



EXETER COMMUNITY NEWS

Edition 3

Third Quarter, 2015

Farming Ridge Park Project Completed



Farming Ridge Pavilion and Playground located at 6075 Farming Ridge Blvd. are finished and ready for Summer! The pavilion at the park is available for rental and the Summer Playground Program is in full swing!

A huge *Thank You* to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the grant, the Lions Club, J.R. Sciple, the Exeter Township Maintenance Department, the Exeter Township

Sewer Department, Landis Plumbing, Steffy Concrete and Great Valley Consultants for all their hard work and dedication to make this park a big success!

Please visit our website: www.exetertownship.com for facility and rental information.



Exeter Police Bid A Sad Farewell To Vinn

Biographic information:

Vinn (Verwin Vander Vande Heuske)

Born: September, 1999 in Amsterdam, Holland

Worked as an Exeter Police K-9 from: June 2002 - December 2010

Deceased: March 9, 2015

K-9 VINN was a trusted partner for Officer Terry Reichart, and they formed a team that served with pride and distinction throughout Vinn's career. Listed below are a few of the highlights from his dedicated service.



August 2008: Vinn assisted the Spring Township Police Department with a track from the scene of a burglary. He tracked to the front door of a residence. A juvenile offender inside that house later admitted to the burglary and was arrested.

2006: Vinn tracked from the scene of a stabbing in Lorane Orchards. He tracked the suspect into the woods behind the Lorane Elementary School where he was arrested without incident.

January 2008: Vinn assisted the Amity Township Police Department by tracking from the scene of a theft at Dutch Electric. He tracked to the front door of the suspects' residence, and they were later arrested.

December 2008: Vinn assisted with a track from the door of a vehicle used and abandoned in a pursuit in Cumru Township. He tracked to the side door of a

residence. The occupant inside that house was later arrested for his crimes.

December 2008: Vinn tracked from the sad scene of a sexual assault in Mt. Penn Borough. He tracked the suspect to the front door of a residence. The criminal inside was later convicted of his crimes and is currently serving up to 85 years in prison. Vinn received K-9 awards from both the Central Berks Police and the Exeter Police for this incident.

Vinn loved children, his job, the family that he shared with Officer Terry Reichart, and catching bad guys. He is fondly remembered and deeply missed by the Exeter Police Department, and by the hundreds of children who got to pet him during countless public demonstrations. Our sincere condolences go out to the Reichart family who gave him so much love both during his career and through his retirement.

EXETER COMMUNITY NEWS

Find Out First!

Berksalert.org is now open to the public for registration. Berks County and municipal governments will be able to access this system to notify residents of emergencies affecting the county and your municipality. Find Out First. Get local alerts about emergencies, severe weather, traffic alerts and road closures on your cell or by email. When situations arise in Berks County that may affect you and your family, Berks Alert lets local officials notify you quickly. Be among the first to find out and stay informed during an emergency.

Antietam Valley Farmers' & Artists' Market

Saturdays 8am - Noon through October 31st at the Antietam Valley Recreation & Community Center at Carsonia Park, Byram Street, Reading, PA 19606 Rain or Shine, offering fresh meats and produce, baked goods, plants and flowers in our shady park.

Website: farmersmarket.antietamvalley.org
and like us on **Facebook** for updates

The Exeter Community Library

will be holding its annual Summer Reading Program for Kids, Teens and Adults from June 9 – August 15. Be sure to check out the library's website at www.berks.lib.pa.us/sxt for a complete listing of storytimes, special events, book club discussions, classes and more. All events are free and open to the public; however, some require advance registration.

Exeter Dairy Queen and the Friends of the Exeter Library

Join us for breakfast to support the Exeter Library at the Exeter Dairy Queen on Saturday, September 19th from 8am - 11am for an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast. Tickets are available at the Library for \$7.00 and all money will go to the Friends and the Exeter Library.



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EXETER COMMUNITY NEWS

Stepped in Pet Waste?

Whether it's Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter we (Pet Owners) are outside more often enjoying nature's wonders with our pets. However, one of nature's wonders that is not enjoyable is stepping in pet waste. Is stepping in pet waste a problem in the shared spaces of your community?

How can pet waste harm me and my environment?

When our pets leave those little presents on the ground, rainwater or melting snow washes all of that pet waste into our storm drains and directly into our local creeks. The disease-causing bacterium found in pet waste contaminates our local waterways and the waste acts like a fertilizer in water, just as it does on land. This promotes excessive aquatic plant growth that can choke waterways, promote algae blooms and rob the water of vital oxygen. Many people understand about the issues of geese water or farm animal waste when this waste causes a contamination issue with a local swimming area or creek, but do not think about what their own pet waste does to the water quality of the local waterways. If you walk your pet in your personal lawn, then there are still many things that you can do to reduce the amount of pet waste that is on the ground and streams. Here are a few tips:

- * Scoop up pet waste. As long as the droppings are not mixed with litter or other materials, it can be flushed down the toilet. This is best because then the pet waste is treated.
- * Bag your pet's waste and put it into a trash can.
- * Never put pet waste into a storm drain.

Exeter Township's **Ordinance No. 503**, Article VIII Owner's Responsibility, Section 8.01 states; *Owners of leashed or unleashed animals shall be responsible for the removal and disposal of fecal matter deposited by their animals anywhere in the Township of Exeter.*

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www.BerksCountyInsurance.net

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****AAA MATURE DRIVING CLASS****
July 22nd & 23rd - 9am to 1pm - New Class
Fee for class; *Free for Veterans*

****FREE AAA CAR-FIT with CAR WASH ****
Sept. 10th from 10 am – 2 pm - *Appt. needed*
Call Berks AAA @ 610-374-4531 to RSVP

SUMMER CONCERT BY THE GAZEBO
August 21st - 6:30 – 7:30pm Rain or Shine
"The Pretzel City Dixie Land Jazz Band"

Annual FLEA MARKET & FOOD SALE for ALZ
Sept. 26th 8am – 1pm
\$10 a space – call for info & reserve your space*

***CASINO BUS TRIPS - 3rd Tuesdays ***
July – Hollywood (\$28); Aug. - Hollywood (\$28) 9am
& Sept. - Mohegan Sun (\$30) 8:30am Call to RSVP*

5485 Perkiomen Avenue **610-779-3993** 

RECREATION NEWS

Group Exercise Classes at the Dunn Community Center

Classes are on-going and you can register anytime. More information is available on our website at www.exetertownship.com or by contacting Joe Seltzer at 610-406-0263 or jseltzer@exetertownship.com. For more information on Zumba you may call Kristen at 484-824-2205 or for all other classes call Mary at 610-334-9287. Please add your e-mail address to the form, so we can inform you on class cancellations or changes. The cost is \$40 for one 10-week session; \$75 for two; and, \$115 for three.

Zumba & Zumba Toning w/ Kristen - Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:30pm. Latin based class combining easy to follow dance and fitness steps. Sure to burn calories, sculpt and energize your body. Zumba Toning is perfect for those who want to party. Lightweight toning sticks are provided to focus on toning and sculpting to define your muscles! Come join the party!!

Cardio Sculpt and Tone - Mondays 4:30pm & Saturdays 8am. Total Body Fusion Class combining cardio and strength intervals finishing with core challenge. Get ready to glisten!!

Zero Impact - Tuesdays 5:30pm. Class is focused on the entire body using free weights, bands and body bars. Total body conditioning and strength without the impact to your joints. Every muscle in your body will talk!

R.I.P.P.E.D - Mondays 5:30pm, Wednesdays 6:30pm & Tuesdays 9am. Unleash your power within and transform your body, mind and life. One stop body shock presented by Kellie.

Get On The Ball - Thursdays 5:30pm. Class focusing on Pilates moves, strengthening and sculpting your body as you increase your flexibility. Fit balls are not supplied. Available at Five Below near Giant!!!

Gentle Yoga & Stretch - Wednesdays 5:30pm with Dee. A gentle mix of Hatha and Asana Yoga for all skill levels. Relaxing and Invigorating class.

LINDA'S POWER YOGA MONDAY AND TUESDAY NIGHTS

Mellow Flow Yoga - Mondays 6:30pm. This nurturing flow will leave you feeling refreshed and stress free. Suitable for any level of practice with an emphasis on breathe work, meditation and proper alignment.

Power Flow Yoga - Tuesdays 7:30pm. The physical challenge of this practice is built with intrinsic strength and empowers you to purposefully use and train your body the way you do in real life...bending, stretching, lifting, reaching and twisting. This accessible, challenging and flowing form of yoga will lead you to a state of transformation: it will sculpt, tone and hone the muscles of your body.



Science Explorers Camp is being offered by the Township's Parks & Recreation Department. Camps are half-day from 12:30pm to 3:30pm and will be held at the Dunn Community Center, 4565 Prestwick Drive. The cost is \$225. per camp.

Early bird discounts are available. Registrations must be made online at www.ScienceExplorers.com or by calling 877-870-9517. **August 3rd to 7th - "3...2...1 BLAST OFF"** camp will be held for children ages 7-11. Come discover space and flight! Campers will explore the stars and constellations as you take an out-of-this-world sky tour in our homemade planetarium, prepare for lift-off as you build and launch your own rocket while learning about Newton's Laws of Motion, and complete a mission to Mars as you design and build your own model space station. Come join us on our mission through outer space!

Camp Discovery



Come check out our 18 foot water slide!

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Get ready to get WET!

Monday - Thursday

June 22-25, 2015

6:15pm - 8:15pm

Kids Ages 3-12

Antietam Valley Recreation Center
(next to Antietam Pool)



610.310.1381 • NorthStarUMC.org
www.Facebook.com/NorthStarUMC

Discount Amusement Park Tickets

We are selling discount amusement park tickets at the Township Building! Stop by, check the Parks & Rec webpage or call 610-779-5660 for more information. Cash Only!!



RECREATION NEWS

Upcoming Events

eXeter Games - 9th Annual

When? September 12th @ noon (registration at 11:00)
Where? Pineland Skate Park
How Much? \$5/division in advance (\$10 day of)



Skills competition in bike, boards and scooter divisions. Win prizes!
Registration form and information available on our website, or call **610-406-0263** for more information.

Golf Tournament - 14th Annual

When? September 25th @ 12:30pm (registration at 11:30)
Where? Reading Country Club
How much? \$95/golfer



Want to help fund Exeter youth athletics? Sponsor holes, carts, contests, or meals, or simply donate anything from cash to golf balls to shirts in order to help make the event a success!

The tournament includes lunch and dinner at the Reading Country Club, golf, cart, door prizes, gift bag, contests on every hole with prizes, and beverages. The tournament fills up FAST, so sign up early!

You can find the sponsorship and registration forms on our website, or call **610-406-0263** for more information.

Halloween Hayride & Haunted House - 15th Annual

When? October 9th-11th, 6:30-9:30pm
Where? Trout Run Sports Complex
How Much? \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 5 and over, children under 5 free.

Our annual **haunted hayride** on the Schuylkill River Trail. Take a scary ride and enjoy games, food and other entertainment, including **Haunted House!** (\$4 extra) Sunday's hayride and haunted house are more scary and may not be suitable for young children.

We are always in need of volunteers for scenes on the trail. Contact **Joe Seltzer** at **610-406-0263** for more information.

**2015 May Days
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May Days Thank You's

A HUGE “**THANK YOU**” to everyone who was involved in making “May Days 2015” a complete success!

Ticket Room - Don and Judy Cramer, Dawn and Justin Greenleaf, Andrew and Shawna Luke, Barb Lutz, Karen Hazel, Eileen Malone,

Concession Workers - Clarence Hamm, Andrea Miller, Linda Cusimano and Tracy Trumbo.

Community Service Workers - Patrick Kern, Rhian Palacio, Alex Hafer, Gavin Washington, Nicholas Haring, Chris Lynagh, Mariella Guedalpe, Anais Osorio, Damion Castro, Nydia Arndt and Alexa Ramirez-Garcia.

Township Employees - Maintenance and electrical workers from the Highway and Sewer Departments

Emergency Services - Exeter Township Police Department, Exeter Volunteer Fire Department, Exeter Fire Police, Exeter Township Fire Department EMS, Officer Dave Bentz, and Sgt. Matt Harley.

High School Workers - Custodial Department, Mickie Potlunas, T.A., Tom Legath, and Principal Cain

APT Volunteers - Kim Ericke, Alison O'Donnell, Robin Stump, Sue Stankewicz, Joe's Kids, Julie Shalters, Michele Datko, Tracey Ledwidge, Pat Frederick, Eileen Shevick, Denise Stanley, Marcy Strauss, Angela Cooke, Rebecca Thomas, Kelly, Kayla Kauffmam, Dylan DaDamio and Brenda Jordan.

The Mayor of St. Lawrence Borough, Mike Fritz

“Whack-A-Car” - K.C. Auto Body and Doug Gaul from Chuck's.

APT Presidents and Committee Chairs - Barb Lutz, Shawna and Andrew Luke, Karen Hazel, Alexia Sahaida, Kelly Kline, Andrea Wilson, GerriLea Witzel, Diane Lauer, Angela Cook and Melissa Davis.

Please forgive us if anyone has been missed, and thank you for your help. **THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO EXETER TOWNSHIP!**

Easter Egg Hunt Thank You's

A big “Thank You” to Exeter Girl Scout Troops 1676, 1091, 1364, the Exeter High School National Honor Society, Exeter Lions Club, the North Start Methodist Church, Metro Bank, Calvary Bible Fellowship Church and Diamond Credit Union. Thank you for participating in the Easter Egg Hunt; hope to see you again next year!

Sponsors of the Event

Christopher Nein (Mortgage America), C.F. Heckman & Son, J.P. Mascaro & Sons, The Spine And Wellness Center, Exeter Physical Therapy, Reading Pediatrics, Commonwealth Orthopaedics, Home Depot, New Rhoads Transportation, Exeter Lions Club, Pa Dermatology Partners And Reading Health Physician Network.

Businesses That Donated Prizes

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Rosemarie Montgomery
MS, CRNP, FNP-C

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POLICE BEAT

COP'S CORNER

Hello Exeter Residents! Sergeant David L. Behm here again. I hope this finds you all well and enjoying the warm non-winter weather that is summertime in Exeter!



The Exeter Township Police Department continues to encourage Citizens to take precautions whenever possible to try to prevent crime in our neighborhoods. Bad guys love summertime too, unfortunately. These parasites look for any opportunity to take away what YOU have worked for and earned instead of going out and making an honest living.

There are a few simple things I want to mention that YOU can do to keep your homes and your families safer. I have outlined summertime suggestions below for you to consider...

CHECK THOSE OUTDOOR LIGHTS! Remember that bad guys hate light. It is just that simple. Make sure that your motion lights outside have functioning bulbs. LED and fluorescent bulbs cost a bit more to buy, but a LOT less to operate, so consider replacing your old burned out spotlights and floodlights with some newer more efficient styles. Maybe even put a lower-wattage light on your porch and leave it on all night every night.

HAVE FUN ON YOUR VACATION, BUT PROTECT YOUR HOME WHILE YOU ARE AWAY! Put a "hold" on your newspaper and mail deliveries while you are gone so these things do not accumulate in your mailbox or on your porch. Buy a timer or two to have lights turn on and off throughout your home during the night. Have a trusted neighbor or relative check on your home at least once a day, not only to make sure everything is secure, but also to give the house some activity. Then return the favor when they go away. Finally, ALWAYS file a Vacation Report on-line with the Exeter Township Police Department so we know who belongs at your home, what cars should be there, and how to reach you in an emergency!

TAKE THE TIME TO CHECK ON THAT ELDERLY NEIGHBOR! Summertime can bring its own set of dangers, especially to older folks. We must ALL remember to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, but the heat is particularly dangerous to senior citizens. Be a good neighbor and check on elderly friends, relatives, and nearby residents. Just make sure they are alright on those hot summer days. This decency sets a good example for our next generation, who then may remember to do the same for YOU someday...

These are just a few of the tips and suggestions that I give people who ask me how they can make their homes safer. Unfortunately, most folks do not think about these things until something bad happens to them or someone they know. I hope this forum will continue to help us think about different things we can do before bad guys target us or we have an emergency.

I thank you for your time. If you found this letter helpful, please let your Township Office know. Contact me at the Exeter Township Police Department Office of Community Affairs with questions or comments.

Have a safe Summer!

Sgt. David L. Behm

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POLICE BEAT

POLICE PROFILE

Sergeant's Note: The Office of Community Affairs wants *you* to get to know *your* Police Officers! We will try to feature a different Exeter Township Police Officer in each Police Beat section of the Exeter Community News whenever possible.

Have you met Police Officer Karen Grycon? (You may know her as Officer Lincoln) Officer Grycon is a true veteran Police Officer who has been on the job for over 18 years. Officer Grycon started her career with the Reading Police Department and after serving in the city for 3 years, she was hired by the Exeter Township Police Department. For the last 15 years, she has served the people of Exeter with an abundance of compassion, bravery, professionalism and has been highly decorated. Those who know Officer Karen know that she is one of the kindest people to wear the uniform and will not hesitate to go above and beyond the call of duty to help someone who is in need. Officer Grycon is currently assigned to the Patrol Division on "A" Platoon with the ETPD.



Police work is a family tradition for Officer Karen, and she says that her father has been the biggest inspiration in her police career. Officer Karen's father is a Sergeant with the Lancaster City Police Department and her brother is also a Police Officer in Lancaster. Officer Karen started her career in Lancaster Police dispatch before attending the Reading Police Academy.

Officer Karen will tell you that her faith and her family are the most important things in her life and she will also remind you to: "practice random acts of kindness," which is a motto that she not only preaches but truly lives by.

Now you know her a little better, so make sure you give Officer Grycon a wave "hello" if you see her on patrol.

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POLICE BEAT

ANSWERING THE CALL!

The Exeter Township Police Office of Community Affairs implemented this section of the Police Beat to give YOU the opportunity to share positive experiences that you have had with your Police Officers. If you feel that an Officer has done a good job, gone above and beyond the call of duty, or otherwise is deserving of a “thank you,” then I want to hear from you!

Contact me by email at dbehm@exeterpolice.com to share your thoughts. Please let me know if you want your sentiments to be anonymous, or if you would like your full name or just your first name attached.

This is our chance to work together to express appreciation to our Officers for what they risk and sacrifice everyday while working to make our Community safer!

EXETER POLICE OFFICERS THANKED BY FIRE SURVIVOR AND HIS SISTER

Mr. James Bortz came to the Exeter Township Police Department to thank the Officers who were first on the scene when his home caught fire. Officer Sean Fullerton, Officer Darrin Gartner, and Officer Karen Grycon breached the rear door of Bortz’s residence, which allowed responding Exeter Township Fire Fighters to enter the home and remove Mr. Bortz to safety.

****Sergeant’s Note:** The Exeter Township Police Department subsequently received the following note from James Bortz’s sister:

“My name is Yvonne Knight and I would like to take this time to thank you for saving my brother James Bortz. I don’t know what I would do without my big brother James.

Thank you for all the hard work you guys do.”



EXETER POLICE OFFICERS APPRECIATED BY COMMUNITY YOUTH AID PANEL MEMBER

****Sergeant’s Note:** The Youth Aid Panel has proven itself over and over again to be a VERY effective solution to correct the behavior and decisions of first-time, non-violent juvenile offenders in our community. This “second chance” system would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of the panel members who volunteer for service in the program, and the Police Officers who act as coordinators between the Panel and the Police Department. They are quietly working out of the spotlight and headlines to help guide the next generation. They have my personal gratitude, as today’s youth are tomorrow’s leaders.

“I am on the Berks Southeastern Community Youth Aid Panel, which attempts to provide an alternative to traditional case processing for first-time juvenile offenders who would otherwise start life with an arrest record.

I would like to specifically thank two of the Exeter Police officers who serve as liaisons to our panel. Karen Grycon and Kurt Unterkoepler attend our monthly panel meetings and provide details of the incidents involved. Frequently, they also help to interview the subjects when it is obvious they are not being forthcoming. Their contribution is very important and, I know I speak for our panel when I say how much I appreciate their contribution.”

Jake Bender

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EMERGENCY SERVICES NEWS

Fire Safety Camp

Come join us for Fun and Fire Safety Education. Learn about Fire Fighters, see and ride on the Fire Trucks.

When: July 20th - July 24th, 2015

Time: 5:30pm - 9:00pm

Cost: \$25.00 includes T-Shirt and snacks

Ages: 7 and up

Where: East Station; Station 25-3, 5580 Boyertown Pike, Birdsboro, PA 19508, 610-779-8848

To register Email Deputy Chief James Herr; jherr@exetertwpfire25.com Cell # 610-413-2287 or Gwen Heffner; gheffner@exetertwpfire25.com.

What Is A Scald Injury?

A scald injury occurs when hot liquid or hot steam damages one or more layers of skin that it comes into contact with. Scald burns are usually caused by a spill of hot food or beverages, or by hot tap water in a bath or shower.

Why Are Children At Higher Risk For Scalds?

Young children LOVE to imitate adults. They may pretend to cook just like an adult they've seen without realizing that hot food or liquids or hot tap water can be dangerous. Young children are also less mobile, and can't react as quickly as an adult if they come into contact with a hot object or substance. Young children have thinner skin than older children and adults, so they suffer a burn injury at a lower temperature and in less time. Spilling a cup of coffee or other hot drink can cover a large part of a small child's body. This would cause a much larger burn on a small child than it would on an adult.

For more information please visit: www.burnprevention.org/safety-lines-may-2015

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Times and Age Groups

Ages 5-8; 9am

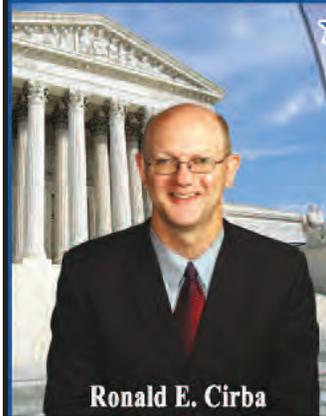
Ages 9-12; 10am

Ages 13-17; 11am

Call 610-779-1626 to sign up!!!

www.readingcountryclub.com

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Ronald E. Cirba

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★No Recovery / No Fee

★We Advance All Costs

★Serious Injuries

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★Wrongful Death

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Exeter Twp. READING

EXETER COMMUNITY NEWS

Properly displaying your address could save your life!

For more information contact:

Exeter Township

Gregory G. Koontz

Phone # 610-779-5702

Email: gkoontz@exetertownship.com

Used Oil Disposal

There is a drop-off bin at the Township Building for used automotive oil. You can find the **white** tank right next to the large antenna.

Holiday Schedule

*Exeter Township Offices
will be closed*

Monday, September 7, 2015



**EXETER TOWNSHIP
4975 DEMOSS ROAD
READING, PA 19606**

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
READING, PA
PERMIT NO.477

**Office Hours 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Monday thru Friday**

Contact Phone Numbers

Administration	(610) 779-5660
Police	(610) 779-1490
Parks & Rec.	(610) 406-0263
Engineering	(610) 779-5702
Treatment Plant	(610) 582-8300
Newsletter	(610) 779-5660
RCC Pro Shop	(610) 779-1626
RCC Restaurant	(610) 779-1000

Online Park Facility Rentals Now Available!!

Save yourself a trip to the township building. New functionality has been added online to allow you to book our park facilities, and pay with a credit card!

This includes the pavilions at Community Park, Lorane Hollow Park, Trout Run Sports Complex, Pineland Park, and the all-new Farming Ridge Park, as well as the Dunn Community Center. You can see details and pictures of each facility, and check the availability, before booking from the comfort of your home.

We expect to soon be accepting credit cards at the township office for all other transactions as well!

On our website, click on Facility Rentals in the Online Services navigation dropdown or on the Parks & Rec page, or go directly to <https://exeter.checkfront.com/reserve/> to start your booking now.

POSTAL PATRON