

# Upper Makefield *Township*

1076 Eagle Road | Newtown, PA 18940 | p 215.968.3340 | f 215.968.9228 | www.uppermakefield.org

June 2020

TO: Township Manager  
CC: BOS, Engineer & Solicitor  
FR: John C. Kernan, Chief FM-272  
RE: Monthly Update June 2020

## **Investigations**

- Multiple storm related PECO wires-down related calls – Creamery Road, General Knox, Crestwood & Walker
- Garage Fire Hayhurst – “Accidental Electrical” on-going

## **Projects / Programs / Training**

- Developed the attached Fire Code Safety Checklist for review and distribution to commercial business owners as businesses begin to reopen
- Right To Know Request addressed relative to heavy equipment fire that occurred at Plaintree Court 2019
- Fire Code Plan Review: Crossing Church for alarm system and sprinklers
- Fire Code Plan Review: Dominick’s Pizza Oven
- Fire Code Plan Review: Solar Installation Lurgan Road
- Fire Code Plan Review: Commercial Restaurant Taylorsville Road
- International Association of Arson Investigators/Advanced Fire Pattern Identification

**False Fire Alarms:** None reported since last report

## **Overview of Enhanced & On-Going Daily Activities During COVID-19 Lockdown**

- On call and responding around the clock 24/7/365 for all reported fire incidents and fire emergencies
- On call and responding electronically/telephonically to all PA L&I /PA UCC/ICC fire and life safety code calls, questions and issues
- Ongoing review of plans submitted to me by P&Z for required ICC FIRE CODE approval
- Monitoring and staying current with updates received twice-daily from Bucks County: Emergency Services Situation Report
- Active Trusted Member of Homeland Security Information Network
- Monitoring and staying current with daily "Sensitive" but not "Classified" updates received
- Monitoring and staying current with updates from PABCO PA Association of Building Code Officials
- Individual telephonic follow up with all residents that experience central station fire alarm activations, all well as the respective alarm company as required
- Continued fire safety calls with all essential commercial businesses remaining open to answer questions and emphasize fire safety. \*Note-these businesses were fire code inspected earlier in the year 2020

- Conversations with commercial business owners who have closed in order to insure that fire safety measures are in place during temporary shut-down (gas lines/electrical connections/ignition heat sources secured)
- Updated the township webpage and cable channel with article emphasizing the need to have working smoke alarms, especially at this time where most homes are at full occupancy
- Continued fire safety and prevention emails to township homeowner's associations
- Ongoing drive-by review/visual inspections of exteriors of commercial buildings and occupancies for fire exposure, fire watch, utility review and fire lanes for emergency services egress
- Maximizing opportunities for free on-line and web-based training seminars to maintain required certifications (NASP National Association of Subrogation Professionals "Public Fire Investigator Casework Logistics" IAAI-CFI International Association of Fire Investigators Certified Fire Investigator CFI Trainer "Enhanced Motor Vehicle Fire Investigator Certification")
- Developed and posted "Smoke Alarm Awareness" signage and displayed, with the approval and support of local area business, at entranceways of designated essential businesses (see attached) as well as emailed to 800+ homes of Sol Feinstone students and 100+ Cooperative Nursery School parents & staff

