



WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

VOLUME 37 - SPRING 2011

NEWSLETTER

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Meeting Dates

Board of Supervisors Meeting
1st Tues. of each month 7:30 p.m.

Twp. Planning Commission
3rd Thurs. of each month 7:00 p.m.

Twp. Zoning Board
2nd Tues. of each month 7:30 p.m.

Phone Numbers

Office285-5554

Police.....285-5191

Emergencies..... 911
Police - Fire - Ambulance

TDD (800) 654-5984

FAX285-2879

www.twp.west-hempfield.pa.us

Board of Supervisors

David M. Dumeyer
Chairman

Edward C. Fisher
Vice Chairman

Frank R. Burkhardt
Township Supervisor

Tony T. Crocamo
Township Supervisor

Kent B. Gardner
Township Supervisor

Ron L. Youtz
Township Manager

HELPING RESTORE THE Chesapeake Bay



The commitment and efforts to restoring the Chesapeake Bay continues. As awareness of the problem grows, one truth is evident: Every resident of our region needs to be part of the solution. Our State Senator Mike Brubaker has been recently elected to serve

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as the Chairman of the Chesapeake Bay Commission for 2011. We all recognize the important role that Lancaster County plays in the efforts to restore the Bay.

Here are actions you can take to contribute in making a difference in the health of this national treasure.

“Pick 5” for Water Quality

The federal EPA has developed a Bay-wide Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. With 50% of the Bay’s fresh water coming from the Susquehanna River, actions within Pennsylvania, and especially Lancaster County, will be critical to meeting our water quality goals.

Excess nutrients promote the growth of excess algae, which in turn creates “dead zones” where fish and shellfish cannot survive. Similarly, too much sediment chokes



out the underwater habitat necessary for Bay organisms. Without these fishing resources, the commercial and recreational fishing industry is severely impacted.

Likewise, the conditions in the Bay are merely a reflection of what is happening upstream. If too much nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment are reaching the Bay, it means that their levels in our local waters are too high as well, and our own communities and quality of life are challenged.

Pennsylvania DEP is working to develop a fair and equitable plan to meet the TMDL requirements, and support for cost-effective, practical solutions will be an important part of upcoming legislation. Nevertheless, the level of nutrient and sediment reductions we are expected to achieve means that we cannot look to government alone for the answer. Each and every one of us contributes in some way to the poor health of the Bay, which means that each one of us can also be part of the solution.

Each individual and business in West Hempfield Township is challenged to “PICK 5” actions to improve water

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2011 HIGHWAY PROJECTS



Neighborhood Crime Watch

Are you interested in participating in the newly formed Mountville Borough/West Hempfield Township Neighborhood Crime Watch? If so, we will be meeting on the tentative dates listed below.

Meetings are held at the Mountville Area Community Center (MACC), unless otherwise noted. Mountville Borough has had a long standing Neighborhood Crime Watch program. With the West Hempfield Twp. Police patrolling the Borough, it only makes sense to include the Township residents in on the program. Come and join the events, meet our officers, and learn how you can help fight crime and not be a victim of crime.

- April 4th Presentation on Identity Theft
- May 2nd..... Presentation by Lancaster County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit
- July 31st National Night Out Kick-off Event
Borough Park across from MACC
- November 7th..... Tour of Dispatch Center
Lancaster County Wide Communication Facility

Contact Officer Bart Hollis for more information at 285-5191, ext 514.

RESURFACING

The following Township roads are scheduled to be resurfaced this year. Druid Hill Road from Horizon Drive to Summit Drive and Summit Drive from Marietta Avenue to Concordia Road. The area of Ironville Pike where sewers have already been installed will receive a scratch coat of asphalt this year. This process will help to level out the areas where the current sewer trenches are. The final paving layer will not be applied until the entire sewer project is completed in 2013 or 2014.

IRONVILLE PIKE SEWER PROJECT

We will continue with the installation of sewer lines in the Ironville area. The area on Holly Drive will be addressed first in 2011 and if time allows we will continue with the installation of sewers on Ironville Pike between Holly Drive and Prospect Road. There will be roadway closures during our work in an effort to keep everyone safe. We request your continued patience and cooperation during this ongoing project.

COUNTY BRIDGE PROJECTS

Lancaster County is undertaking two bridge replacement projects that will affect traffic on Township roads. Both the Eby Chiques Road bridge and the Garfield Road bridge will be replaced in 2011. Work on the Garfield Road bridge is scheduled to begin sometime in April. Construction work on the Eby Chiques Road bridge is expected to start in May. Detours will be set up around these construction areas.



Chicken Bar-B-Q

The West Hempfield Township Fire & Rescue Company will continue their Chicken BBQ's for 2011 on the following Saturday's:

April 2nd ■ June 11th ■ August 6th
October 8th

The starting time for all dates is 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Hall. Both eat-in and drive-thru service is available. We remind everyone to please follow the signs and to enter from the rear parking lot off Ivy Drive.



We encourage you to support these important fundraisers. These volunteer men and women make a true commitment in serving their community and keeping us all safe.

REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION

In the event that you need information regarding your real estate tax assessment or have a billing question, please contact the Lancaster County Tax Assessment Office at 292-8222 for municipal and county tax information or the Hempfield School District at 898-5565 with questions regarding your school tax. The West Hempfield Township Municipal Office does not bill or collect real estate taxes.

Township Awards Two Officers

The West Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors presented two officers with awards, as well as naming one of the officers as the 2010 Officer of the Year at their March meeting. Officers Richard C. Bowermaster, Jr. and Bradley J. Rohrbaugh were each presented with the Commendation Award and Officer Bowermaster was named Officer of the Year.

"These officers are being recognized for investigations that they conducted that went well above what is expected of officers assigned to patrol." stated Chief Mark G. Pugliese, "In both cases, their investigations lead to arrests of several individuals and cleared multiple cases for several different jurisdictions. In one case, the investigation cleared cases in another county as well."

COMMENDATION AWARD

The Commendation Award is awarded to any employee for an outstanding act that involved performance above and beyond the employee's basic assignment. It is awarded to police officers of any rank for outstanding performance of duties under unusual, complicated, or hazardous conditions. This year there are 2 recipients of the Commendation Award for 2010.

In June 2010, Officer Bradley Rohrbaugh received a report of a stolen vehicle from a residence in West Hempfield Township. This vehicle was subsequently recovered by the department in Mountville Borough. Officer Rohrbaugh received consent from the vehicle's owner to search the vehicle and in doing so recovered several cell phones and a GPS that were determined not to belong to the vehicle owner. Using the phones and GPS unit, Officer Rohrbaugh was able to locate victims and witnesses that ultimately lead to the arrests of 3 juveniles for offenses that included vehicle theft, burglary, defiant trespass and theft



from a motor vehicle. The juveniles' crime spree spanned over 3 jurisdictions and in all, property was returned to 7 victims.

Officer Rohrbaugh's diligent investigation started with a couple of cell phones and a GPS unit led him to several prosecution and clearing cases in 3 municipalities.

In the fall of 2010, the West Hempfield Township Police Department received 2 complaints of ATM machines being broken into at a Mountville Borough location. Officer Richard Bowermaster received some information while on patrol and with this information, he was able to develop several suspects and learned that the individuals may have perpetrated criminal acts in other jurisdictions as well. Through Officer Bowermaster's actions, he along with officers from 6 other law enforcement agencies in both Lancaster and York Counties were able to arrest 7 individuals for their involvement in 8 thefts, 6 burglaries, 1 stolen vehicle, as well as other criminal offenses.

Officer Bowermaster worked tirelessly, including hours that he was scheduled off-duty, to bring this case to prosecution. Officer Bowermaster coordinated the investigation so well that his work was complimented by a long time detective from a neighboring department.



OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The Officer of the Year is awarded to an officer who distinguished himself/herself through either an accumulation of exceptional contributions or a single incident, and whose actions clearly place the individual well above others of equal rank or grade. Areas of recognition include, but are not limited to: extraordinary valor, positive community impact, administrative accomplishments, crime prevention, training programs, traffic safety and innovative approaches to public service. This individual shall have truly represented the department in a favorable light, having reflected the vision and mission statements in their daily actions.

The 2010 Officer of the Year is awarded to Officer Richard C. Bowermaster, Jr.

Officer Bowermaster is an 8 year veteran of the police department having been hired in 2002. Even though Officer Bowermaster is assigned to the Patrol Division, he constantly and diligently handles investigations as a seasoned investigator would. As demonstrated by the earlier example mentioned, Officer Bowermaster can be relied upon to handle his investigation with dedication and tenacity. Officer Bowermaster's investigative skills reflect credit upon himself and bring credit to the department.



Chesapeake Bay

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quality, for the benefit of both the Bay and our own local rivers and streams. Here is a list to get you started. A complete list can be found at <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/helpthebay.aspx>.

- Compost grass clippings and leaves that fall during autumn. They are a natural source of fertilizer and organic matter for your lawn and trees.
- Minimize storm water runoff from your property. Utilize rain barrels, rain gardens, and pervious surfaces to promote infiltration of storm water to remove excess nutrients before it reaches storm drains and waterways.
- Plant trees and other native plants to promote water infiltration. Trees also provide natural cooling to help minimize energy use. Plant trees along stream banks to help stabilize the bank and filter excess nutrients from the water.
- Fertilize your lawn only when needed to establish vegetation or when called for by a soil test. When you fertilize, use a spreader that has been recently calibrated and apply at the minimum recommended rates at the proper time.
- Reduce energy consumption. Power plants are a significant source of nitrogen to the atmosphere in the form of NO_x, which gets deposited on land by rainfall and is a source of excess nitrogen to the Bay.
- Reduce fuel consumption. Automobiles are also a significant source of atmospheric nitrogen
- Maintain your septic system. Overburdened or malfunctioning septic systems are a source of nitrogen to groundwater and local surface water.
- Minimize garbage disposal use and utilize a backyard composter instead. It reduces the burden on sewer systems and the compost is a good source of fertilizer for gardens.

CURBSIDE YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

Recycling of grass clippings, summertime leaves and green plants through our refuse program resumes April 2nd and will continue weekly through October 15th. These items must be placed in Kraft biodegradable bags purchased at the Township Office for \$1.50 each. Small twigs, branches and shrubbery trimmings must also be placed in these bags during this time. There is a 30 pound weight limit for the Kraft bags. Brush, larger branches and any woody material too large for the bags must be tied into 4 foot bundles no heavier than 30 pounds and tagged with a GREEN yard waste tag sold in lots of 5 for \$7.50.

All yard waste will be collected on Saturdays regardless of what day your trash is collected. If your yard waste is not picked up on Saturday, please leave the items curbside and contact the Township office the next business morning to report the miss. Our hauler will have 24 hours to return for any misses after the miss is reported.

We strongly urge residents to not bag grass clippings. Grass clippings left on the lawn decompose and act as a natural, organic fertilizer. Please consider using our drop-off site as an alternative for other yard waste. See related article below.

WOODY WASTE RECYCLING DROP-OFF SITE

Beginning in April and continuing through September, the Township will again open the drop-off site along Norwood Road near the Fairview Park for Township residents to deliver woody waste. The site will be open from 9:00 AM until noon the second and fourth Saturday of each month. You do not have to be a participant in our refuse program to use this site.

Materials may be bundled or bagged and delivered by truck or utility trailer. Grass clippings will only be accepted if placed in a recycling bag purchased from the Township. Large tree stumps will NOT be accepted and no tree trunks larger than 8 inches in diameter. No plastic bags or other containers should be left at the site.

DROP OFF DATES FOR 2011:

April 9th & 23rd ■ May 14th & 28th ■ June 11th & 25th
July 9th & 23rd ■ August 13th & 27th
September 10th & 24th

ZONING OFFICER REMINDERS

The following are things to keep in mind for your spring clean-up and outdoor activities, as well as your everyday living in the Township.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits are required for all construction projects as well as a fence, pond, or a change in the use of the property. Permits are not required for: sealing driveways, painting, wallpapering, new flooring, sidewalks, swings, and replacement of siding or roof shingles. Please call the Zoning Office at 285-5554 if you have any questions. As of July 1, 2009, all contractors who perform home improvements totaling a cash value of \$5,000 or more per year need to register with the Attorney General's Office. The law requires written contracts between the contractor and consumer when the price of the project exceeds \$500.00. You can check if a contractor is registered by logging onto the Attorney General's website at www.attorneygeneral.gov or by calling 1-888-520-6680. All contractors must display their official registration number on all contracts, estimates, proposals, and advertisements distributed within the Commonwealth.

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG!

Whether installing a fence or deck, digging for a mailbox post, or just planting a tree, it is important to know what's below before you dig. Either you or your excavator must call PA One Call at 811 or 1-800-242-1776, anytime, three to ten days prior and the utility companies will be notified and mark where their underground lines are as necessary. It is the responsibility of the person digging to place the call. If you do not and the underground utility lines are damaged, you could be held responsible for all losses and expenses.

GARAGE/YARD SALES

You may have up to 2 yard sales per year. No sale shall be conducted longer than 2 consecutive days. One four (4) foot square sign is permitted for advertising the sale and shall be removed promptly upon completion. No aspect of the sale shall be conducted in a street right-of-way.

TRASH/GARBAGE/REFUSE/JUNK

Accumulation of trash, garbage, refuse, or junk for a period exceeding fifteen (15) days is prohibited.

GRASS AND WEEDS

As per Code of Ordinance Chapter 104, Grass and weeds in excess of six (6) inches in height shall be mowed. If found to be in violation, two notices will be sent. Thereafter, action will be taken by the District Justice for the violation without further notice.

SWIMMING POOLS

Any pool over 24" deep requires a permit. Any pool over 36" deep, including soft-sided pools, without a four-foot barrier requires a fence or wall. Pools must be at least ten (10) feet from lot lines and other structures.

LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT

As of April 30, 2010, any remodeling project that involves a residential property constructed prior to 1978 and will involve the disturbance of lead paint must be performed by a certified lead abatement specialist. The homeowner can still perform do-it-yourself projects, but any contractor doing a project that will involve removal of surfaces coated with lead based paint or the painting of lead painted surfaces must be properly trained. To find out more, you can call the National Lead information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD.

EROSION CONTROL

New state laws now require you to use Best Management Practices on ALL disturbed land. This means if you are digging out for a driveway or shed, or clear cutting land you must use BMP's to prevent erosion of the land. In the past only larger soil disturbances were covered under the state's erosion control guidelines. If you are going to dig, please call the Lancaster County Conservation District at 717-299-5361.

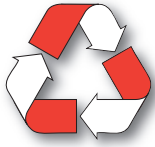


Swimming Pool Water

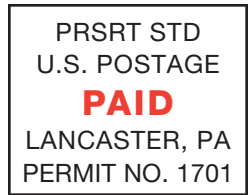
It's time to get the pool ready for the season and you might want to start with fresh water. Any existing pool water must be chlorine neutralized before being discharged and should be discharged into infiltration or vegetative areas of your property. It shall NOT be discharged into the Township's storm sewer system or street or onto a neighbor's property (Storm Water Management Ordinance).

West Hempfield Township

3401 Marietta Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601



Printed on recycled paper



ECRWSS

TO: Postal Customer

This publication utilizes bulk mailing rates and is delivered according to mail carrier routes. Delivery to homes outside of the boundaries of West Hempfield Township may occur where carrier routes continue into bordering municipalities.

APPLIANCE AND TIRE PICKUP

Tires and large appliances (washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, water heaters, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and freezers) will be collected for Township trash customers during special pickups scheduled as follows:

- For customers who have their trash collected on Thursdays, the special pickup will be on **Saturday, April 9, 2011**.
- For customers who have their trash collected on Fridays, the special pickup will be on **Saturday, April 16, 2011**.

Items should be placed curbside Friday evening before the scheduled pickup. Each appliance must be marked with a BLUE extra service tag (\$12.00 each); rimless tires must have one YELLOW tag attached, and tires with rims must have two YELLOW tags attached. If you have the necessary tags and are disposing of an appliance, tires and/or rims, register your name and address with the Township office **BEFORE** the above dates to ensure pick up. If you need to purchase tags, please do so **BEFORE NOON** on Friday, April 8th for Thursday residents or Friday, April 15th for Friday residents. Call the Township office at 285-5554 for more information.

If, for any reason, your appliance and/or tires are not picked up on the scheduled Saturday, leave the items curbside and call the Township office after 8:00 a.m. on Monday morning following the scheduled pickup.



Holiday TRASH SCHEDULE

*(Note: Clip and save
as a reminder)*

Trash collection for Township customers will be delayed by one day after the following holidays in 2011: Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving. Thursday customers will be picked up on Friday and Friday customers will be picked up on Saturday following the holiday. These four holidays are the only holidays that will affect trash pickup this year.

Christmas 2011 will not affect trash collection since it falls on the weekend.

Please make sure your trash and recycling are placed curbside the evening before. No return trips will be made.