

Adams Township Newsletter

February 2026

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Greetings neighbor! We hope that you find this newsletter resourceful as we are committed to keeping you informed on township business, news, and events.

Message from the Board of Supervisors

We are excited at what 2026 has to offer. For a 32nd consecutive year, your municipal tax rate was maintained through careful long-term planning and effective utilization of resources.

In 2026, we are expanding our communication efforts. This newsletter is intended to be quarterly.

Follow us directly on:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AdamsTownshipCommunity/>

Instagram:

@AdamsTownship

Sign up for notifications on the RAVE Alert Platform for messages via text, phone, and or email regarding weather alerts, major traffic impacts, emergencies, and other important items.

Link: <https://adamtwp.org/rave-alert-sign-up/>

Russ Ford, Chairman
Ron Shemela, Vice Chairman
Darryl Brandon, Supervisor
Dave Gooodworth, Supervisor
Ron Nacey, Supervisor



Possible Municipal Merger

On January 5th, 2026, members of the elected municipal governing bodies of both Mars Borough and Adams Township voted to explore a possible merger of the local governments. An initial joint public informational meeting took place on January 22nd.



Photographs: Chairman Ford Presents at the First Joint Merger Public Meeting at Twelve Oaks (Jan. 2026)

Officials presented on the purpose, process, timeline, why this is being considered, answered common questions, and took questions from those in the audience. Neither municipality has debt. A new name can be considered in the merger question which will come before the voters in both municipalities if the elected bodies decide to move it forward. The merger must pass in both municipalities to move forward. Many benefits to residents and business owners of Adams Township were highlighted. A summary of those is below.

• **Summary of Benefits to Adams:**

- ✓ **Expanded staffing in Police, Public Works, and Administration**
- ✓ **Public Works and Police equipment and trucks**
- ✓ **Additional three parks and recreation facilities**
- ✓ **Ownership of several buildings and properties**
- ✓ **Water plant and related infrastructure**
- ✓ **Consolidation of Mars' 35% ownership of the Breakneck Sewer Authority**
- ✓ **Expanded resources for infrastructure**
- ✓ **Joint planning and expanded grant opportunities**
- ✓ **Downtown core**

Topic continues on the next page.



Possible Municipal Merger

A summary of the process and timing being considered is below.

Process / Timeline – 2026



- Both passed resolution to explore merger (*January 5th*)
- Initial public meeting (*January 22nd*)
- Future possible public meetings (*Through October*)
- Agreement formation (*February - June*)
- Elected officials in both municipalities vote on agreement and to set the merger question on the ballot (*June - July*)
- Public votes on the question in the November General Election (*November 3rd*)

Must pass in both to move forward

Process / Timeline – 2027



- If the public votes in favor of the merger in both municipalities:
 - ✓ 2027 would be spent preparing the merger and combining departments and resources
 - ✓ Analyze for further efficiencies and long-term planning
- Current thinking is that the merged government would take effect on January 1, 2028 (*this as official start*)

To view the entire slide presentation, obtain more information, receive further updates, and leave us your thoughts, questions, and comments, please visit the website listed on the bottom of this page.

Upcoming Event: A second joint public informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24th at 6 PM at Twelve Oaks Mansion, 160 Scharberry Lane, Mars, PA 16046 with state officials from the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development present.

Please RSVP at: <https://adamstwp.org/borough-of-mars-and-township-of-adams-possible-merger-information/>



Parks and Recreation

Upcoming Event: EGG HUNT



Join us on **Saturday, March 28TH** at the Adams Township Community Park for our 2026 Egg Hunt. The egg hunt is for kids Prek-3rd Grade and will start at **11:00am sharp**. There will be gift bags with a snack for participants at the Veterans Pavilion, as well as a visit from the Easter Bunny prior to the hunt. There is no fee to participate in this event, we just ask that you preregister with the Adams Township Parks and Recreation Department.

Registration will end on March 25th, please register through our 'Recdesk' website.

Link: <https://adamstwp.recdesk.com/Community/Program/Detail?programId=10>

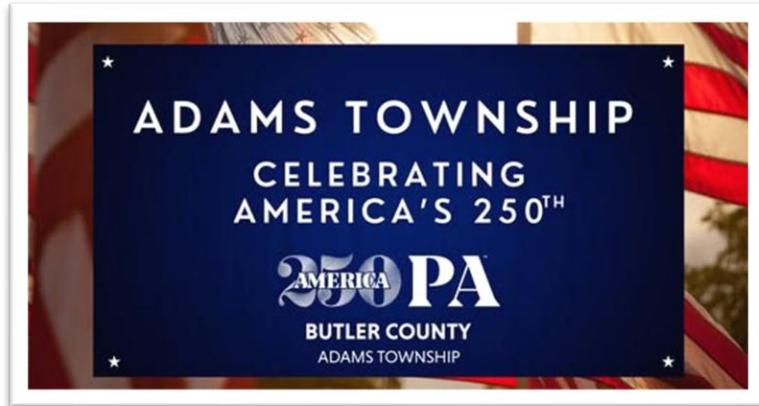
Upcoming Event: CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH

Adams Township is excited to announce that we are hosting **Adams Township: Celebrating America's 250th**, on **Wednesday, July 1st starting at 5:00 pm** with the event culminating with fireworks at sunset performed by Little Bigshots.

This event is designed to bring our community together and to celebrate not only Adams Township but also to commemorate the 250th year of our nation.

This event will cover over 9 acres of the Adams Township Community Park with all types of entertainment.

We have several food vendors booked including Cousins Maine Lobster, Hot Mamas Pierogies, Bebe Kakes, The Squeeze Shack, Kona Ice, Skyway Drivin Ice Cream, Aviva Brick Oven, and South Side BBQ.



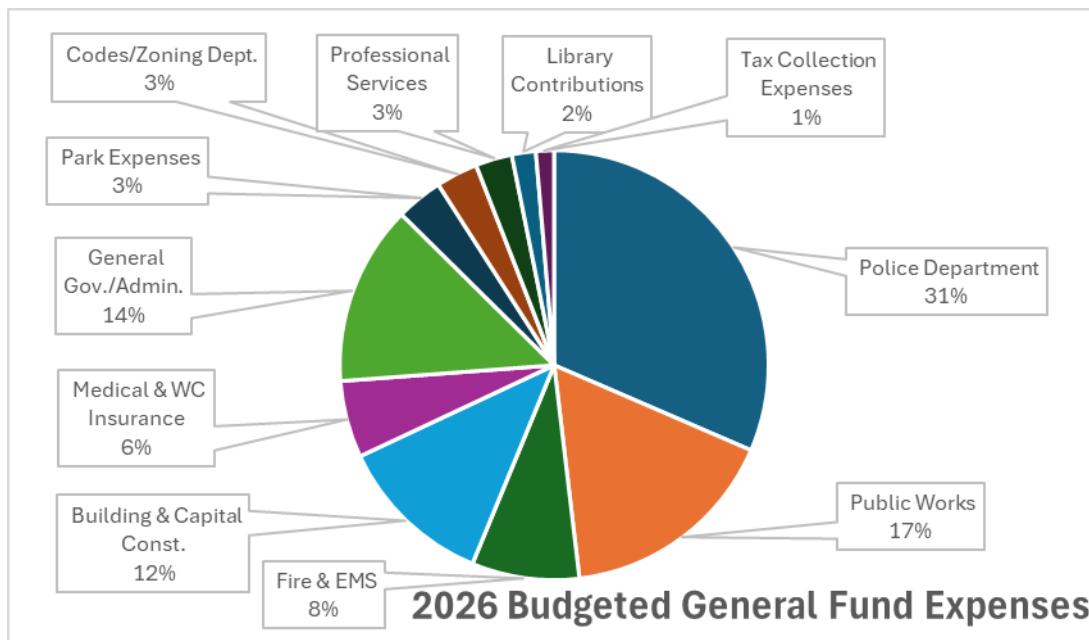
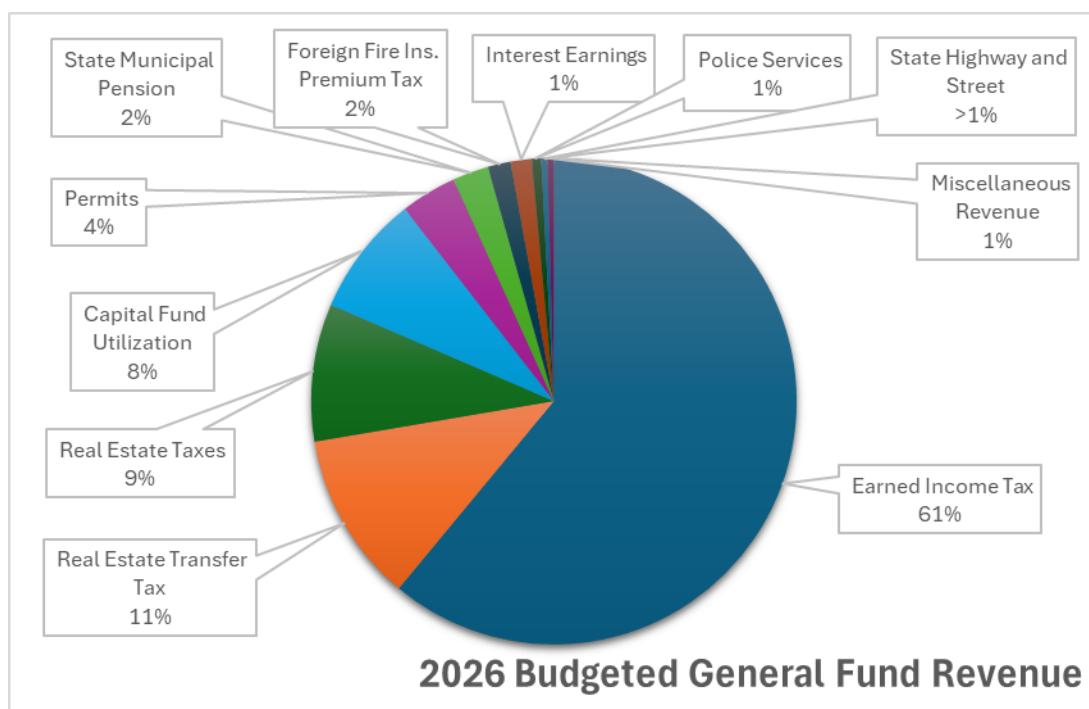
There will be live music from Buckwild and The Hit List!

Other offerings are games, crafts, and activities at the Kids Zone, a Block Party and Beer Garden sponsored by the Southern Butler County Business Association and Butler County Chamber of Commerce. There will be local non-profit booths set up to inform the community about their organization and bingo at the War Memorial Pavilion.

Stay up to date on new event information by visiting our webpage at:
<https://adamstwp.org/adams-township-celebrating-america250/>

Administration

Two of the most common questions in local government are 'Where does the money come from?' and 'Where is that money spent?' Below are two graphics that answer those questions in summary form for our 2026 balanced budget for our General Fund. This Fund is our primary one, but additional funds exist for the park, recreation, liquid fuels, and capital reserve.



Public Works

What you should know:

- To report potholes, damaged signs, other damage to roadways, blocked catch basins, or tree limb obstructions, please call 725-625-1826. Do leave a message if there is no answer.
- The widening of Marburger Road will take place in the next few months. Please exercise caution when traveling through the work zone.



Photograph: Public Works Trucks During Recent Storm (2026)

Snow Sense:

To ensure safe passage for all, please keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice as soon as possible after snow fall. Avoid shoveling snow or blowing snow on the street. Keeping streets clear of snow is essential for safe driving and effective snow removal. Please shovel snow onto your own property rather than pushing it onto the roadways. Please don't park on the street so that plow trucks can have a clear path to remove snow. Thank you!



New Employees:

The Department recently hired three new employees. We are glad to have the additional help to maintain and plow your many roads and provide upkeep to your park.

Police



Photograph: Chief Anglum, Patrolman. Kopas, Stg, Zaliponi, Stg. Lenz, & Asst. Chief Scanlon (2025)

Requests for House Checks

Adams Twp. Police will provide House checks during patrols for residents when away enjoying a vacation or just out of town. To request a House check simply call the Department between 8 am and Noon or email memmett@adamstwp.org with answers to the below items:

*Name, Address, Dates: Leaving & Returning, Any lights on, Any parked vehicles, Emergency contact:
Name, Phone #, Names of people permitted to be at the property*

Pennsylvania Law on Throwing Snow in the Road

General Prohibition

In Pennsylvania, it is illegal to throw, shovel, or push snow into the streets or alleys. This applies to snow removed from sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots.

Specific Regulations

- **Snow Placement:** Snow must not be placed in the lane of traffic on any street or alley.
- **Post-Clearing Restrictions:** After streets have been cleared, it is also illegal to place snow back into these cleared areas.

Penalties

Violating this law can result in penalties, which may include fines. The specific amount can vary based on local ordinances.

Responsibility for Snow Removal

Property owners are generally responsible for clearing snow and ice from their properties, including sidewalks. Failure to do so can lead to liability for injuries that occur due to unsafe conditions. Understanding these laws helps ensure safety and compliance during winter weather conditions.

Lastly, with high accumulations of snow come large snow piles that can obstruct the vision of motorists, and with the temperature warming our little ones will be outside more often playing and/or sled riding in the snow, these large snow piles attract kids and will obstruct the vision of motorist so keep the speeds down and be prepared for sudden braking around intersections and areas where large piles of snow are present, kids could be present and hidden on the opposing side of the pile and suddenly dart onto the roadway.

Stay Safe NOT sorry and come on SPRING!

Codes

We are often asked about what the Codes Department handles on a day-to-day basis. The Department is responsible for the administration of all permitting, code enforcement, zoning, planning, and building in the township. Additionally, they oversee the coordination of inspections and engineering on local projects and provide staff assistance to the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board. This four-member team is always busy with our growing township.

Tips for homeowners

- For questions about your project, always feel free to email the Department at code@adamstwp.org.
- For a project that includes electrical work, please know that a Final Electrical Inspection must be completed by an electrical inspector before a Final Inspection can be completed.
- Your contractor should have a Final Inspection completed before final payment is made.

We were fortunate to add a second Assistant Code and Zoning Officer position in 2025 to keep up with the workload serving the community. Our Code Officers have completed a variety of certification and courses to ensure they are up to date on important safety codes.



Photograph (above): Planning Commissioners (2026),
Credit: 228Times



Photograph (above): Asst.
Code Enforcement/Zoning
Officers Sean & Bill (2026)



Photograph (left): Twp.
Manager Tylka, Supervisor
Brandon, Chairman Ford,
St. Rep. Scialabba, and
members of the
McDonald's Ownership
Team at their ribbon cutting
in October (2025)



PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Mars Area Public Library

From Library Staff:

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale

The Friends of the Mars Area Public Library will host their annual Spring Book Sale **April 16–19**. The library will be accepting **large book donations the week prior** to support this fundraiser.

Peter Rabbit Storytime

Saturday, March 28 at 11:00 AM

Peter Rabbit is hopping by the library for stories, photos with the cheeky character, and a themed craft. **Registration is required.**

Moonscape Painting (Ages 7+)

Wednesday, March 18 at 4:30 PM

Join Vince for a hands-on STEM program using everyday materials to recreate the textured surface of the moon and paint your own moonscape.

RenFest (PK–1st Grade)

Saturday, April 25 at 2:00 PM

Calling all princesses, knights, and heroes. Children are invited to dress up for a spring fair featuring activities, crafts, and a chance to meet a storybook princess. **Registration is required.**

Weekly Storytimes

- **Baby Bounce (Ages 0–18 months):** Select Thursdays at 10:30 AM
A 20-minute program with Miss Tara featuring songs, movement, and stories for babies and caregivers.
- **Story Tots (Ages 18–36 months):** Select Wednesdays at 10:30 AM
Join Miss Tara for engaging songs, activities, and stories for toddlers and caregivers.
- **Story Time (Ages 3–5 years):** Select Mondays at 10:30 AM
A fun, interactive program introducing pre-reading skills through stories, songs, and rhymes.



Looking Ahead

Planning is underway for the library's Summer Reading Program, "**Unearth a Story.**" Donations for prizes and local business sponsors are welcome.

For more information or to register, visit the Mars Area Public Library's website.



Photograph: Guest Librarian, Credit: Library (2025)

PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Adams Area Fire

From the Adams Area Fire Team:

The Adams Area Fire District was founded in 2007 when the Community Fire Department of Valencia and the Mars VFC combined to form the district. The District serves Adams Township, Mars Borough, Seven Fields Borough and Valencia Borough from two stations. Our headquarters located at 228, named for past Vice President and Life Member Jimmy Ellis, houses 2 Class A Engines, 75' Tower, Full-Service Rescue and Squad. Our substation located in seven fields houses a Class A Engine. The district answered 871 calls for service last year, our busiest year of the year in our history. That call volume makes the AAFD the busiest fire service in Butler County that does not have employees doing work for the district. We accomplish our staffing, nearly 53,000 hours in 2025, utilizing bunk in members and a stipend in return for volunteer hours. The district prides itself on our community involvement, community education and training.



Photographs: Station 42, Credit:
Adams Area Fire (2025)



Photograph: Members of Adams Area Fire and the McDonald's Ownership Team (Oct. 2025)



PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Callery Fire

From the Callery Fire Team:

Founded in 1897, the Callery Volunteer Fire Company has proudly served the communities of southwestern Pennsylvania for over a century. Our primary response area includes the northern section of Adams Township and the Borough of Callery, with mutual aid provided to neighboring departments as needed. We are located at 179 Main Street in Callery Borough.

As a fully volunteer, non-profit organization, we are contracted by both Adams Township and Callery Borough to deliver a full range of emergency services. Our capabilities include structural and wildland firefighting, vehicle extrication, specialized rescue, and emergency medical response. In addition to emergency operations, we are actively engaged in fire prevention education and participate in numerous community events throughout the year.

Our dedicated membership includes approximately 25 active firefighters and EMS personnel, along with 3-4 junior firefighters and several non-operational members who support our mission. The Callery VFC operates a fleet of five apparatus: a fire engine, a tanker, a mini-pumper, and a UTV—each equipped to meet the diverse emergency needs of our community.

We remain committed to protecting life and property while fostering strong community partnerships through service, education, and outreach.



Photograph: Members of Callery Fire with Adams Twp. Police and St. Rep. Scialabba (Nov. 2025)



PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Quality EMS

From Quality Staff:

Since 1994 Quality EMS has been providing emergency medical care to several local communities in the southern Butler County region. We do our very best to provide excellent and compassionate patient care for the citizens who we serve.

Quality EMS has provided pre-hospital care to your municipality for the last 30 years. In the last 4 years, under new direction, Quality EMS has begun a journey of excellence to become the industry leader in clinical care and the EMS employer of choice in our region. These goals were developed to ensure you, the citizens we serve, have the most up to date, relevant and ready EMS service protecting them.



Historically, Quality EMS has prided itself on being self-sustaining with little reliance on funding from municipalities. Due to our investment in recruiting and retaining professional staff, dramatically increasing operating expenses, and a significant shortage in insurance reimbursements, we operate on very thin margins for growth. As with most EMS services our revenue capabilities are limited. Although we have made substantial adjustments to our operating expenses, net revenue is still at a loss. We have maximized the use of grants, fund raisers, and donations, but need a reliable revenue stream to keep up with rising expenses including employee benefits, fuel costs, medical equipment, and utilities.

For these reasons, we have partnered with municipal leaders who provide us with significant financial help. This assistance has improved our equipment, staffing and most importantly allows us to continue the delivery of professional services to the citizens in the southern Butler County region. We look forward to municipal and community support which we need to continue taking care of all of you.

Please express to your local leaders, candidates, and nominees your thanks and support of this partnership as a step towards resolving the EMS funding crisis.



Thank you
for your sponsorship!

BUTLER COUNTY SBCBA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Block Party Sponsors

Adams Township: Celebrating America's 250th

Thank you Marilyn!

A special recognition goes out to Marilyn Watson for her several dedicated years of service as a member of the Planning Commission. Her last meeting was on February 4, 2026. We look forward to her continued service on the Parks and Recreation Board. Thanks again Marilyn for all you do for the community!