

MUNICIPALITY OF GERMANTOWN

Mark your Calendars for our Upcoming Events

September 21 & 22	Community Garage Sale
September 28 & 29	Pretzel Festival
October 6-12	Fire Prevention Week
October 21	Leaf Pick-Up Begins
October 31	Beggars' Night
November 3	Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 5	Election Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 28	Thanksgiving Day
December 2	Dog Tags on Sale

THE MUNICIPAL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

VETERANS DAY NOVEMBER 11
THANKSGIVING NOVEMBER 28 & 29
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY DECEMBER 24 & 25
NEW YEAR'S DECEMBER 31 & JANUARY 1

Halloween

Beggars Night has been set for October 31 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Germantown Police and Fire Departments want to remind everyone of these few safety tips

- Stop only at homes that are well lit and never enter a stranger's home.
- Make sure costumes are flame retardant and consider using non-toxic and hypoallergenic makeup instead of a mask.
- Every child should have a flashlight with fresh batteries.
- Plan a route in advance and tell your kids to stick to it.



- Agree on a time to return home.
- Walk, don't run! Cross the street at a corner or crosswalk.
- Leave bicycles and skateboards at home.

Don't forget to keep jack-o'-lanterns and other open flames a safe distance from kids' costumes.

If your home is vandalized, call the police. immediately!



This year's theme, "**Prevent Kitchen Fires**" focuses on the importance of cooking in the kitchen and how to be safe. Germantown Fire-EMS is gearing up to visit the Germantown Elementary schools to teach kids the importance of practicing a 3 foot "kid-free zone". Adults and children should always be aware and make sure at least 3 feet around the stove, oven and areas where hot food is prepared or carried is clear.

According to the National Fire Protection Association and the U.S. Fire Administration the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries is cooking fires.

Always cook with caution!

Be on Alert!

Do Not Leave the kitchen-not even for a short amount of time!

Check food regularly or set a timer.

Keep oven mitts, wooden utensils and food packaging away from the stovetop.

If you have a cooking fire...

Just Get Out, and close the door behind you.

Call 9-1-1!

Enjoy cooking, but always keep an eye on the stove and oven!

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2013 LEAF COLLECTION

Leaf collection is provided to all the Germantown residents who live adjacent to a public roadway. The Municipality will begin leaf collection on Monday, October 21 thru Friday, December 20. We ask that you rake your leaves to the edge of your property as soon as you are able to. The Street Department will be collecting leaves daily and will get to

your property as soon as possible. The Municipality will continue to allow residents to bring leaves to the Service Department located at 148 South Water Street between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday–Friday. Please dump the leaves in the designated area. Bagged leaves must be emptied and the bags taken with you and

brush **will not** be accepted. As a reminder, **do not** rake leaves into the curb, as this will impede the flow of water in the storm sewers and cause flooding. Please rake leaves to an open area where they are accessible to the crews, not behind parked cars, mail boxes, trees, shrubs, etc. This only slows down the leaf pickup process.

Mother Nature usually has something to say about the leaf collection, so please be patient.

***Due to holidays, there will be no leaf pick up on Veteran's Day (November 11), Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving Day (November 28 and November 29).**



Rumpke's 2013 & 2014 Holiday Schedule

Columbus Day
October 14—No Delay

Veteran's Day
November 11—No Delay

Thanksgiving
November 28
Collection will occur as normal for customers who have Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday pick-up the week of Thanksgiving. There will not be collection on Thanksgiving Day; collection will be

delayed by one day the remainder of the week. (Customers who typically have Friday collection will be picked up Saturday.)

Christmas and New Year's
December 25 & January 1
Collection will occur as normal for customers who have Monday pick-up. There will not be collection on Christmas Day or New Year's Day;

collection will be delayed by one day the remainder of the week. (Customers who typically have Friday Collection will be picked up Saturday.)

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 20—No Delay

Presidents' Day
February 17—No Delay

Reminder...

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday November 3. Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed Saturday night. The Fire Department also encourages you to change the battery in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks.

Thank you Voters for your support on the Recreational/Pool Levy!

We had a successful 2013 and are looking forward to the 2014 Pool Season! Season passes will be on sale beginning in May.



Expand Your Safety To - Do List

You're probably familiar with this helpful tips from fire service professionals:

When setting your clocks back this fall, be sure to change the batteries in your home smoke alarms.

It has been an effective way to remind citizens of a critical safety precaution by linking it with a routine annual activity done in every household to mark the end of Daylight Savings Time. This year, the Germantown Fire Department would like to add a few other important items to that to-do list. Proper attention to home maintenance can be a life-saver.

Fireplace: Creosote-lined fireplace flues are a chimney fire or hazardous explosion waiting to occur. Have your fireplace inspected and cleaned as needed each year. Be sure to leave the damper open when using any fireplace.

Furnace: Give your

home's heating system a thorough check. Be sure that the burners are clean and the flame is properly adjusted.

Replace dirty filters to improve air flow and unit efficiency, while reducing utility costs.

Attic insulation & ventilation: According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a well insulated attic is one of the best ways to improve energy efficiency, save money and increase comfort. It will also prevent ice dams.

Hot water heater & plumbing pipes: You can save money and the life of a hot water heater by removing sediment at the base of the heater's tank. Sediment collects over time and can reduce the burners' efficiency and cause damage to the inner lining of the tank. Adjust the burner for the most fuel-efficient and safest combustion. For flames, blue is good and yellow is not good.

Un-insulated water pipes are an energy waster and can result in burst pipes.

Roofing: Replace damaged shingles, patch damaged flashing and remove surface debris to facilitate proper watershed and prevent leaks.

Drainage & downspouts: A common mistake is to allow downspouts to discharge at the base of a foundation. Downspouts should discharge into a subsurface drainage system and into a municipal storm drain or other water collection facility. Make sure the surrounding soil is graded to drain away from the foundation. When allowed to collect at the perimeter of a foundation, excessive water can result in a damp and musty basement or cause foundation movement that produces cracks over windows and doors. If your home

doesn't have gutters and downspouts, install them. If it does, be sure they are clean before heavy rains begin.

Attention to these details can make the approaching winter season a safe and energy efficient one for your family. For more home safety tips, contact the Germantown Fire Department at 855-7255.



2014 Dog Tags
Can be renewed and purchased from December 2, 2013 through January 31, 2014 at the Municipal Building. For More information please call 855.7270 or 855-7255.

The West Market Street Project is well under way and everything is right on schedule. We would like to thank everyone for their patience during this project! If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Municipal Building at 855-7255.



What You Can Do To Help Conserve Water and Keep It Clean.

At home and in our community there are many steps you can take to clean up and conserve water. Simple actions such as recycling your car's oil and purchasing environmentally friendly products can make a big difference in keeping our rivers clean. By repairing leaky faucets and installing low-flow toilets, homeowners can save thousands of gallons of water each year, helping to conserve the water resources.

Tips to Reduce Your Water Use

- Turn the water off when you brush your teeth
- Repair leaky faucets
- Install low-flow showerheads and faucets
- Install low-flush toilets
- Install water efficient appliances like a front-loading washing machine
- Only water your yard when necessary, and do so at night to reduce evaporation
- Use a rain barrel to collect water for your garden
- Landscape your lawn with native plants and grasses—they help the ground retain water
- Encourage natural recharge of groundwater by using permeable pavement options such as porous asphalt, porous concrete, paving stones or bricks



There are many ways you can help to keep our water sources clean.

- Be mindful of what you pour down the drain –all drains lead to rivers or lakes eventually
- Recycle car oil and other vehicle fluids
- Check your car for leaks
- Wash your vehicle on the lawn, not the pavement
- Compost your leaves or place them in bags for curbside pickup
- Use only phosphorus-free lawn fertilizers, and use as little as possible
- Look for pesticide free alternatives to pest control
- Purchase environmentally friendly household cleaners and garden products
- Pick up after your pet outside
- Don't flush cat litter
- Properly dispose of medication and harsh chemicals at a designated drop off site
- Design a rain garden to reduce pollution from rain runoff

Never dump anything into a storm sewer!

Christmas in Germantown and Veterans Park

Join Santa and Mrs. Santa Clause for our fourth annual Christmas in the Park on December 7. Stroll through Veterans Park and enjoy the lighting displays from our local businesses and organizations.

Be sure to visit our local businesses for your holiday gifts.



We would like your feedback

If you would be interested in having or not having RTA bus service in Germantown please contact us and let us know! Call 855-7255 and give us your opinion.



2013 TAX INFORMATION

- The Municipality of Germantown has a mandatory filing per Ordinance 181, if you are age 18 or older.
- Tax returns for 2013 are due April 15, 2014. First Quarter declaration of estimated tax for 2014 are also due April 15, 2014.
- If you owe \$100.00 or more on your 2013 taxes you **MUST** make a declaration of estimated tax for 2014 and pay quarterly.
- If you paid taxes to other cities and are claiming a credit please be sure to attach a W-2 that shows the wage taxed, tax withheld and city name so that we can allow the credit. We will not accept a W-2 that has Total or Various cities in Box 20 of the W-2. Cities must be itemized showing wages and amount withheld. We do not give credit for school tax.
- Business loss cannot be used to reduce W-2 wages.
- Please sign your return.
- The Municipality is no longer able to fill out Municipal tax forms.

If you have question please contact the Municipal Tax Office at 855.7258.

Germantown Senior Center-Join the Fun!

Shopping and Lunch at BD's Mongolian Grill– September 4

Lunch at Tea Berries Café in Springfield –September 6

Feel Stressed? Trouble Sleeping? Nurse Peggy may have the answers –September 10

Dinner at Laff's and Karaoke at the Center –September 11

Social Security Benefits EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP –September 21

Come to the Sock Hop! Pizza, Shakes and the Greasers! -September 27

Shopping at the Senior Center. Many great deals from multiple vendors-October 12

Be a healthier You! Six week FREE diabetes workshop October 18-November 22

To register for workshops or to make reservations for any or all of these events, please contact Celeste at the Senior Center - 855-4191.

