



COMMITTEE and CAUCUS ASSIGNMENTS

- Game & Fisheries Committee
- Gaming Oversight Committee
- Insurance Committee
- Labor & Industry Committee
- Policy Committee
- Rules Committee
- Northeast Delegation, Vice Chairwoman
- Animal Protection Caucus
- Autism & Intellectual Disabilities Caucus
- LGBTQ Equality Caucus
- PA SAFE Caucus
- Women's Caucus

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you and your families have had a safe, fun and enjoyable summer. It's been busy both in Harrisburg and here at home!

We recently passed a \$45.2 billion state budget for 2022-23 that will make many significant investments for Pennsylvanians. The spending plan includes historic investments in public schools, in both basic and special education, along with funding increases to boost school security. Additionally, the budget provides funding to improve access to child care, help residents with home repairs and expand affordable housing.

Enclosed in this newsletter, you will find details on state-related programs and services, how my office can assist you, what's been happening around our district and a special outdoors outlook for enthusiasts looking to enjoy Pennsylvania's natural beauty in the summer, fall and winter months. My district office is at 1080 Schadt Ave., in Whitehall, and I encourage you to please feel free to reach out to me directly via email at RepMcNeill@PaHouse.net, or by phone at 610-266-1273.

In addition to the occasional mailings like this, information regarding programs, services and legislation can also be found on my social media pages, via Facebook at facebook.com/RepMcNeill and Twitter at twitter.com/RepMcNeill.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

The deadline to apply for the 2021 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program for rebates on property taxes or rent paid has been extended to December 31.

This rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 and older; widows and widowers 50 and older; and people with disabilities 18 and older.

Included in the new state budget, homeowners and renters who are already receiving aid through the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program will receive an extra, one-time payment equivalent to 70% of their original rebate amount.

This will provide an additional hundreds of dollars a year for households.

If you already applied, you're all set. If you haven't applied, you can call my office at 610-266-1273 and my staff will gladly help you with your questions and the application process. You can also apply online at revenue.pa.gov/ptrr.

The 2022-23 PA Budget

Increases property tax/rent rebate amount

Average eligible household will receive an **additional \$350**

PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATES ARE BACK!

Assistance available from State Representative Jeanne McNeill

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

At Rep. McNeill's office:
1080 Schadt Ave.
Whitehall, PA 18052

Once you have your documents ready, use this card to call and schedule your appointment.

Required for Appointment:

- Proof of all 2021 income
- Rent certificates completed by all 2021 landlords, if you rent
- Property tax receipts OR 1098 Mortgage Interest Statement, if you own
- Direct deposit information, if desired
- Photo ID (requested)

Please call: 610-266-1273 to schedule.



PA Treasury Unclaimed Property

It is estimated that one in 10 Pennsylvanians has unclaimed property. Every year, the Pennsylvania Treasury receives unclaimed property in the estimate of millions of dollars. Closed bank accounts, uncashed checks, contents of safe deposit boxes, and many more items can qualify as unclaimed property. My office has helped discover thousands of dollars for a resident that was returned to them by the Treasury.

To find any unclaimed property that you may have, you can search your name in a database at patreasury.gov or you can call my office at 610-266-1273 and somebody will search your name while you are on the phone.

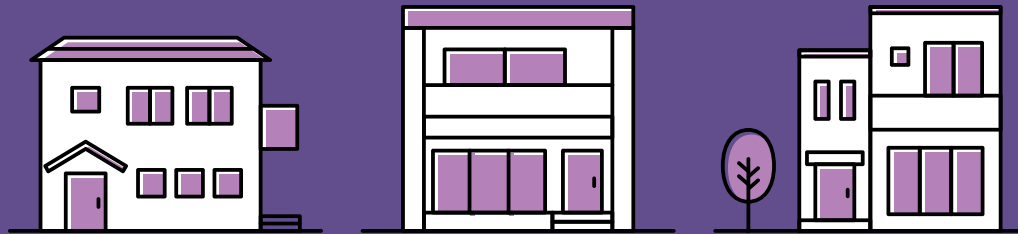
My office can also assist you in claiming this property, determining how much it is worth, and filing the documents needed to avoid delays. It comes at no charge to claim your unclaimed property, no matter which way you claim the property.

Claim What's Yours
Go to www.patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property/

Have any questions?
Call: 1-800-222-2046
Email: tipmail@patreasury.gov

Whole-Home Repair Program

Included in the budget is \$125 million to establish the Whole-Home Repair program. This program, under the Department of Community and Economic Development, will provide financial assistance to qualifying homeowners and small-scale landlords to help upgrade their properties by improving habitability, energy/water efficiency, winterization, and accessibility for those with disabilities.



WHOLE HOME REPAIRS

Awards funds to governmental and nonprofit entities to distribute to qualifying homeowners and landlords

Eligibility for Homeowners:

- ✓ Earning up to 80% of the area median income.
- ✓ Eligible for grant up to \$50K

Eligibility for Landlords:

- ✓ Own 5 properties or less.
- ✓ Eligible for loan up to \$50K with rent charging restrictions

Funds Must Address:

- ✶ Habitability concerns
- ✶ Energy or water efficiency improvements
- ✶ Accessibility for persons with disabilities

WHOLE HOME REPAIRS

New 988 Number Direct Link to Crisis Support

Pennsylvanians now have a new, easier way to connect to behavioral or mental health crisis services. By dialing 988, callers will be directly connected to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Lifeline services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for free.

If you need support for a suicidal, mental, behavioral health, and/or substance use crisis, call, text, or chat with 988. You can also call 988 on behalf of someone else. The existing Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will remain available.

988 is the new 911 for suicide prevention.

SNAPSHOTS

from the 133rd



In July, Miller-Keystone Blood Center in Bethlehem welcomed the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit for a special blood drive and community education event. The exhibit serves as a tribute to all who lost their lives in the 9/11 terror attacks in 2001, including the 343 members of the Fire Department of New York City.

9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit



MKBC had a goal to collect 343 units of blood – one for every NYFD firefighter who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11. It wasn't much, but I was proud to be one of those numbers.



I was also honored to present MKBC with a House Citation for their efforts in providing an educational opportunity on September 11 to the Greater Lehigh Valley to ensure we will NEVER FORGET.



Congratulations to Tony's Hobby Shop in Coplay – in business for 75 years! I was happy to present a Citation from the House of Representatives to owner Gerald Stanz in honor of this momentous occasion. Founded in 1947 by Gerald's Father Anton (Tony) Stanz, Tony's Hobby Shop is the oldest single-owner hobby shop in the state.



Congratulations to Dan Meyner of West Bethlehem, who recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Dan is the son of Bob and Yvonne Meyner and is a member of Boy Scout Troop 31, Minsi Trails Council. Dan's Eagle Scout project was building and installing raised flower beds for the Children's Home of Easton. I was honored to attend his Eagle Court of Honor and present him a citation from Harrisburg for his accomplishment.



Congratulations to Dave Buskaritz on his 45 years of service to the Coplay Fire Department! Thank you for all you do for the residents of Coplay.

Beware of License Sale Scams!

Anglers and hunters: Beware of third-party websites advertising hunting and fishing licenses.

Both the Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission have reported cases of consumers purchasing licenses from third-party vendors at extra fees – some as high as \$50 – and then never receiving them. Some websites even request the purchaser's Social Security number, setting the purchaser up for identity theft. Many scam sites are designed to mimic the branding of the state Game Commission or Fish and Boat Commission.

The best way to ensure that you receive a legitimate fishing or hunting license is by purchasing it directly from the commissions.

For fishing licenses, the Fish and Boat Commission will issue a printable, electronic version as soon as the purchase is made. For hunting licenses, consumers will receive an email from the commission, and licenses will be mailed to the purchaser within two weeks.

If you encounter a website that does not appear legitimate, contact the PFBC Fishing License Help Line at 877-707-4085 or PGC's license division at 717-787-2084.

Consumers who are victims of a fishing or hunting license scam should also notify the state Attorney General. Visit www.attorneygeneral.gov and click on the "Submit a complaint" link at the top of the page. Then, scroll down to the link on the right titled "Scams Form."

Sunday Hunting will be Open This Year for the Following Sundays!

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2022 SUNDAY HUNTING DATES

SUNDAY, NOV. 13

SUNDAY, NOV. 20

SUNDAY, NOV. 27

VISIT WWW.PGC.PA.GOV FOR ALL SUNDAY HUNTING DETAILS



Thanks for being a Pennsylvania Hunter

Rep. McNeill's Outdoors Outlook

As we approach the end of summer, our thoughts turn to fall and all the remarkable colors, cooler weather, and shorter days. For many of us, it is also the time of year to get excited about the upcoming big game hunting season, late season fish stockings, and hikes in the ever-changing woods. It is easy to see why at this time of year, Pennsylvania is a go-to destination for people from all around the nation who want to enjoy the very best the outdoors has to offer.

Our natural resources and all the activities they afford have been important to me throughout my life. With that in mind, I am so pleased to be a member of the House Game and Fisheries Committee, where we oversee the operations of both the Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission. I am happy to report that our work on the Committee is cooperative and bipartisan. All the members share a deep appreciation for PA's outdoor traditions. Whether for hunters, anglers, or boaters, we work hard to protect and promote all the opportunities in our state's woods and water.

I hope that this newsletter holds much interest to you, whether you hunt, fish, boat, hike, birdwatch, or just admire the beauty and bounty of our surrounding environmental riches. If you have comments, questions, or concerns about our state's wild places, please let me know.



Chronic Wasting Disease Continues to Threaten PA Deer Population

Chronic Wasting Disease remains the most serious biological threat facing Pennsylvania's whitetail deer population. The disease was first found in Pennsylvania in captive deer in October 2012 and in wild whitetails in early 2013.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is responsible for managing and combating this highly transmissible neurological disease that affects deer, elk, moose, and reindeer.

Most strategies focus on reducing deer populations, which is currently the only known way to address the spread of CWD.

When the commission discovers CWD in a herd, it creates a Disease Management Area and implements steps to isolate the disease. The commission manages outbreaks by banning movement of high-risk deer parts outside the DMA boundaries and by expanding hunting opportunities to remove CWD-positive deer from the landscape.

Hunters who harvest deer in any DMA must follow strict guidelines on the commission's website about how to clean, transport, and submit their deer for study. To learn more about the disease and the commission's efforts to combat it, visit www.pgc.pa.gov and enter "CWD" into the search bar.



Take These Steps to Repel Pests

Ticks pose a serious threat of Lyme disease, while mosquitoes in our region have tested positive for West Nile virus. Follow these tips from the Pennsylvania Department of Health to protect yourself from both pests:

1. Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE), para-menthane-diol (PMD) or 2-undecanone.
2. Treat your clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin.
3. Wear clothes that cover arms and legs and tuck your pants into your socks.
4. Do a full-body tick check on yourself and your pets after spending time outside.
5. Shower within two hours after returning indoors.



If you receive a tick bite, monitor the area for symptoms of Lyme disease, and contact your doctor immediately if you develop symptoms, which can include a bulls-eye shaped rash (occurs in about 70%-80% of cases), fever, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, joint pain or other unexplained problems.



New State Parks on the Horizon

The new state budget includes \$56 million for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to add three new state parks. The locations of the new parks – which will be the first to be added since 2005 – have not yet been determined.

A portion of the funding will also be used to develop Pennsylvania's first park dedicated to the use of all-terrain vehicles and other motorized recreation vehicles.

Currently, the commonwealth has 121 state parks comprising over 295,000 acres. They include 7,000 campsites, 56 major recreation lakes, 10 marinas, 61 beaches, 17 swimming pools, and over 1,000 miles of trails.



Representative Jeanne McNeill

1080 Schadt Avenue
Whitehall, PA 18052
(610) 266-1273

Resources for
Outdoors, Hunting & Fishing
See inside on
Page 4

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My Office Can Help With

- PACE (pharmaceutical assistance for qualified senior citizens)
- Voter registration forms and absentee ballot applications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate forms (for qualified seniors and others)
- Information regarding PHEAA (PA Higher Education Assistance Agency)
- Information on PA's 529 College Savings Plans
- Requests for state informational materials
- CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program)
- Obtaining birth or death certificates
- PennDOT problems or questions — including disability license plates and placards
- Questions or problems with any state agency
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
- Citations from the PA House of Representatives for outstanding local accomplishments and important family milestones

**The office
is open.
If you need help
with any state- or
government-related
service, please call
610-266-1273,
or stop by.**