



The Borough of Newtown



FALL/WINTER 2025-26

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

As we enter the final months of 2025, I am deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in me to serve as your mayor. Every day I'm reminded that a thriving borough is not built by one person, but by a whole community working together. Working alongside our police, fire department, council members, borough staff, volunteers, and so many of you — I have seen first-hand the power of what can be done. I am proud of what we have accomplished together, and confident in what remains ahead.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks for your support, your feedback, and your dedication to this town we call home.

Thank you,

Mayor John S. Burke

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Although these newsletters are helpful in providing relevant information to Borough residences, businesses, and visitors, we recognize that immediate updates cannot be communicated in this format. If you would you like to stay current on what is happening in Newtown Borough government, we invite you to check out our website and subscribe to email news. Please visit www.boroughofnewtown.com, click on Email Updates at the bottom of the home page, and receive monthly emails pertaining to important meeting topics, annual street sweeping, Borough-wide surveys, and more. While on the website, check out all of the resources available to you including those in the codes section, permits & forms page, on the website calendar and in our news, meetings, and events sections.

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Linda



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Municipal - School - Zoning & Land Use - Tax Assessments - Personal Injury - Estates

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Newtown Borough Meeting Schedule

Borough Council Work Sessions, and all the meetings of Boards, Commissions and Committees of Council, are held in Borough Council Chambers, 23 North State Street, Newtown. All Work Sessions are held at 5:30 P.M. on the first Wednesday of the month. The semi-monthly meetings of the Council are held the third Wednesday at 7 PM in the auditorium at The Chancellor Center, 30 North Chancellor Street, Newtown and when applicable, the fourth Thursday at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers at 23 N. State Street, Newtown. Please see the borough website calendar <https://www.boroughofnewtown.com/calendar> for meeting details of the various Committees of Council.

WINTER STORM WATER POLLUTION SOLUTIONS

With colder weather right around the corner, water pollution prevention is very critical. Winter brings with it unique and significant pollution concerns to our lakes and rivers. Because the ground will be frozen over the next few months, it acts like a hard surface similar to asphalt or concrete. It no longer has the ability to act like a natural filter.

Pollutants accumulate in snow banks and ice during the winter. When the snow melts, all the grime, grit, dirt, road salt, and other pollutants are washed into our storm water systems, streams, rivers, and lakes.

Be good to the environment and remember these suggestions for reducing your winter impact on our streams, rivers and lakes:



- ✓ **Be stingy with your salt application and consider alternative salting methods.** Road salt can be harmful to plants, aquatic life and drinking water supplies. Salt alternatives like potassium acetate (KA), calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), or sand are less damaging to homes and landscaping and can be used to de-ice and improve traction on a walkway or driveway. If you do apply salt, shovel first and apply as little as possible.
- ✓ **Rethink rinsing your garage floor.** While it's tempting to take out the hose and wash that ugly, gray sludge and salt off your car and out of your garage on a mild winter day - please stop! Residue left from road salt, oil, gas, and other road pollutants drips from your car and ends up on the garage floor. One alternative is clean your car by taking it to a commercial car wash where the drains flow to waste water treatment facilities. A clean car means a cleaner garage!
- ✓ **Watch your waste.** Picking up pet waste is just as important in the wintertime as it is in the warmer months. Animal waste can be a significant source of harmful bacteria and disease.

Help to keep our watersheds wonderful even in the winter! If you observe pollutants entering the storm sewer or stream, please contact the Newtown Borough Office at 215-968-2109.

BOROUGH DIRECTORY

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

John Burke	Mayor
Tara Grunde-McLaughlin	Mayor-Elect

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Emily Heinz	President
Kris Bauman	Vice-President
Gail Foley	Councilor
Josh Phillips	Councilor
Gina Tognini	Councilor
Julia Woldorf	Councilor

Borough Council meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. See the website for times and locations.

BOROUGH STAFF

Craig Totaro	Borough Manager & Treasurer
Judy Musto	Borough Secretary
James Sabath	Chief of Police
Ana Gindhart	Building Inspector & Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer
Judy Musto	Tax Collector

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Bucks County Visitor's Bureau:	215-639-0300
Bucks County Court House:	215-348-6000
Bucks County Department of Health:	215-345-3318
Newtown District Court: Michael W. Petrucci	215-968-1657
Newtown Post Office:	215-968-6697
PennDOT:	215-345-6060
Council Rock School District:	215-944-1000
Police Non-Emergency:	215-860-7835
State Representative: Perry Warren:	215-493-5420
State Senator: Steve Santarsiero:	215-736-5960
U.S. Representative: Brian Fitzpatrick:	215-579-8102
Newtown Library Company:	215-968-7659
Newtown Building & Zoning Office:	215-968-2109 press 1
Newtown Bucks County Jt. Municipal Authority:	215-968-4109
Newtown Borough Tax Collector:	215-968-2109 press 4
Newtown Fire Rescue Non-Emergency:	215-968-2800 x255
Newtown Emergency Medical Services:	215-968-3500

For a complete list of Boards & Committees, see <https://www.boroughofnewtown.com/boards-committees> and to apply to current vacancies, see <https://www.boroughofnewtown.com/volunteers-needed>. If you have any questions pertaining to these volunteer roles, you may contact Councilor Gina Tognini at gtognini@boroughofnewtown.com.

PARKING PERMIT REGULATIONS

- Parking permits are valid from **1/1/2025** through **12/31/2025**
- The cost of the permit is \$200.00
- Permits are **ONLY** valid in the municipal parking lot located at 10 West Centre Avenue by the Old Newtown Beer Store and Wine and Spirit Shop.
- The permit allows you to exceed the 3 hour parking limit
- Permits are required **Monday** through **Saturday**
- Permits **must be visibly** displayed on the inside rear-view mirror
- If the permit is not properly displayed and a ticket is issued, there will be a **\$5.00** Administrative withdrawal fee. Repeated violations of this violation and failure to pay this fee may result in the cancellation of the permit.
- Permits are **NOT** valid for **ANY** on-street parking (example: state street and centre avenue)
- Expired permits **MUST** be returned to the newtown borough police department. If permits are not turned in, then you can not purchase a new permit for the next year
- Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/newtownboroughpolice>) for any parking restrictions or snow removal.

**IMPORTANT
NOTICE!**

Newtown Borough Council is waiving parking time limit restrictions in the business district on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from November 27 through December 31. The waiver does not include the 30-minute parking spaces, which will continue to be enforced. The parking limit will also continue to be enforced Monday to Wednesday.



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with any other discounts. Exp. 12/31/26

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Parents: Know the Law Regarding E-Bikes in Pennsylvania



Not every electric bike being sold online or in stores is legal to ride on public roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, or trails in Newtown Borough or elsewhere in Pennsylvania.

Legal e-bikes must:

- Have operable pedals
- Be under 100 lbs
- Have a motor under 750 watts
- Not exceed 20 mph
- Riders must be at least 16

All other "e-ride" or "e-dirt" bikes are designed for **off-road use only** in PA. Riding these e-bikes in public areas can result in

finest, impoundment, court appearances, and charges against riders (and parents).

Before you buy an e-bike, confirm it is legal per the criteria above — unless you intend it to be used off-road only. If you already own an e-bike please ensure who is riding it and where it is ridden conforms with PA laws.

PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN, YOUR WALLET, AND YOUR RECORD! For more information: PA E-Bike Laws

E-BIKE SAFETY AND ETIQUETTE TIPS:

- Know the type and specifications of the device you're riding and where you can ride it.
- Maintain safe speeds at all times, consider trail and weather conditions, and always be cognizant of other users along the trail.
- Stay to the right, pass on the left.
- Let other trail users know you are coming -- give a friendly greeting.
- Limit distractions, don't impair your hearing (i.e., by wearing headphones or ear buds).
- Obey all trail and road signs.
- Slow down in congested areas.
- If you're on wheels, yield to pedestrians.
- Use special care when passing horses.
- Helmets are required by law for persons under the age of 12 and are recommended for bicyclists of all ages.
- Maintain single file when passing or being passed.
- Stay on the trail. Do not go off the trail (even to pass), create new trails, or cut switchbacks.
- Don't block the trail. When taking a break, move to the side of the trail to allow others to pass safely.
- Expect the unexpected. Humans and animals can be unpredictable.



MARCOLLA

REALTY

Expect Better

A group of seven real estate professionals, including men and women, are standing in front of a large, modern house with a brick chimney and a green lawn.

Dave Marcolla
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C. 609-423-9147
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Newtown, PA 18940
Dave@MarcollaRealty.com
www.MarcollaRealty.com

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The logo for Twinkle Star Dance, featuring a star and the text "BC Discoveries Twinkle Star DANCE".

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A young girl in a pink tutu is performing a dance move, with her arms raised and one leg bent.

A group of four young girls in blue leotards are posing together, smiling at the camera.

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The Newtown Library Company

Founded in 1760

Bucks County's Oldest Library



STORYTIME

Children ages 0-5 with their caregivers enjoy picture books read aloud & activities
EVERY TUESDAY from 10:00am-10:45am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly **SHARE YOUR SHELF** on November 19th & December 17th at 5:30pm
Bring a favorite book to share & discover what others are reading!

KIDS FALL CRAFT & STORY on November 12th 5:30-6:30

Stop by the Newtown Library Company on December 6th
during the **NHA HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR**

BOOKLOVER'S PARTY FUNDRAISER coming in February 2026

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NEWS!

There will be NO membership forms mailed this year.

Membership will be done **online or in person!**

Please renew your membership at www.newtownlibrarycompany.org

OR Get your renewal form at the library front desk.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for news, updates, & special events!



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Newtown's HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR Celebrating 62 Years!

On Saturday, December 6, 2025, celebrate the beauty of the season with the Newtown Historic Association's (NHA) Holiday House Tour. Now in its 62nd year, this tour gives visitors the opportunity to peek into several of Newtown's unique private residences, all dressed up for the holidays!

The streets of Newtown Borough will be alive with the sounds of the season as tour-goers make their way to the five town residences on this year's tour. Besides the private homes, there will be several public buildings open for visitors. All sites are within easy walking distance from the town center.



The cost of the tour ticket also includes entry into the Half-moon Inn, home of the Newtown Historic Association. Once inside this beautifully restored 18th Century building, tour-goers will enjoy period musical entertainment and hearthside colonial cooking demonstrations.



Tour hours are from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Advance tickets can be purchased for \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members at the Newtown Book Exchange (cash or check only), 102 South State Street and online at: www.newtownhistoric.org/events/annual-holiday-open-house-tour/.

Tickets can be purchased on the day of the tour, December 6th, for \$40 at the Half-moon Inn, 105 Court Street and the Stocking Works, 301 South State Street, Newtown, PA 18940.

Please no photography or high-heeled shoes.

**For additional information, please call the
Newtown Historic Association at 215-968-4004
or visit our website at www.newtownhistoric.org/**



205 South Chancellor Street



114 Liberty Street



217 South State Street



122 Congress Street

Newtown Historic Association
**2025
Holiday
House
Tour**



250 South Chancellor Street

ADVANCE SALE TICKETS

\$30 members,
\$35 nonmembers

Available after
Nov 15 online at
newtownhistoric.org

or
Newtown Book
& Record Exchange
102 South State Street
Cash or Check Only

DAY OF TOUR TICKETS

\$40 members
and nonmembers
Available at
Half Moon Inn (Court Inn)
105 Court Street
215-968-4004

or
The Stocking Works
301 South State Street

2025 HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS THE HISTORIC NEWTOWN THEATRE

December is packed full of holiday cheer at the historic Newtown Theatre, located at 120 North State Street. Complete lineup* and ticket sales at TheNewtownTheatre.com.

- **"Rat Pack Christmas Special"** (concert) – Sunday, November 30 at 3:00 p.m.
- **"She Loves Me"** (live theatre presented by the Newtown Arts Company) – December 4 – 7 at various times
- **"The Muppets Christmas Carol"** (movie) – Sunday, December 7 at 9:00 a.m.
- **"The Bells of St. Mary's"** (movie) – Tuesday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m.
- **"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"** (movie) – Tuesday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m.
- **"Merry Christmas Darling with the Sassies"** (concert) – Wednesday, December 10 at 3:00 p.m.
- **"March of the Wooden Soldiers"** (Laurel and Hardy movie) – Wednesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m.
- **"Christmas Unplugged"** (concert) – Thursday, December 11 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"It's a Wonderful Life"** (movie) – Friday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m.
- **"Dueling Pianos Christmas Special"** (concert) – Friday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"A Very Valli Christmas"** (concert) – Saturday, December 13 at 2:00 p.m.
- **"Elf for Grownups"** (movie for 21+ only) – Saturday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"Home Alone"** (movie) – Sunday, December 14 at 9:00 a.m.
- **"It's a Wonderful Life"** (movie) – Sunday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m.
- **"An Illuminated Classical Christmas Concert"** featuring the Newtown Chamber Orchestra – Tuesday December 16 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"A Celtic Christmas"** (concert) – Wednesday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m.
- **"White Christmas Singalong"** (movie) – Wednesday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m.
- **"White Christmas"** (movie) – Thursday, December 18 at 3:00 p.m.
- **"Bad Moms Christmas"** (movie event) – Thursday, December 18 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"Christmas Hits & All-Time Classics with Chris Pinnella"** (concert) – Friday, December 19 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"A Christmas Story"** (movie) – Saturday, December 20 at 1:00 p.m.
- **"Motown Christmas Concert"** (concert) – Saturday, December 20 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"3rd Annual Slambovian Circus of Dreams Christmas Concert"** – Tuesday, December 23 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"Polar Express"** (movie) – Saturday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.; Saturday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday, December 21 at 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.; Wednesday, December 24 at 9:00 a.m. (no tickets available at the door)
- **"Broadway in Newtown PA"** (concert) – Saturday, December 27 at 8:00 p.m.
- **"New Year's Eve Comedy Shows"** – Wednesday, December 31 at times TBD

*Event titles, days and times subject to change

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Newtown's Annual

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*The First Saturday
in
December*

Event details at
thenewtownexperience.org

Friday before

Tree Lighting

First Saturday in December

Holiday Open House Tour

Sunday after

Holiday Parade

Join the festivities in
December!



Be Part of the Experience!

CHECK OUT OUR
NEW WEBSITE



NEWTOWN BOROUGH POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Bird in Hand** *Private Residence*
111 S. State Street
Built prior to 1690 and one of the oldest frame houses in Pennsylvania. A marker in the garden describes a skirmish at this site in 1778 with British troops.
- 2 County Office Building** *First National Bank Offices*
34 S. State Street
Built in 1796 as the County Office Building when Newtown was the county seat from 1726 to 1813.
- 3 The Court Inn (Half-Moon Inn)*** *Newtown Historic Association, Inc. Open to the Public*
Court Street & Centre Avenue 215.968.4004
Built in 1733 and originally called The Half Moon Inn. It is known as The Court Inn because it is located diagonally across from the former site of the Court House building and was a popular pub in town.
- 4 Edward Hicks House** *Private Residence*
122 Penn Street
Built in 1821 by Edward Hicks. This house is constructed of Pennsylvania fieldstone and was considered a modest home at the time it was built.
- 5 Newtown Borough Council Chambers***
23 N. State Street
Built in 1854 to house the Borough offices and jail. Newtown Borough was incorporated April 16, 1838.
- 6 Newtown Common** *Historic Marker*
100 N. State Street (rear)
In 1683 when Newtown was surveyed, thirty acres along Newtown Creek were reserved for free use of water and pasture land. This tranquil small park still remains public property.
- 7 Newtown Creek Bridge***
W. Centre Avenue
Built in 1796, this double-arched stone bridge is the oldest stone bridge in Bucks County and the fourth oldest in Pennsylvania.
- 8 Newtown Friends Meeting House and Burial Grounds***
219 Court Street
Built in 1817. Painter Edward Hicks, recognized as a leading minister of the Meeting, was often in attendance. Hicks is buried in the graveyard.
- 9 Newtown Library Company** *Open to the Public*
114 Centre Avenue 215.968.7659
Third oldest library in Pennsylvania, serving the community since 1760.
- 10 Linton Memorial Park**
199 S. Lincoln Ave.
Family Park features a Peaceable Kingdom sculpture.
- 11 Brian S. Gregg Memorial Park**
129 N. Congress Street
Playground and park located next to the Chancellor Center.
- 12 Newtown Theatre**
120 N. State Street
Built in 1831, it is the oldest continuously operating movie theater in the US.
- 13 Patriots Park**
112 Court Street
Site of the Revolutionary War skirmish in 1778, when Loyalists raided the property where tailors were making and mending uniforms for the soldiers camped at Valley Forge.

** Listed on the National Register of Historic Places*

For a more complete listing of historical sites in the Borough, stop by Borough Council Chambers or The Court Inn for a free walking tour brochure.





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The Borough of Newtown would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community, for it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents. The Borough would like to further request that citizens, in response, patronize these businesses first when given a choice as these businesses are saving each citizen tax dollars.

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2025 RATES

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WEEKDAYS (Monday-Friday, Excluding Holidays)		
	Walking	Riding
Seniors	\$28.00	\$40.00
Regular	\$35.00	\$47.00
Heroes (Military, Fire, Police, Ambulance)	\$28.00	\$40.00
After 2:00 (Everyone)	\$28.00	\$40.00

WEEKENDS (Saturday & Sunday Plus Holidays)

	Walking	Riding
Regular	\$45.00	\$57.00
After 2:00 (Everyone)	\$35.00	\$47.00

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2859 S Eagle Rd, Newtown PA, 18940 (Next to Harvest Grill) 267-796-0842 | OILDIVINE.COM

NEWTOWN BOROUGH ACCEPTED INTO THE 2025-2026 LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAM

The Newtown Borough Environmental Advisory Council is excited to share that we will participate in the 2025-2026 Local Climate Action Program (LCAP). The LCAP is a joint venture with the Pennsylvania DEP, Penn State University, and local communities throughout the state. Newtown Borough is one of just six communities participating this year. And we are counting on your help and feedback as we move through this project.

Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection created the Local Climate Action Program (LCAP) in 2019 and today the program is run by Penn State in collaboration with the DEP's energy office. The LCAP partners upper-level Penn State students with Pennsylvania's local governments to determine a community's greenhouse gas emissions and help with climate action planning. Using publicly available data such as PECO electric and gas usage (both residential and commercial), and traffic data from the state, we are able to compile an 'inventory' of greenhouse gas emissions specific to the Borough. This fall, our Penn State students (and faculty advisors) will develop that inventory and create an overview presentation. This winter the students and advisors will work with Borough government partners to identify potential opportunities to reduce emissions based on the inventory and work towards climate action plans. And, importantly, participation in this program comes at no cost to Newtown Borough.

We are a small borough of just 2,200 residents in half a square mile, so why look at greenhouse gases and climate change? Do we even have opportunities to reduce emissions? And if we do have opportunities, are they meaningful? That's why the greenhouse gas inventory is so important. It will give us a clear, factual look at what is happening in the Borough and allow us, all of us, to decide what we can do and want to do.

Again, we are counting on your help as we move through this project. The greenhouse gas inventory will be finished and presented to Borough Council by the end of the year. We will share the results with all of you at a council meeting and the presentation will be archived for your convenience. The planning phase begins this winter and we'll be reaching out for your input as we look at potential opportunities to reduce emissions in the Borough. This is a community project and the EAC is looking forward to working with everyone that is interested. Stay tuned!

**CHECK 511PA
FOR TRAVEL INFO**

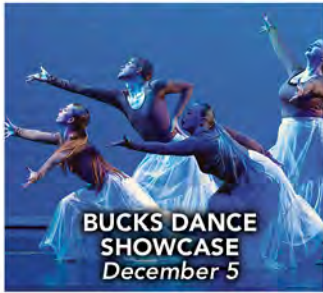
- Weather forecast & alerts
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The graphic features a smartphone displaying a map of the Harrisburg area with various travel alerts and route information. The map shows major roads like I-476 and I-81, and nearby towns such as Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg, and Elizabethtown. The phone screen also shows a search bar for destinations and a legend for different types of travel information.

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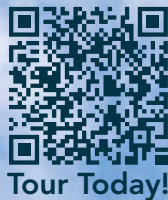


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NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAXES

In Newtown Borough, we have a few different types of local taxes:

1) Judy S. Musto, Elected Tax Collector

Real Estate Tax – The elected tax collector issues two real estate tax bills to every property owner each year. The first bill is mailed by March 1 and those funds go to Bucks County and Newtown Borough. The second bill is mailed by July 1 and those taxes go to the Council Rock School District.

Occupational Tax – The elected tax collector issues this tax bill by July 1 to everyone 18 years old or older who resides in Newtown Borough and works full or part-time. These funds also go to the Council Rock School District. **For those who have retired, moved, taken a new job, changed occupations, or have any other questions relating to their Occupational Assessment, please contact taxoffice@crsd.org.**

2% discounts are available to taxpayers who pay within the first two months of billing. Further questions regarding these two types of taxes should be directed to Judy at taxcollector@boroughofnewtown.com or by visiting website <https://jsmusto.wixsite.com/boro>.

For questions regarding property tax and rent rebates, contact www.revenue.pa.gov and www.crsd.org

2) Keystone Collections Agency, Appointed Tax Collector

In addition to the above, Keystone Collections Agency is the Bucks County appointed collector of earned income tax (EIT) and local services tax (LST), and they can be reached at www.keystonecollects.com. The 1% EIT is split evenly between the Council Rock School District and Newtown Borough. Like federal and state income tax, residents file local tax returns by April 15 each year.

The collection of delinquent taxes depends on the type of tax and taxing authority to whom the funds are paid. See the following:

Real Estate Tax/County & Municipal – Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau <https://www.buckscounty.gov/323/Tax-Claim-Bureau>

Real Estate Tax/School – Portnoff Law Associates <https://www.crsd.org/departments/business/tax-information/delinquent-taxes>

Occupation Tax/School – G.H. Harris & Associates <https://www.crsd.org/departments/business/tax-information/delinquent-taxes>

Earned Income Tax/School & Municipal – Keystone Collections Agency www.keystonecollects.com



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2025-26

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