

State Representative | 115th Legislative District

Maureen E. Madden

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REPRESENTATIVE MADDEN RENEWS COMMITMENT TO SERVE MONROE COUNTY



State Representative Maureen Madden was honored to be sworn in for a fifth term on January 7th, 2025.

“This 2025-2026 Legislative Session, I am thrilled to be appointed the Majority Chair of the Pennsylvania House Aging and Older Adults Committee. I am deeply grateful for the trust, support, and privilege of continuing to serve the people of Monroe County,” Madden said. “The opportunity I have to diligently strive for Monroe County is one I hold with the utmost respect and dedication. Thank you for allowing me to continue representing you and thank for you believing in our shared vision for a brighter future.”



LOCAL GRANT AWARDS

Vital Upgrades to Fork Street

Representative Madden is excited to announce Mount Pocono Borough has been awarded \$200,000 to use toward improvements to Fork Street. The grant will be used to address the progressive deterioration resulting from the street’s current usage. The new improvements include:

- Building new sidewalks on both sides of the street, designed with ADA-compliant ramps.
- Reducing the street to a single lane, improving traffic flow.
- Converting the street parking to parallel parking.
- Introducing a bus turnout lane to reduce congestion and increase the efficiency of public transportation.
- Installing street lighting to improve nighttime visibility for pedestrians and drivers.
- Upgrading stormwater drainage to mitigate flooding risks and optimize runoff management.

Together, these enhancements create a safer roadway that better serves the public and transportation services. The total project cost is \$1.9 million, and a \$646,027 PennDOT multimodal grant has already been secured.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle... Drop-off Center in Coolbaugh Township

The Monroe County Industrial Development Authority was awarded \$255,000 for the Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority’s construction of a residential recycling drop-off center located in Coolbaugh Township. Once developed, the property will be situated on land owned by the Waste Authority within the Pocono Mountains Corporate Center South in Coolbaugh Township. The drop-off center will allow Monroe County residents to bring their recyclables and household hazardous waste such as oil, antifreeze, and oil-based paints – items regularly left around homes or illegally dumped, contributing to environmental contamination. This, historically, has not been an option unless the Waste Authority held a collection event.

Representative Madden is hopeful about this upcoming addition to Coolbaugh Township. As a legislator with a 100% Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard, she supports initiatives such as this that move toward protecting the environment and preserving the natural resources of the Poconos.





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2025 ICE HARVEST AT THE TOBYHANNA MILLPOND

For the first time since 2022, the weather cooperated enough for Tobyhanna to enjoy its Annual Ice Harvest Festival. Coolbaugh Township Historical Association hosts this free event to educate the community and involve them in traditions long past. After a hearty breakfast served by VFW Post 509, Boy Scouts from Troop 71, from Doylestown, took a crack at sawing through 13 inches of clear ice, with a Gifford Wood ice saw from 1922. Two-hundred-pound ice cakes emerged from the pond, up a ramp, and into the icehouse with the help of two sturdy Norwegian Fjord horses, Reggie and Guerilla. Ice Harvest tools, artifacts, and local history of the ice industry were proudly displayed at the Historical Association's Wills Mansion Museum, located just over a mile from the icehouse on Route 611 at the Coolbaugh Township Municipal Complex.

Participating in the unique heritage of the area brings everyone a sense of belonging. Thank you to Bill Leonard and The Coolbaugh Township Historical Association for their efforts in maintaining this heartfelt tradition.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS WAREHOUSE IMPACTS

In recent months, local communities have witnessed renewed proposals for warehouses by developers. Representative Madden has attended these meetings along with community members to voice concerns about unavoidable issues such as traffic, infrastructure deterioration, pollution, reduction in open space, impact on wildlife, and overall decreased quality of life for residents.

In the near future, Representative Madden will be introducing legislation in Harrisburg to empower host and neighboring municipalities. The bill would allow municipalities to require developers to provide detailed analyses of the impacts of the development and to address them, including the costs, if approved. This bill would not require developers to conduct an impact analysis or that the host municipality use the analysis in their decision-making, but it would give those who could be impacted by development the opportunity and tools to have their voices heard.

To stay informed on the bill's progress, please contact Madden's office or visit www.legis.state.pa.us.

NEW YEAR, NEW LEGISLATIVE OFFICES!

Representative Madden is thrilled to announce the opening of two new district offices in Pocono and Coolbaugh Townships to better serve the community!

Main District Office

Location:
Fountain Springs East Plaza
2959 Route 611, Suite 105, Tannersville
Hours:
Monday to Friday, 9 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Satellite Office

Location:
Coolbaugh Township Municipal Complex
5580 Memorial Blvd., Tobyhanna
Hours:
Thursday & Friday, 9 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Here to help!

- 2024 Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications – NOW OPEN!
- Unemployment compensation matters
- Department of Human Services programs
- Unclaimed property
- Birth certificate and other vital records requests
- Car registrations, titles, and license applications

Any other state-government matters!

Feel free to reach out to the office at (570) 894-7905.

STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Representative Madden would like to thank her dedicated staff, Ariana Rivera, Latisha Griffith, Elyse Nehring, Sonia Kabuiku, and Tom Andrews for their work and collaboration on this newsletter.