regarding proposed enhancements of park programs, as well as park system administration and management.

Borough Council selected the firm of Thomas Comitta Associate to prepare the plan. Marcus Hook was awarded a maximum grant in the amount of \$42,750 from the second round of the Delaware County Green Ways Municipal Grant Program to cover the full cost of the plan.

A study committee was selected by Borough Council to work cooperatively with the project consultant. The Study Committee was comprised of persons who are knowledgeable about the parks in the Borough, as well as park programs. The Study Committee met eight times over the course of ten months to discuss and evaluate what might be achievable in our small Borough of 704.4 acres (or 1.1 square miles). Our thanks to the following Study Committee members who gave of their time on this project: Joe Flynn, Bill Cox, Gail LaValle, Trish Hoffman, Ginny Hughes, and John Ireland.

Community outreach included two public meetings held on March 13 and June 12, and Key Person interviews. The ideas advanced by the Key Persons were meant to “fill the gaps” relative to needed facilities and programs. The

insights regarding future improvements to the Borough’s park system were provided by a cross-section of community partners including a representative of the Chichester School Board, Marcus Hook Elementary School principal and students, the Librarian at the Mary M. Campbell Marcus Hook Public Library, the Marcus Hook Borough Police, the Code Enforcement office, the Fire Chief, the business community, and the faith based community. Common to all the views that were expressed during the interviews was an appreciation of how the Marcus Hook Borough park system contributes to the sense of place and quality of life in the Borough.

The Plan provides cost information on the funding needed to accomplish the vision for the improvement to the park system. The Plan will be used as the foundation for Federal, State, and County grant programs in order to apply for funding for park expansion and needed park improvements and enhancements.

The recommendations presented cover some of the following areas: park lands and facilities, open space and natural resource conservation, a five-year capital improvement program, street tree planting and maintenance, projected park maintenance needs, operating funds and revenue sources for the parks, recreation, and open space budget, the municipality’s role in the provision of recreation programs and services, and a five-year action plan.

The Plan can be viewed on the Marcus Hook Borough web site at www.marcushookboro.org.

EARNED INCOME TAX REMINDER: FILE YOUR LOCAL TAX RETURN ONLINE

Tax season is quickly approaching. Keystone Collections Group is the local earned income tax collector for Marcus Hook Borough. Local earned income tax is an annual charge levied on all earned income and wages. Take advantage of the easy, user-friendly online filing using a computer or mobile device. Consider filing your local tax return online.

For resident taxpayers, file online at efile.KeystoneCollects.com. You only need to provide a minimal amount of information, such as your wages, earnings, local tax withholding and where you lived during the year. E-file may improve your filing accuracy with online calculations and is modeled after state and federal filing systems, creating a familiar process for taxpayers.

For businesses and employers, take advantage of online filing using Keystone’s Business Portal business.KeystoneCollects.com

Taxpayers should expect to receive W-2s and tax documents in early 2024. In addition, residents who failed to file a 2022 local earned income tax return and/or pay their taxes will receive notices and tax forms by mail.

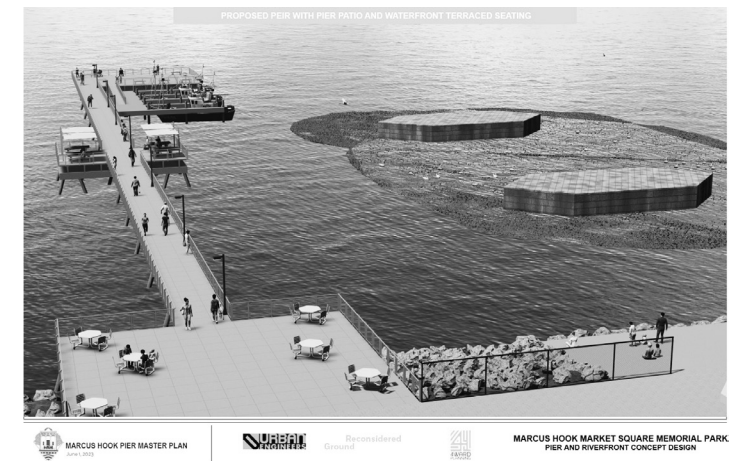
To file online, make quarterly earned income tax payments, ask a question 24/7, find answers to your questions, or download tax forms, visit KeystoneCollects.com.

MARKET SQUARE MEMORIAL PARK DELAWARE RIVER PIER REMOVAL AND RECONSTRUCTION MASTER PLAN

Borough Council determined a Master Plan for a new river pier is necessary to guide the future development of this resource. In 2020 it was established that the pier was in such a deteriorated state that it was unsafe to be occupied by the general public and thereby closed while the Borough decided what the next steps for the future of the waterfront and the pier could be.

Borough Council proceeded to commission the firm of Urban Engineers to prepare the Pier Master Plan. The Plan was prepared by a team of professionals, including engineers, planners, and designers with experience in pier design and operations, enterprise facility planning, and riverfront revitalization.

Funding for the Pier Master Plan comes from two sources: the federal Coastal Zone Management Program as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the Keystone, Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Grant funds from these two programs cover the contract price of \$82,400.



The Plan considered a regional view along with a look at the immediate area and focuses on the projected use of a river pier to establish what is possible at this location. The Plan will serve as a guide for pier removal and construction permitting, construction, orderly and planned development, use, operations, and management.

A strong public participation component was built into the study process. Borough Council selected a representative and diverse study committee comprised of interested parties from the community. The Study Committee members were Joe Flynn, Michael Manerchia, John Ireland, Gail LaVallee, Joey Smith, Peter Lacy and Joseph Massaro. Meetings were held to gather input from the members to provide guidance and review of the work. Two Community Meetings were held: December 7, 2022 and June 1, 2023. Key Person interviews were conducted with select individuals designated by the Borough as persons who frequently use the pier or may have an interest in the features of a new pier.

Based on the feedback from the various meetings with stakeholders and the research and expertise of the consultant team, the following items emerged as key site considerations which are

presented in the master plan report and pier and riverfront concept plans:

1. Provide direct visual connection to the Pier from Market Street and Delaware Avenue.
2. Family friendly features for residents and visitors with young children at the pier and park / community center.
3. Amenities on shore close to the pier that invite residents and visitors to stay for a while.
4. Additional space to host events at the pier.
5. A new modern pier that is durable and requires minimal maintenance.
6. A wider pier for more space for visitors and emergency vehicle access.
7. Allow for alternate seating in shaded areas on the pier.
8. Wider area on out shore platform.
9. Floating dock and slips for Coast Guard Auxiliary.
10. Modern fishing facilities: cleaning station with water, fishing line recycling, shaded seating, handicapped accessible railing panels, lighting, and flexible and permanent seating.

The Plan includes a cost estimate for the construction of the elements discussed throughout the report as shown on plans and renderings. This vision for the waterfront will not come cheap. Funding for the improvements will likely be a long-term effort. There is precedent for similar project in the state which have been financed through fundraising, grants, and donations. Funds can come from a variety of sources including many federal and state run programs that promote public access to park areas and specifically in this case, the waterfront. A summary of costs as described and depicted in the Master Plan follows:

- Pier Structure (12-ft. walkway) - \$6,105,000
- Floating Dock and Associated Dredging - \$1,013,000
- Ice Breaker Improvements - \$2,192,000
- Landside Improvements - \$1,626,000

It would be foolhardy to say this is not a reach for a small community like Marcus Hook to accomplish. Nonetheless, the Plan shows what is possible at this location. Marcus Hook’s location on the Delaware River allows for opportunities and a vision. It will take perseverance, determination, and funding brinksmanship to bring this Plan to reality.

The first step would be to raise funds necessary to develop the design and permitting requirements for the pier structure so plans can be prepared, and more refined cost can be established. A project that has plans and permits prepared is more likely to receive funding support if they are “shovel ready.” Once the pier is under construction it will likely be easier to secure additional funding for the remaining improvements since the pier will be the focal point of the site upgrades around the pier.

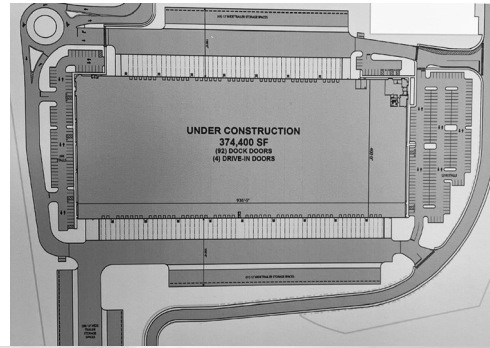
The pride of the Borough’s park system is Market Square Memorial Park, located at the foot of Market Street at the Delaware River. This facility has grown from less than ½ acre to its present size of 6 acres. The purpose of the Pier Removal and Reconstruction Master Plan is to develop this popular park to its full potential, creating an area that generates greater interest and activity than at present.

PROLOGIS DISTRIBUTION/LOGISTICS FACILITY NEARING COMPLETION

The Prologis team has been hard at work to complete the final phase of its new commercial development project in Marcus Hook Borough. Prologis is a leader in logistics real estate and sustainable development. Their facilities help move and deliver the products we use every day, such as food, medicine, clothing and more. The company has been part of the Pennsylvania community for over 10 years.

The overall construction process at the site is an extensive undertaking, which included the demolition of seven buildings and the excavation of over 3,500 linear feet of underground tunnels. Most of the concrete discovered in the tunnels and demolished buildings was able to be tested and reused onsite, in lieu of importing and using net new materials.

Once complete, the development will feature a 374,000-square-foot modern and sustainable logistics facility. Additionally, this project will create new jobs. Prologis has also enhanced the property with new landscaping along with other upgrades such as new curbs and sidewalks, and LED street and parking lot lighting. A memorial to the previous Viscose factory has been built and dedicated to the community in the public area across from the new facility. Prologis and Marcus Hook Borough officials have worked closely since the start of this project, which will bring good jobs to the community and support the local economy and businesses operating in the Borough.



Picture taken on December 5, 2023

The development is on track to be completed in March of 2024! To date no tenant(s) have been identified.

WINTER REMINDERS AND SAFETY TIPS:

Sidewalk Snow and Ice Removal

Residents are reminded that Borough Ordinance No. 619, requires that you remove snow/ice/slush from sidewalks within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of a storm. We understand that storms create a hardship for all and we ask that property owners do their best to clear a path so that pedestrians and school children are safe. We ask that you place the snow back on your lawn, or alongside the cleared pathway on the curbside of the sidewalk. Do not shovel snow or ice back into the street or storm drains. The Borough will enforce the ordinance and we ask all to comply.

We ask that you also clear snow from around fire hydrants. That way it can be identified and reached in an emergency. It is also a good idea to clear snow from around your gas meter. Heavy or packed snow on a natural gas meter could temporarily stop the flow of natural gas and create a hazard.

Take care to not overexert when shoveling snow. Take frequent breaks and drink plenty of fluids. Bend from the knees, not your back, to prevent back injury, and be sure not to overload your shovel. Try to push snow instead of lifting it.

Plows may throw snow back into areas that have been previously shoveled as crews attempt to widen travel lanes during snow storms. Be prepared to shovel after the plow passes as waiting may allow the snow to turn to ice making it difficult to remove.

Obstructions in the Street

Borough residents are prohibited from using chairs or other objects to reserve curbside parking spaces before or after a snow storm.

Check on your Neighbors

We ask that you help your neighbors and that all residents check on seniors who may be stranded in their homes during severe weather. Although we don't know how much snow we will get this winter, we do know that each person's job of clearing their walks and/or driveways is always easier when neighbors pitch in to help. It is also a good idea to be mindful of residents for whom snow removal is a harder job, such as the elderly, those with disabilities, and residents who live on corners.

Home Preparation and Safety

Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking and weather stripping. In below freezing temperatures, run water at a trickle to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups. Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Portable heaters could become a common source of fire during the winter months. Keep all combustibles at least 3 feet from the heater. Do not use any cooking devices to heat your home.

And remember Spring is right around the corner!

DELAWARE COUNTY'S COLD WEATHER PLAN

Multiple agencies are prepared to assist residents in winter weather conditions...

Delaware County Council reminds residents that various County agencies offer additional support and resources to the homeless, elderly, and vulnerable residents when harsh cold, snow, and freezing conditions take place during the winter season. When weather conditions pose a threat to individuals who are homeless, elderly, or medically fragile, a network of agencies works to help residents obtain shelter, food, and assistance. Several County agencies are prepared to help residents cope with extreme weather conditions, from sheltering the homeless to reaching out to the elderly. Council reminds residents about these services should they need assistance or if they know of someone who needs help. The following Delaware County agencies assist people year-round and also during extreme weather conditions:

The Delaware County Department of Human Services, Adult and Family Services

This department partners with various agencies to offer additional services through the Homeless Services Coalition of Delaware County, a group of 90 individuals and organizations dedicated to providing services to the homeless. They also publish the printable Resource Guide to Homeless Services which details a variety of services including shelters, housing, meals, treatment programs, and government services, which can be found on their website.

Homeless Services Coalition of Delaware County:

<http://delcophomelesservices.org>

Human Services website:

<http://www.delcophsa.org/adultfamily.html>

Human Services phone: (610) 713-2365

The County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA)

COSA extends outreach to senior citizens, including having case managers check on seniors who may be vulnerable. Tips on how to stay warm and safe during the winter are available on informational COSA Weatherline at (610) 872-1558.

COSAS website: www.delcosa.org

COSA phone: (610) 490-1300

Community Action Agency of Delaware County

CAADC is the county's anti-poverty agency and can assist residents with obtaining shelter and meals.

CAADC website: www.caadc.org

CAADC phone: (610) 874-8451

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) / PECO

LIHEAP helps low-income families pay their heating bills. PECO also offers programs for people experiencing hardship, a low-income usage reduction program, and discounted rates for low-income families.

LIHEAP website:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHEAP.aspx>

LIHEAP phone: 1-866-857-7095

If hearing impaired call 711

PECO website: www.peco.com

PECO phone: 1-800-494-4000

During cold weather, outreach teams and local authorities can take homeless adults to emergency shelter programs, which are operated by the Salvation Army (Chester Corps), Breaking Bread Community, and the Life Center of Eastern Delaware County.

Salvation Army, Chester Corps:

151 W. 15th St., Chester, (610) 874-0423

Life Center of Eastern Delaware County:

6310 Market St., Upper Darby, (610) 734-5770

Breaking Bread Community:

107 Long Lane, Upper Darby, (484) 462-0135,

Outreach Team: (267) 671-4357

The County's 2022/2023 Cold Weather Plan can be found at <https://delcopa.gov/pdf/ColdWeatherPlan23-24.pdf>

Residents are encouraged to register for the DelcoAlert notification system which alerts residents of weather emergencies such as road closures, power outages, and other extreme weather situations.

Register for Delco Alert at www.delcopa.gov/delcoalert/delcoalert.html

2024 BOROUGH MEETING SCHEDULE

Agenda Meetings are held monthly at 6:00 PM, on the Tuesday preceding each regular monthly meeting with the exception of Monday, June 24, Monday, July 29, and Tuesday, December 17 at the Municipal Building, located at 1111 Market Street.

Council Meetings are held monthly at 7:00 PM, on the following dates: January 2, February 5, March 4, April 2, May 6, June 6, July 1, August 5, September 3, October 7, November 4, and December 2, at the Municipal Building, located at 1111 Market Street.

Mary M. Campbell Library Board meets bimonthly on the second Tuesday in January, March, May, July, September and November at 7:00 PM. The Library Board meetings are held via Zoom.

Recreation and Park Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month.

Marcus Hook Senior Citizens meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 12:00 PM. If you are interested in joining the Marcus Hook Senior Citizens, you can either attend a meeting or contact Larry Killinen, Senior Citizens President for more information.

Marcus Hook Preservation Society meets on the 2nd Monday of every month.

The Marcus Hook News is the official publication of the Mayor and Borough Council. The Newsletter is delivered to Borough residents as a public service in the belief that an informed citizenry makes for a better community.



Information concerning this publication may be obtained by calling the Municipal Building at 610-485-1341.

Email: office@marcushookboro.org

MAYOR

Gene Taylor

BOROUGH COUNCIL

- Josephine Laird, *President*
- Cheryl Everngham, *Vice President*
- William Cox
- Joseph Flynn
- John Johnson
- Larry Killinen
- Michael Manerchia

BOROUGH MANAGER

Deborah Hurst

BOROUGH OF MARCUS HOOK 2024 TRASH COLLECTION CALENDAR

January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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														31						

April							May							June						
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July							August							September						
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28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

October							November							December						
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	H	29	30	29	30	31				

HOLIDAYS

JAN	1	New Year's Day
JAN	15	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FEB	19	Presidents Day
MAR	31	Easter
MAY	27	Memorial Day
JUN	19	Juneteenth
JUL	4	Independence Day
SEP	2	Labor Day
OCT	14	Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day
NOV	5	Election Day
NOV	11	Veterans Day
NOV	28	Thanksgiving Day
DEC	25	Christmas Day

ALL TRASH MUST BE IN A BAG INSIDE OF A CAN WITH A LID AND PLACED CURBSIDE TO BE COLLECTED.

Trash will be collected every Tuesday- highlighted in GREY.

Bulk Trash items are collected every Wednesday. Bulk Trash Forms can be found on the website or at 1111 Market Street. A fee of \$10 per item is charged for most items.

Christmas Trees are collected by the Borough every Tuesday and Wednesday in January. Trees must be free of lights/ decorations and placed curbside.

The Marcus Hook Recycling Drop- Off Center

Located at 1111 Market Street, Marcus Hook, PA. We accept Plastics, Glass, Paper and Newspaper and Televisions.

Shredding and Recycling Events are held twice a year, in May and October. More information can be found on the Borough website at www.marcushookboro.org

STAY INFORMED IN MARCUS HOOK

Borough of Marcus Hook Website: www.marcushookboro.org

Like us on Facebook!

Borough of Marcus Hook – <https://facebook.com/MarcusHookBoro>

Marcus Hook Police Department – <https://facebook.com/marcushookpd>

Marcus Hook Trainer Fire Department – <https://facebook.com/MarcusHookTrainerFireDepartment>

Marcus Hook Recreation Board – <https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087006985624>

Mary M. Campbell Library – <https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067680924763>



CodeRed, Stay Informed

If you wish to be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts, register for Code Red. Examples include: evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports. Please visit our borough website www.marcushookboro.org or <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BFC1BF4C3251> to register.