



To: Christopher Garges, Township Manager

From: Christopher Clewell, Public Works Director

Date: April 1st, 2026

Re: Public Works Department Report for March 1st-March 31st, 2026

The following is an outline of the work performed by the Public Works Department during the month of March 2026.

Roadway Maintenance and Street Repair

- Crews filled potholes on township owned roadways as needed
- Crews were dispatched to provide barricades/cones for fallen trees in wires that required the roads to be closed
- We put out and picked up (10) ten barricades for the Scoogie Run that was held on March 15th
- Thankfully the March 3rd black ice storm was our last storm for the 2025/2026 winter season. The Public Works Department put in countless hours this winter to keep our residents and all commuters safe while driving in Solebury Township. We worked as a team and I feel that we all did an excellent job considering the long extensive hours at work. The communication between the Police, Admin, Public Works, and School District went as well as it could have this winter
- We have had 575 tons of salt on order between the Co-Stars contract with Cargill Salt, and the Consortium contract with Morton Salt since February 1st 2026. Just in the last 2 weeks, Morton Salt has delivered what we had previously ordered through them. We haven't received any salt from Cargill Salt to date. We have cancelled that order and will order the remaining salt with Morton Salt to restock out salt barn over the spring and summer months. We plan to fully stock our salt shed this year as the price of salt delivered is expected to go up next year
- We have cindered all three dirt roads for additional traction after the one ice event we had on March 3rd. (Old Carversville Road, Laurel Road, and Cuttalossa Road)

Storm Sewer Maintenance / Watershed and Flood Protection

- Reviewed and responded to (112) one hundred and twelve PA 1 Call requests per the (PUC) Public Utility Commission requirements. We are at a 100% response rating for the year so far
- Checked all storm sewers before and after any forecasted rain events to ensure proper drainage
- We have formed a list of manhole castings that stick up that may cause damage to the plow trucks. We will be addressing them this spring well ahead of next winter

- We have found two catch basins that need repair, one on Low Road at Aquetong Road and one on Hillside Lane at River Road
- We found a catch basin that needs mortar work along Tamarack Drive which will be addressed in April

Sign Work

- We have continued to identify and log a “to do list” for street signs that are in need to be replaced or cleaned
- We have removed numerous advertisement signs throughout the township as per the sign ordinance
- We replaced a welcome to Solebury Township sign that was damaged on SR0232 Windy Bush Road
- We ordered (2) Litter Crew Ahead signs and class 2 safety vest for the “Adopt a Road Program” which will begin sometime in the near future in Solebury Township

Fleet Maintenance

- Preventive maintenance repairs were made to police and public works vehicles as needed
- The cleaning of Public Works vehicles and equipment was performed as needed
- State Inspections were performed on several Public Works and Police vehicles
- We have begun to oil the frames of the salt trucks to preserve the metal from the road salt eating it away

Miscellaneous

- Installed multiple shelves in the Administration Building
- Completed a few lawns repairs where our plow trucks slide off the road during the ice storms. We removed damaged grass, filled ruts with topsoil, seeded, and hay
- We repaired several damaged lawn areas around the Administration Building from this past winter plowing operations
- We had the front gutter over the lower section of the Administration Building replaced. We believe that it was allowing water to run off the roof and causing water issues in the Police Department. The gutter was in bad shape and could not be rehung in its current condition
- New Hope Fire Department assisted the Public Works staff with removing a National Weather Service Balloon from the top of a Pine Tree in the rear of the Public Works Building. It's called a weather balloon instrument/ radiosonde. We have offered all of it to Solebury New Hope Schools for Science education and studies. The National Weather Service flies 76,000 of these instruments each year to monitor the weather

Lake Solebury

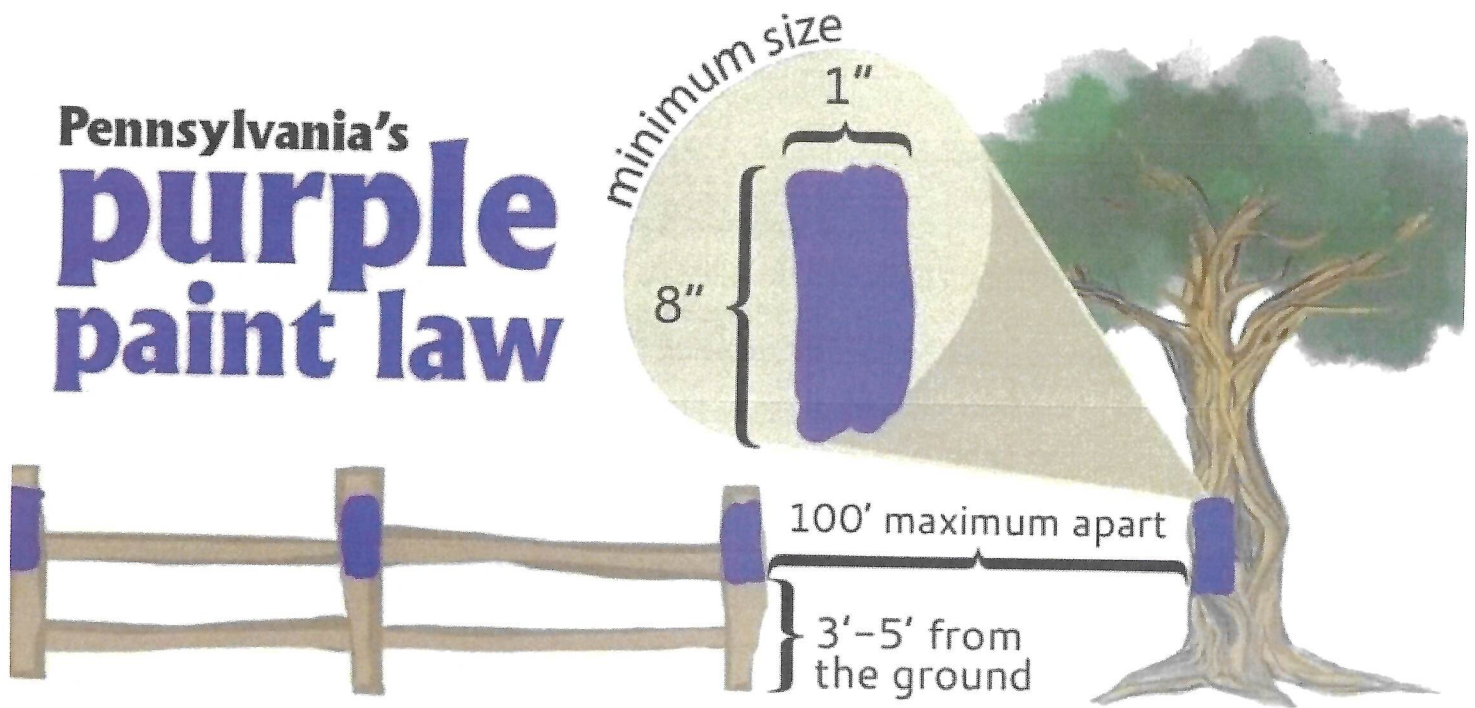
- Have worked on getting several quotes for a new gate with an automatic gate controller for Lake Solebury
- The roof and gutters have been replaced at the Lake Solebury House
- We have had our Electrician locate all of the underground electric to the Lake house. We want to make sure that all of the connections to the gutter downspouts have a clean run to discharge the water prior to the new install
- We removed (2) large stumps in the rear of the Lake house by the large bay windows
- We had the front north facing wall to the Lake house power washed and added (2) coats of clear water repellent sealer to the wall to eliminate water from penetrating into the house
- We worked with our Tree Contractor to assist the Solebury Police Department to install a new camera at Lake Solebury on March 7th. This hi-tech camera will be very helpful for Police Surveillance and monitoring of the Lake property 24/7.
- We added more awareness to our trespassing issues and overall safety at Lake Solebury by marking trees on the entire boundary line with purple paint which also means no trespassing.
- There were several sections of the fence purposely cut at some point and time for access to the property. We will be looking into addressing these areas of concern sooner than later

Public Works Director, Solebury Township

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Christopher Clewell

A change, during 2020, in Title 18, of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code (2019 Act 103), gives Pennsylvania landowners the option of using purple paint, rather than signs, to post their properties and alert others that lands are private and trespassing isn't permitted. The Pennsylvania Game Commission has summaries of this recent law on its web site.



This law is effective in all but Philadelphia and Allegheny counties.

Landowners using purple paint to post their properties use vertical purple lines that are at least 8 inches long and 1 inch wide. The bottom of the mark must be no less than 3 feet or more than 5 feet from the ground. And painted marks are not more than 100 feet apart.

Now that the “purple paint law” is effective, hunters and trappers should know they might encounter purple markings on trees and that these marks are meant to define the boundary of an adjoining private property that's posted against trespassing.

The new law also authorizes unarmed persons to go onto private property for the sole purpose of retrieving a hunting dog.

In Pennsylvania, failure to obey purple painted marks, as well as signs or verbal commands to keep out, is considered defiant trespass – a third-degree misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and \$2,500 in fines. If trespassing occurs while hunting, additional game-law violations – and additional penalties – also might apply.

A recent legislative act has provided the Pennsylvania Game Commission the authority to investigate trespassing complaints and enforce trespassing violations as a primary offense, even if game law violations aren't alleged.

PA
Purple
Pink
Low
(2020)
NO
Threatening





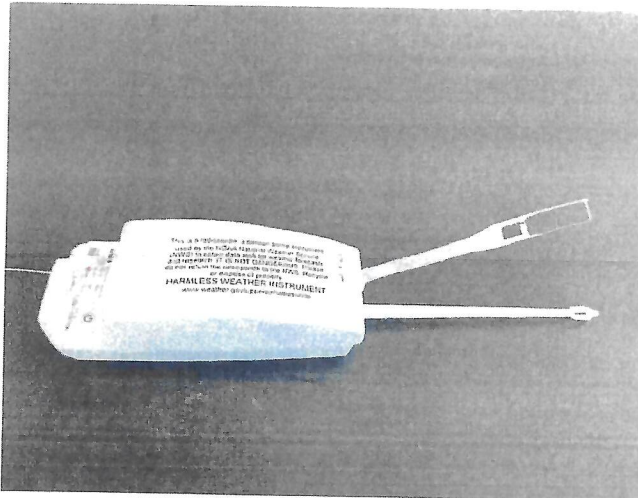
Weather Balloon Instrument/Radiosonde Information

Weather.gov >> Weather Balloon Instrument/Radiosonde Information

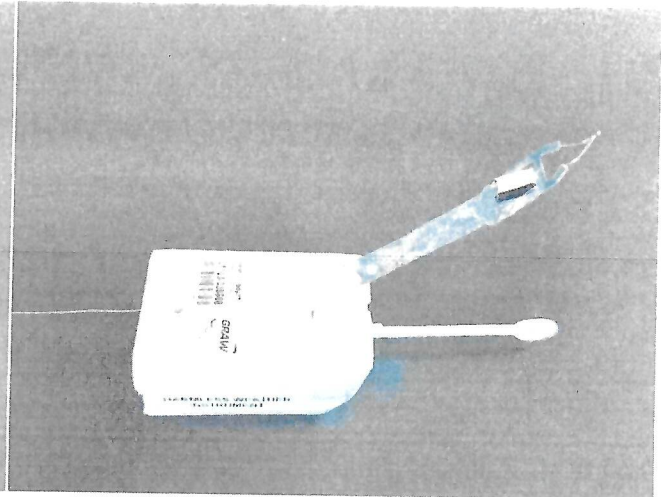
National Program

[Upper Air](#) [Videos](#) [Useful Links](#)

What to do if you find a weather balloon/radiosonde:



Vaisala RS41-NG Radiosonde



GRAW DFM-17 Radiosonde

If you have found a National Weather Service (NWS) Radiosonde, it is safe to handle. Photos of radiosondes commonly used by the NWS are shown above.

Around 76,000 radiosondes are flown every year within the NWS upper air network. This means that an opportunity to find one of these instruments does exist! NWS radiosondes will have very specific language printed on at least three sides of the radiosonde stating "Harmless Radiosonde Instrument", a website address that brings you to this location, and a NOAA image, all found on the radiosonde labels. Other types of radiosondes found within our network may be related to academia, Incident Meteorologists (IMETs), hobbyist, and even outside Meteorological services such as Canada or Mexico.

If you do encounter a radiosonde, here are a few suggestions on what to do:

1. Radiosondes are attached to cotton twine which may also be attached to an orange parachute and/or shredded balloon. If you come upon a radiosonde, please cut the string that attaches to the radiosonde, and discard the remaining items. This helps keep the environment clean.

IMPORTANT: On rare occasions the balloon may be found partially inflated with gas. The gas inside the balloon may be flammable hydrogen. If the balloon is inflated, keep away from it and contact your local fire department for safe disposal.

2. Currently all radiosondes are encased in a Styrofoam covering to protect the electronics and batteries from extreme temperatures and moisture intrusion. Most likely the radiosonde you find will not be powered on, as the battery life has run out. If you find a radiosonde that still has a power light on, the radiosonde is still transmitting data, but rest assured, the data needed by the NWS has already been sent to its data partners, and the battery life will end relatively soon.

3. **There is no need to return radiosondes back to the NWS.** This means that it is up to you to make the decision on what to do with the radiosonde. Some people keep the unit as a keepsake and conversation starter, others have donated to local schools or science clubs. In the event that the radiosonde is severely damaged, or you just don't want it, feel free to discard the unit, following local disposal regulations.

4. If you have any additional questions, would like to let the NWS know you found a radiosonde, or would like some information on the radiosonde you found, please reach out to upperair@noaa.gov or NWS.PA@noaa.gov

