



Peters Township

Public Utilities Maintenance Activities Policy

Resolution #09-01-23

Date of Adoption: September 11, 2023

A. Statement of Purpose

Public Utilities periodically undertake activities for the purpose of maintaining their easements and right-of-ways as well as their facilities. While Public Utilities do not have a legal obligation to notify the Township of their maintenance activities, often the Township is notified by utility companies of their proposed maintenance activities. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that when possible, residents of Peters Township are informed and prepared for any utility work that occurs near their homes.

B. Background

Public Utilities in the state of Pennsylvania (water, gas, electricity, telecommunications) are regulated by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. Public utility lines exist by right within the road right-of-way of a public street as well as established utility easements and right-of-ways that traverse the Township.

Periodically, Public Utilities perform maintenance activities to maintain their easements and right-of-ways as well as their infrastructure. These activities include ones designed to control vegetation such as mowing, tree removal, and spraying. They also include activity to maintain the utility infrastructure itself.

C. Responsible Parties

1. Administration

The Assistant Manager will assume primary responsibility for addressing concerns related to the periodic maintenance activities performed by public utilities.

D. Engagement with Public Utilities

Before March 1st of each year, the Assistant Manager will reach out to Public Utilities to determine if there are any projects planned to maintain their easements and right-of-ways as well as their infrastructure for the coming year. These projects included but are not limited to vegetation management.

E. Notification Process

1. Council

The Township's Assistant Manager shall notify the Council of any known significant utility easement maintenance projects at a regular meeting of Council.

2. Notification to Residents

For significant projects, the Assistant Township Manager will notify, via U.S. Mail, all affected residents in or adjacent to the work zone. The notification shall provide residents with basic information concerning the proposed utility work and, if possible, a point of contact for the Utility Company and/or the Contractor.