

Lifestyle

Snow's on the way: Keep it clear, throw it short

Well, old man winter has been giving us a fair amount of snow so far this season. While the white stuff can be beautiful to look at, not to mention fun to play in, skiing, snowboarding, sledding, it is not always fun to travel in, and even less fun to remove.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and our local road maintenance departments work many long hours to keep the roads clear and safe for travel. We also need to do our part to help facilitate those efforts.

Conewago Township and many oth-

ers across the region have snow and ice removal ordinances. In Conewago Township codes, under Chapter 130 – Article III – Snow and Ice Removal, you will read the following: § 130-20 Prohibited acts.

No person or entity shall, either personally or by others acting on his, her, or its behalf, deposit any accumulation of snow, ice, or other frozen materials upon the traveled section of any public highway, street, road, or alley located within Conewago Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania. This prohibition

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Gary Baumgardner



relates to dumping of snow either by hand, by mechanical device, by motor

vehicle or in any other manner which, in effect, results in any accumulation of snow, ice, or other frozen materials on the traveled portion of any public highway, street, road or alley of the Township. The fact that the highway, street, road, or alley surface was not plowed at the time shall not be a defense to a prosecution based on this article.

§ 130-21 Violations and penalties. Any person violating any provision of this article shall pay a fine of up to \$500, plus costs of prosecution.

These and other ordinances and

others can be found at: <https://www.ecode360.com/CO1794>.

Throwing snow and ice back onto the roadway may seem to be without real consequence, but this can pose a danger to other motorists when the material creates additional slick or icy spots and hardens into frozen deformities that could cause another motorist to lose control.

So if winter keeps dropping snow on us, let's keep it off the roadway while digging ourselves out.

Gary L. Baumgardner is the Conewago Township chief of police.

Why, where and when I ride a bicycle

When and where did you first start riding? Okinawa, in 1968 or 1969. I was an Army brat.

How often do you ride now? Just about every day, except when the weather is a combination of below 40 degrees plus winds over 5 mph because I hate being cold.

Why do you like to ride? I'm not actually a committed cyclist.

I ride for three reasons, which dictate where I go.

First, because it is practical: It's faster to get around town than walking and often almost as fast as driving once you factor in finding a place to park. I usually commute via bike from home to work (Gettysburg College).

Second, for exercise, it's way more fun to go fast on the battlefield than it is to run (plus easier on my body, and easier to enjoy the scenery.)

Lastly, I started as a very novice mountain biker last spring, so once per week, weather permitting, I head into Michaux State Forest.

What bikes do you ride? I have a Trek hybrid that I got at Gettysburg Bike shop about 15 years ago, and last spring I got a Trek mountain bike there, too. Not enough of an aficionado to know exactly what kinds they are, other than the kind that work.

HABPI

Scott Hancock



How long have you been riding and how has your riding changed over time? I've been riding for over 50 years. First bike was a red banana seat chopper-style with a high sissy bar on the back in the early 1970s that my brother and I could both ride at the same time for fun, or, as one of few black kids in the neighborhood, to escape the older bullies when we were living in Dundalk down in Baltimore.

The first bike with gears I had was a 10-speed red Peugeot in Heidelberg, West Germany, in the mid 1970s, that I rode to soccer practice and school, so an early form of commuting. The only things that have changed is I don't ride to escape being beat up anymore and have added some very beginner-level mountain biking.

What interesting bicycle adventures

have you had? Other than riding up the mountain just west of Dayton, Tennessee, for the fun of flying down it at 50-plus mph for fun, without a helmet, when I was in college (not something I'd do now), can't say I've had any particularly interesting adventures.

What tips do you have for other cyclists? I've never spent \$1,000 or more on a bike, and probably never will. However, after years of buying cheaper bikes (like \$100 or less) and constantly having them break down, we figured it was worth saving money and shelling out a few hundred for a bike that I could use daily and would last at least 10 years without needing constant repair.

Spending that on bikes at a local shop that you trust, which in our case meant Gettysburg Bike Shop, has been worth it.

What changes would you like to see to improve bicycling in Adams County? Not sure what the cause and effect relationship is, but if more bike paths encourage more people, especially kids, to bike, then I think they'd be worth it.

Scott Hancock came to Gettysburg in 2001. He teaches at Gettysburg College, which provides him enough flexibility to spend time at his real job, coaching soccer with Gettysburg High School and club players.

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