

FAMILIES FIRST 21st ANNUAL 5K RACE & 1 MILE FUN WALK

By Frank Jones

SLATE BELT - Please join Families First as we celebrate our 21st year serving residents in the Pen Argyl Area School District and participate in our annual 5K Race & 1 Mile Fun Walk on Saturday, September 9, 2023. The Race and

Walk will start at 9 am in the Wind Gap Borough Park. Registration the day of the Race will begin at 7:30 am.

The Race Coordinator for our race is none other than the Great Mr. Phil Giaquinto, retired Plainfield School Principal, celebrating his 21st year as our Race Coordinator.

This event is for the entire family. All proceeds will go to support the Adopt-A-Family Holiday program and activities provided by Families First. "PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE" in the Pen Argyl Area School District!

A copy of our official registration form can be downloaded from the Families First website: www.familiesfirstofpenargyl.org.



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Alert from Northampton County Emergency Management Services

Northampton County Emergency Management Services continues to gather accurate and detailed damage assessments following the severe flash flooding event that took place on Sunday, July 16, 2023. FEMA Joint Assessment Teams will be on site to survey the damage this week, working collaboratively with PEMA, Northampton County Emergency Management Services, and municipal officials to conduct assessments for both individual assistance and public assistance. "Unfortunately, assistance from the federal government is not guaranteed," says County Executive Lamont G. McClure.

As of today, Tuesday, August 1:

Thirteen municipalities have reported municipal damages:

Bangor Borough (infrastructure, roadways)
County of Northampton (bridges)
East Bangor Borough (roadways)
Forks Township (infrastructure, roadways)
Lower Mount Bethel Township (roadways)
Nazareth Borough (roadways, park)
Palmer Township (infrastructure, parks/recreation)
Pen Argyl Borough (roads)
Plainfield Township (infrastructure, roadways)
Stockertown Borough (park, recreational trail)
Tatamy Borough (municipal park)
Washington Township (infrastructure, roadways)
West Easton (roadways)

Seven municipalities have enacted Disaster Declarations due to damages sustained:

Bangor Borough (7/17)
Forks Township (7/20)
Lower Mount Bethel Township (7/16)
Palmer Township (7/21)
Plainfield Township (7/18)
Upper Mount Bethel Township (7/20)
Washington Township (7/17)

Preliminary Public Assistance Damage Cost Estimate:

Accumulatively (county-wide) damages are currently estimated to be \$10,181,006.57, with some of the affected municipalities still working to report their estimated costs.

This estimated cost to date includes:
\$400,000 in damages to county bridges;

Approx. \$1.6 million in damages reported in Forks Township;
\$1 million + in damages in Lower Mount Bethel Township; and
\$3.7 million in damages in Palmer Township.
The 2022-2023 Public Assistance County & State Threshold Figures state that Northampton County must accumulatively (municipalities and County) document a minimum of \$1,389,502.44 in Public Assistance damages. In addition, the Commonwealth must document (all counties and state agencies) a minimum of \$23,014,795 for any county or the Commonwealth to be awarded a Disaster Declaration.

PEMA Damage Reporting Map. RED CIRCLES are residential or business damages. GREEN SQUARES are public damage sites.

Northampton County Emergency Management Services is receiving reports of residential damages (Individual Assistance) from over 235 households across 12 municipalities at this time:

Bangor Borough
Bushkill Township
East Bangor Borough
Forks Township
Lower Mount Bethel Township
Nazareth Borough
Palmer Township
Plainfield Township
Portland Borough
Stockertown Borough
Upper Mount Bethel Township
Washington Township

Residents and/or business owners affected by the flood events experienced on Sunday, July 16, are strongly encouraged to report damage to their local municipalities and complete the damage questionnaire on the Northampton County Emergency Management Services website <http://ncem-pa.org/> by Friday, August 4. This will ensure that the County sends detailed damage reports to both PEMA and FEMA. All assessments received by Northampton County Emergency Management Services have been or will be entered into the Commonwealth's damage reporter system.

A Crisis Clean-Up Hotline has also been established to connect those affected with information and possible assistance: 844-965-1386. The hotline will remain open through Friday, August 4. The Crisis Clean-Up Hotline is not affiliated with any local, county, state, or federal agency.

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