



# Adams Township Newsletter

April 2026

*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

There is certainly a lot going on in the township and we want to hear from you.

- We invite you to join us at future public meetings regarding the possible municipal merger with Mars Borough. Do share your thoughts at the meetings. If you aren't inclined to speak publicly or attend a meeting, we invite you to let us know what you think via our merger webpage. We will respond to your submitted comments.
- We invite you to enjoy the Adams Township Community Park in the coming weeks and months if you have or haven't been to it recently to enjoy the many features and amenities. **We do hope to see you at the big event on July 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 5 pm.**
- We are excited to announce that the technology in the Township's Meeting Room is being enhanced to allow better viewing of materials and hearing by all those in attendance.
- Say hello at one of the coming events and have a great rest of the Spring and start to the Summer!

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

**Reminder:** 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://adamstwp.org/rave-alert-sign-up/>

### What's Included:

**Page 1**  
Board of Supervisors

**Pages 2 & 3**  
Possible Merger with Mars Borough

**Page 4**  
Administration

**Page 5**  
Parks & Rec.

**Page 6**  
Public Works

**Page 7**  
Police

**Pages 8 & 9**  
Codes

**Page 10**  
Library

**Page 11**  
Adams Area Fire

**Page 12**  
Callery Fire

**Page 13**  
Quality EMS

## Possible Municipal Merger

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026, members of the elected municipal governing bodies of both Mars Borough and Adams Township held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Public Meeting on a possible municipal merger between the two. Representatives from Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) were present to discuss process and answer questions.



*Photographs: Left - Chairman Ford presents at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Merger Public Meeting at Twelve Oaks (2026), Below - DCED Rep. Terri Cunkle addresses the crowd.*

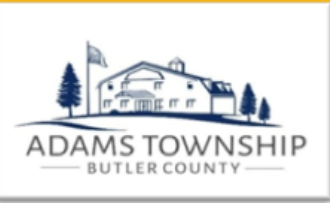


**Below are answers to several of the most common questions we are receiving regarding the possible merger.**

**Will there be changes to the post office or my mailing address?** No. The local municipal governments cannot force the post office to deliver mail directly to your home if you currently must utilize a post office box. **If your address is Mars, PA it will stay exactly that way.** You will not have to add the word 'Township' to it. Same with Callery, PA, Valencia, PA, Seven Fields, PA and Gibsonia, PA mailing addresses; no changes.

**Who will my local municipal representatives be?** The Adams Township Board of Supervisors will be the elected officials. There is a seat up in 2027 with a start date of January 1, 2028 that Mars residents would vote for alongside Adams' residents. Mars residents could run for that seat. Also, it is worth noting that an advisory committee of Mars officials for 2027 and 2028 is being proposed to ensure a smooth transition.

**Will I get to see the joint agreement before the officials vote on it?** Yes. The draft will be made public before the officials vote on it. This is the agreement that puts the merger measure on to the ballot for the public for the November election.



## Possible Municipal Merger

**What happens to the Mars staff?** All full-time employees will be offered employment with the Township.

**What happens with taxes? How?** With the merger there would be no change to Adams' municipal rate of 3.75. The Mars municipal rate of 25.33 would lower to that of Adams. Even with the proposed tax reduction in Mars, by eliminating duplicative items, additional funds are opened up in the Mars budget.

**What are the benefits to Adams Township?**

- ✓ 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

**What will the name be?** Mars Township. The public will vote on this as part of the merger ballot question.

**What will the ballot question be?**

Shall the Borough of Mars, a Pennsylvania municipality organized under the Borough Code, be merged into the Township of Adams, a Pennsylvania Township of the Second Class, and with the Township being renamed **Mars** Township, a Pennsylvania Township of the Second Class, effective **January 1, 2028**?

**What is next?**

- Ongoing public meetings and outreach
- Public review of joint agreement in the coming weeks and months
- Consideration of joint agreement by Mars and Adams officials in June or July
- Public vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot, must pass in both municipalities
- If approved, the effective date is January 1, 2028

**We invite you to view more materials, submit comments, and look for updates at:**

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

# Administration



## YouTube

As part of our expanded communications plan, Adams Township has joined YouTube! We invite you to watch our videos and shorts. We will highlight work being done, staff members and their duties, coming events, and more.

**Channel:** @AdamsTownship

**Weblink:** <https://www.youtube.com/@AdamsTownship/>



## Egg Hunt Success

Thank you to all that attended the Egg Hunt on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

*Photographs:  
2026 Egg Hunt*

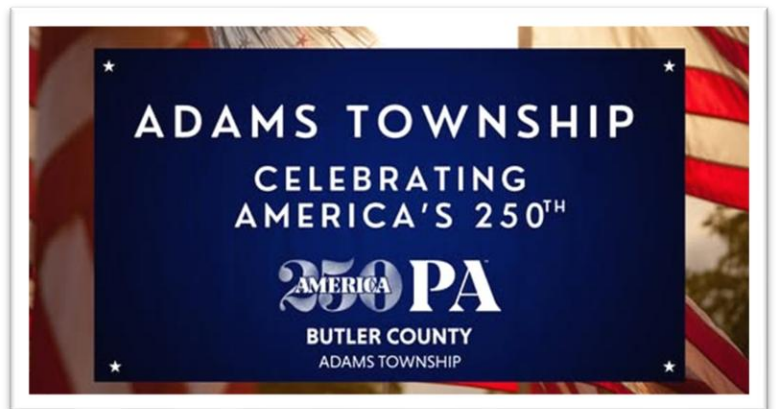


## Upcoming Event: CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250<sup>TH</sup>

Reminder: **Adams Township: Celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup>** is on **Wednesday, July 1st** starting at **5:00 pm** and running until fireworks at dusk. There will be something for everyone!

### Thank you to our event sponsors to date:

- [Fireworks](#) - NexTier Bank
- [Guest transportation carts](#) - CSF Bank
- [Beer Garden](#) - Southern Butler County Small Business Association & Butler County Chamber of Commerce
- [Kids Inflatable](#) - Little House Learning Center
- [Pony Rides](#) - Adams Township Police Association
- [Trackless Kids Train](#)- Dunn Dimond Insurance Associates
- [Instagram Station](#) - LWP Balloons



### Looking to get involved?

If your non-profit would like to set up an informational booth or your organization would like to help volunteer at the event, please reach out to us by submitting a request from our webpage.

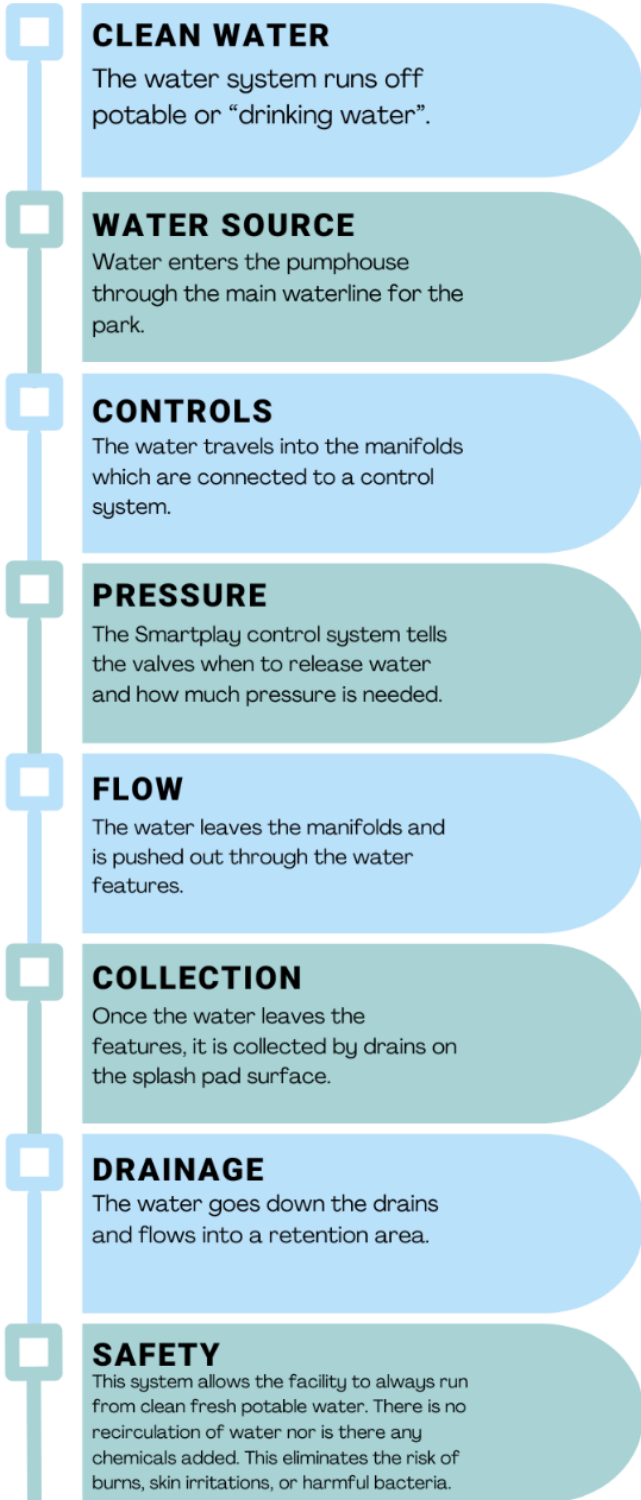
<https://adamstwp.org/non-profit-booth-application/>

**Event Webpage:** <https://adamstwp.org/adams-township-celebrating-america250/>

# Parks & Recreation

## SPLASH PAD

### HOW IT WORKS



We’re thrilled to kick off our 4th summer at the Adams Township Splash Pad. Whether you're looking to cool off, relax, or enjoy a lively community atmosphere, there’s something here for everyone.

The splash pad will be open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, giving you plenty of time all summer long to stop by and enjoy the water.

Daily hours run from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with extended hours until 8:00 PM every Wednesday, perfect for those warm summer evenings.

Concessions will be available on-site, and you won’t want to miss our weekly food truck nights, offering a variety of delicious options for all tastes. Visiting food trucks will be announced throughout the month of May via our social media accounts.

Are you looking to celebrate something special? Private rentals are available in June and July from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, making the splash pad the perfect place for birthday parties, group gatherings, or just a unique way to spend time together. Reservations for the splash pad can be made at [adamstwp.recdesk.com](http://adamstwp.recdesk.com).



# Public Works

## What you should know:

### Street sweeping

Street sweeping will begin at the end of April. Please don't park on the streets so the street sweeper can perform appropriately.

### Marburger Road

The current work on Marburger Road has been completed. The road was closed so that crews could widen the road to match up with Watters Station Road for the new Sports Complex in Forward Township. Further work is planned.

### Splash Pad maintenance

Painting and other repairs have begun to prepare the Splash Pad for opening at the end of May.



*Photograph: Completed phase of work on Marburger Road (2026)*

### Robotic mowers

Watch this Summer for the robotic grass mowers that were purchased this past winter. These remote mowers will help keep up with the endless job of mowing the park grass.

### How to report a dead deer on your road

If you want to report a dead deer or other animal on a township road, you can call the Game Commission at 814-432-3187. If you are reporting a dead deer on a state road, please call PennDOT 724-284-8800.

### Potholes or signs

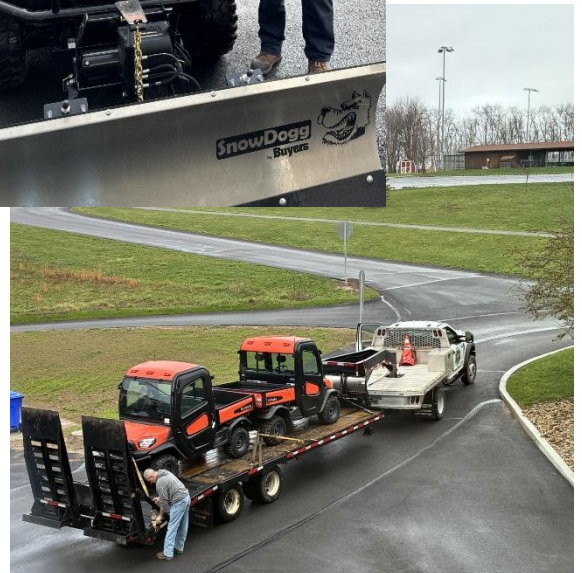
Report potholes or damaged signs to the Public Works Department to 724-591-1041.

### State roads in the township

- Callery Rd. (from Kline Ave. to the Cranberry Twp. Line)
- Crider Rd. (from the intersection with Myoma Rd. to Rt. 228)
- Crowe Avenue
- Kline Avenue
- Mars – Evans City Road
- Mars – Valencia Road
- Myoma Rd. (from the intersection with Crider Rd. to Mars-Evans City Rd.)
- Pittsburgh Street
- Route 228
- Union Church Road
- Warrendale Road
- West Road



*Photographs: Recent delivery of new side by sides to help maintain the park and clear snow (2026)*



# Police



## Coming Soon to Adams Township: Safe Exchange Zone!

This area is a designated, secure location where individuals can meet to exchange items (such as online sales or custody transfers) with reduced risk. This area will be in Adams Township Community Park, will be monitored by cameras, located in well-lit public space, and will be near the Adams Township Police Department to ensure safety and deter criminal activity.

See the interview with our K-9 Unit on YouTube on the Township's new channel @AdamsTownship

<https://www.youtube.com/@AdamsTownship/videos>



Photograph: Officer Kiko



Interview with our K-9 Unit



THANK  
YOU  
NextTier Bank  
FIREWORK SPONSOR  
ADAMS TOWNSHIP: CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250<sup>th</sup>  
JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>



## Codes

### **SPRING WEATHER BRINGS FUTURE DREAM PROJECTS**

As the nice weather starts to shine your future dream projects are starting to be planned. With that in mind, Adams Township Code Enforcement would like to give some advice and information to help you plan these projects. In early spring pools, fences and decks begin. The structure of the process has steps that need to be followed to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of our community. These following paragraphs are to help you along the way, and at any time you can always contact the Township Code Department with questions or concerns at 724-625-1827.

**Fences:** Fences in Adams Township don't require a permit. With that stated there are still rules that need to be followed. If you have a Homeowner's Association an approval through them is a must. The Township doesn't allow chain link fences to be installed. All fences must be kept outside of the road right-of-way. The maximum height for a fence is six feet tall. If the fence is next to a roadway, the sight triangle must be reviewed by the Township. The front yard is not allowed to have a privacy fence; privacy fences are for side and rear yard only. This goes a little further with corner lots. Corner lots are viewed to have two front yards. This can be confusing, and please contact us with questions on land that is a corner lot. Adams Township allows the fence to be installed on the property line. We highly recommend a property survey be carried out. This allows you to know your property boundary. You are not permitted to install your fence on your neighbor's property. If there is a dispute on a fence between your neighbor and your property, this is a civil dispute and will have to be settled between the two property owners. Fences are allowed to be installed over certain easements, but not all. Please contact the Township for more information on which easements a fence cannot cross. The Township cannot tell you where the easements are as only a property survey can provide that information. The Township cannot conduct property surveys. It is the homeowner's responsibility for the removal and re-installation of their fence if the easement needs to be accessed; not the person that is doing work within that easement.

For all fences, the Township recommends that you draw the fence on a plot plan and submit the drawing to the Township ([code@adamstwp.org](mailto:code@adamstwp.org)). We will review the drawing and look for concerns or problems you could run into. These guidelines are for houses without a pool as there are stricter guidelines for fences that surround a pool and are included in a following section.

**Decks:** A deck for your house is a great place for many occasions, from lunch in the summer with the kids to having a barbeque with friends. In these times we want your safety never to become a concern. With the permit review and process, we will ensure that the deck is built to meet current code compliance, which is the 2021 International Residential Code with amendments by the State UCC. There are normally three inspections for a deck:

1. footer inspection,
2. framing inspection, and
3. final inspection.

Also, if a deck/porch has electrical work involved, a rough and final electrical inspection will be required from a third-party agency.

## Codes

**Pools:** All Pools are required to have fences around them except above ground pools that meet the height restrictions for a fence. All gates for pools need to swing out from the pool area and must be self-closing and self-latching. The height of your fence must be a minimum of 48 inches with a latch system at a height of 54 inches. The fence cannot be climbable. When submitting your pool permit, an example of your fence design will have to be submitted with the paperwork.

When an inground pool project starts a temporary fence must be installed around the dig site until the permanent fence is installed to keep people, children, and animals safe. The pool can't be in an easement and must be at least 10 feet from the property line to water's edge. The concrete surrounding the pool must be a minimum 3 feet from the property line. The Township recommends 10 feet to the concrete from the property line. You will need an electrical bonding inspection and final electrical inspection by a third-party agency, not Adams Township. On the final inspection by the Township, we will check that the electrical inspections were completed, if not, we cannot approve final occupancy. The safety of you, your family, and your friends is very important to us. The final occupancy responsibility falls on the permit holder/homeowner. It is not the Township's responsibility to follow up on your project to make sure inspections are called in.

Pools can be an amazing and fun feature for your family and friends. To stress, Adams Township takes the safety of you and your family very seriously. We hope you make many great, safe memories with your pool.

*Adams Township knows that any project can feel overwhelming and have many unfamiliar steps. This was a quick information guide to help you along the way. When a permit is brought to the Township, there are procedures that must be followed and we are available to help you with all of them. Please contact the Code Department at 724-625-1827 with any questions. Our main goal is the health, safety and welfare of you, your family, and our shared community.*

**Welcome to  
the Planning  
Commission  
Andy  
Kennedy!**

***Pictured on the far left  
in the photograph***



*Photograph: Planning Commission as of March 2026*

**PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Mars Area Public Library**

From Library Staff:

**Friends Spring Book Sale:** Mark your calendars for the Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale, running April 16 through April 19. This popular event is a great way to stock up on reads while supporting the library. Proceeds from the sale help fund special programs and initiatives, including our *Modern Dinosaur* chick hatching experience this summer.

**Youth Chess Tournament:** Join us for a Youth Chess Tournament on Saturday, May 23 at 11:00 AM. Open to students in grades 3 through 12, this event is perfect for both seasoned players and those looking to test their skills in a friendly setting. Whether you're playing to win or just for fun, come make your move at the library!

**Summer Reading: Unearth a Story:** Get ready to dig into a summer full of fun. Our Summer Reading Program, *Unearth a Story*, kicks off June 5 and is packed with storytimes, hands-on programs, creative crafts, and more. There's something for all ages, so join us as we uncover stories, spark imagination, and make this a summer to remember.

**Dinoseize 3D Print Project:** Something BIG is taking shape at the library. We're taking on a dinoseize 3D printing project, and you can watch it come to life piece by piece. Stop in to see the printer in action and stay tuned to our social media for details on our upcoming build day. A special thank you to Ethan Nicholas for generously sponsoring the remaining filament needed to complete this project. Any extra filament will go toward creating 3D printed prizes and program materials for Summer Reading.



**FRIENDS OF THE MARS AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Spring BOOK SALE**

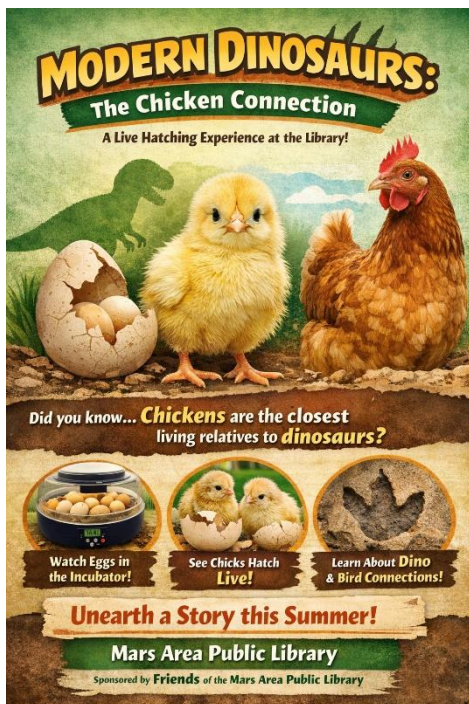
**THURSDAY, APRIL 16 ● 10AM - 6:30PM**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17 ● 10AM - 2:30PM**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18 ● 9AM - 3:30PM**  
(BAG SALE AVAILABLE, \$15 A BAG)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19 ● 12PM-3PM**  
(DISCOUNT BAG SALE, \$5 A BAG)

Bring your good condition book donations to the Mars Area Public Library's Community Room April 8 through April 14 during regular library hours to help support the sale!



**MODERN DINOSAURS: The Chicken Connection**  
A Live Hatching Experience at the Library!

Did you know... **Chickens** are the closest living relatives to **dinosaurs**?

Watch Eggs in the Incubator! | See Chicks Hatch Live! | Learn About DINO & Bird Connections!

**Unearth a Story this Summer!**  
Mars Area Public Library  
Sponsored by Friends of the Mars Area Public Library

**The Modern Dinosaur:** Did you know chickens are considered modern-day dinosaurs? Thanks to the support of the Friends of the Mars Area Public Library, we're bringing this connection to life all summer long. Stop by to watch as we incubate eggs and experience the excitement of chicks hatching right here at the library. After their debut, the chicks will stay with us for two weeks before heading off to a local homestead.

**Word from the Director:** The past few weeks reminded us just how strong this community is. Thank you for your support, flexibility, and trust while we worked through unexpected challenges. We're proud to be back open and even more excited for what's ahead. From new programs to big projects, we're ready to keep building something great together.

## PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Adams Area Fire

*From the Adams Area Fire Team:*

Earlier this year, the Adams Area Fire District took delivery of a new Fire Engine to better serve the community. The 2025 Seagrave Marauder II is the product of countless hours of research and design to build this mission specific apparatus. The new Fire Engine hosts updated technology and safety features including the following.

- Seating for 6 Firefighters
- 750 Gallons of water
- 2,000 Gallon per minute pump
- Lower rear hose bed
- Increased storage capacity
- Advanced emergency lighting



*Photograph: New Fire Truck (2026)*

This new Fire Engine is finishing its upfitting at the dealer and is expected to hit the streets of the community in the coming weeks. We are grateful for this new apparatus and appreciate the continued support of the community and municipalities.

### Recent Sponsorships for the 250<sup>th</sup> Event



### Upcoming Event:

**Adams Township War Memorial Service for living and deceased Veterans**

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at the Adams Township War Memorial

Free luncheon after service

## PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Callery Fire

*From the Callery Fire Team:*

As spring brush fire season gets underway, Callery Volunteer Fire Company is ready to respond.

Our primary wildland response unit, UTV19—a Can-Am Defender—is built for the job. This versatile off-road vehicle is equipped with a fire pump, 85 gallons of water, hose lines, and a full complement of brush fire hand tools. Its off-road capability allows our crews to quickly access fires in wooded and hard-to-reach areas where traditional apparatus can't go.

So far in 2026, UTV19 has already been deployed to 11 incidents, proving to be a critical asset in protecting our community.

In addition to fire suppression, the UTV is also outfitted with a Stokes basket, enabling us to perform rescues in remote or limited-access locations.

Whether it's fighting brush fires or assisting with rescues, UTV19 helps ensure we can respond quickly and effectively—no matter where the emergency occurs.



*Photographs: UTV19 (2025 & 2026)*

## PARTNER ORGANIZATION: Quality EMS

*From Quality Staff:*

At Quality EMS, our mission is simple: to provide the highest level of care to the communities we serve while continually striving to improve the way that care is delivered. We are proud to serve Adams Township and 5 other municipalities. We recognize that the trust placed in us by our communities is both an honor and a responsibility we take seriously every day.



Our team is dedicated to pushing the boundaries of pre-hospital care. Emergency medicine is constantly evolving, and we are committed to evolving with it. Through ongoing training, continuing education, and the adoption of innovative technologies and best practices, we work to ensure that our patients receive the most advanced and effective care possible before they ever reach the hospital. Whether responding to a routine call or a critical emergency, our clinicians bring professionalism, skill, and compassion to every interaction.



We passionately believe that our people are our most important asset. The strength of Quality EMS comes from the dedication, experience, and character of our team members. Because of this, we place a strong emphasis on supporting them in meaningful ways. We strive to promote a healthy work-life balance, recognizing that the demands of emergency services require time to rest and recharge. We are also committed to providing a livable wage and creating opportunities for professional growth, as we work toward being the employer of choice in our region.



By investing in our team, we are investing in the quality of care our community receives. When providers feel supported and valued, they are better equipped to perform at their highest level when it matters most. This approach allows us to maintain the professionalism and excellence that our residents have come to expect.

None of this would be possible without the continued support of the communities we serve. Your trust, encouragement, and partnership make it possible for us to grow, improve, and remain focused on our mission. We are grateful for that support and remain committed to giving back through the care we provide each and every day.

At Quality EMS, we understand that when you call us, it is often during one of the most difficult moments of your life. That is why we remain focused on taking care of our team, so they are ready to take care of you on your worst day.

*Photographs: Members of the EMS Team (2026)*