



Borough of Chambersburg

A full service municipality in Franklin County celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service over 120 years of community electric and a regional wastewater, water, storm sewer and municipal solid waste utility

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chambersburg to Begin Installation of New Playground Equipment

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania – On March 26, 2018, Council approved the purchase of almost \$400,000 in new playground equipment for seven playgrounds in six parks throughout the Borough of Chambersburg.

The funding to pay for this significant improvement to neighborhood parks all over the Borough was the 2016 Recreation Bond, the same source of funding as the current construction of the Chambersburg Aquatic Center and the upcoming build-out at Nicholson Square Park.

According to Julie Redding of the Chambersburg Recreation Department, every park with existing playground equipment, except Mill Creek Acres Park, will see equipment upgraded in 2018. This includes: Mike Waters Memorial Park, Reservoir Hill Park, Memorial Park (which has two playgrounds), Henninger Field Park, Fourth Street Park, and Chambers Park (which is on Orchard Drive).

The playground design for Reservoir Hill will be discussed further at an upcoming Town Council meeting due to concerns over a tree that was originally slated for removal, which unfortunately sits in the middle of the playground.

In the meantime, the contractor for the project, General Recreation, Inc., of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, indicated that they are ready to begin staging and installing the newly acquired equipment in the other playgrounds.

The first playground to get an upgrade will be the Memorial Park main playground, one of two in the facility. The main playground is designated with play equipment for children age 5-12. A second, “tot lot”, with equipment for children age 2-5, will come later in the process.

Each playground will be closed about two weeks (weather dependent) as the contractor swaps new equipment for old equipment. Obviously, during the work, parents should utilize play areas in other Borough playgrounds.

It is estimated work will begin on the Memorial Park main playground on May 14 and proceed for about two weeks at that location.

Then, installers will move on to the Memorial Park “tot lot”, for about two weeks; and so on as they move from playground to playground.

Obviously, staff appreciates the inconvenience this may cause, but in the end there will be many happy kids as they play on upgraded and safe code-compliant playground equipment.

Also, please note that the new Chambersburg Aquatic Center is slated to open to the public on May 26, 2018 (weather dependent); and there will be more details on this event upcoming.

If you have any questions about the playground equipment project please email Julie Redding, Chambersburg Recreation Department, at jredding@chambersburgpa.gov or by phone at 717-261-3275.

Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania's only municipality supplying electric and gas. Chambersburg is 1 of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is 1 of 2 municipalities in PA to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is 1 of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and 1 of 800 communities to have a natural gas system but 1 of only about 50 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater.

Chambersburg currently has 20,508 residents (2013). www.chambersburgpa.gov