



# TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM

## Board of Commissioners

MUNICIPAL OFFICES  
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## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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## Commissioners:

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## Township Manager

Doug Bruce

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021

After being impacted by two large storms in August that caused extensive flooding, the township was hit with the remnants of Hurricane Ida on September 1. Another 5 to 6 inches of rain was dumped on the already saturated ground and required barricades in many of the usual locations. The difference with this storm is that much more rain fell in the Lehigh River Drainage area up in the Poconos. This resulted in the Lehigh River rising several days later and causing damage to the Tow Path trail and two Trailheads along Wilson Avenue. For several days after Ida our crews were cleaning up debris and downed trees along the tow path and bike path. However, we were lucky that no damage was sustained to any of our roadways. As far as the tow path repairs, we had to have a small crew down there most of the month repairing the 2 trailheads just so we could get back on the path to start repairing the top that was washed away by the river. The most time-consuming issue is that the path is too narrow to get a dump truck access to this area. Most of the material had to be bucketed in with our skid loader and worked in little by little.

We continued grass cutting in all of our detention ponds, parks and open spaces along with using the Radial arm mower along the roadsides. We had several sinkholes open up. A sinkhole formed in the Cul-de-Sac of Miller Circle that was dug out and flow fill placed and repaved. The retention pond in LVIP VI off Baglyos Circle has had several sinkholes over the years and another opened up again and we have requested guidance from our various engineers as to this ongoing issue.

We had our crew do some road milling and paving in the Hope Ridge area along with some storm inlet repairs in that area. The berm at the Northside Complex off Meyer Lane had several trees that had died over the years and the township received a complaint from the neighboring property in Fox Chase. So we obtained 5 new pine trees and planted them in the vacant spaces in the top of the berm.

The Yard Waste Recycle Center recorded 1227 visits for the month. We have been keeping up with the tub grinding of the yard waste on a monthly basis and hauling the mulch to Green Pond Nursery as is customary.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard W. Grube  
Chief of Public Works