

Township of Cheltenham



Emergency Medical Service

8230 Old York Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027-1589

EMERGENCY: 9-1-1 Business: 215-887-5925
215-887-6200, ext. 555



October 2017

Dear Neighbors,

In 1982 the cost of a first-class stamp was 20¢, a gallon of gasoline was \$1.19, a loaf of bread was 60¢, the first issue of *USA Today* was published, and the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) ran our first call. We have come a long way in the past 36 years. In 1982, we had one "borrowed" Police van; today we have four modern, fully certified ambulances. In our first year we ran under 300 calls; today we average over 3,000. Our first crews were all volunteers. While we still have volunteers, the majority of calls are handled by our dedicated career staff. One thing that has not changed in 35 years is the professional care that we provide to those who are sick or injured.

Your care begins when you dial 9-1-1. The trained emergency medical dispatchers will guide you until help arrives. Please be clear when speaking to the dispatcher and make sure you say, "**I am calling from Montgomery County.**" This step is especially crucial when you are calling from a cell phone.

As our 36th birthday present to you, we are again not raising our subscriber rates for the 6th year in a row! This year our rates – \$60 for a family, \$40 for an individual, \$25 for a senior citizen (over 65), and \$50 for a senior couple – are an even better deal because we have raised our billing rates. A single ambulance call can be billed at over \$1,600, but you will have no out-of-pocket expenses if you subscribe today. We still reserve the right to bill your insurance company.

For your convenience, your subscription and any donations can be paid by check or credit card. However, the credit card company will charge a minimum \$3 convenience fee. You can pay online at www.CheltenhamTownship.org at "I Want to... » Pay » EMS Subscriber Fee and/or Donation." Please complete the enclosed subscription card with the names of all members of your household and mail it to us even if you pay online. And please don't forget to sign your card.

We would not be where we are today without your support and the support of the Cheltenham Township Board of Commissioners. We thank you for the last 36 years and look forward to serving you for many more.

Best wishes for a happy, safe and healthy 2018,

The Management and Staff at Cheltenham EMS