



West Hempfield Township

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 48 - FALL 2016

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MEETING DATES

Board of Supervisors Meeting

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

Township Planning Commission

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

Township Zoning Board

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

November meeting is Nov. 15

PHONE NUMBERS

Office 285-5554
 Police..... 285-5191
 Emergencies 911
 Police - Fire - Ambulance
 TDD..... (800) 654-5984
 FAX 285-2879
www.westhempfield.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Vice Chairman

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Township Supervisor

Kent B. Gardner
Township Supervisor

Naomi G. Martin
Township Supervisor

James Williams
Interim Township Manager

Sergeant Jeffrey Mullin Recognized for 40 Years of Service



At the August 2, 2016 meeting the Board of Supervisors recognized Sergeant Jeffery G. Mullin for 40 years of service to the citizens of West Hempfield Township and more recently, Mountville Borough. Sergeant Mullin retired from the Police Department effective August 31, 2016.

Sergeant Mullin has been a member of the West Hempfield Township Police Department for over 40 years, making him the longest-serving police officer in the Department's history. He is a lifelong resident of West Hempfield Township. He graduated from Hempfield High School in 1972 and received his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Penn State University. He served as a cadet with the Lancaster City Bureau of Police before he was hired as a police officer in June 1976 and assigned to patrol. In August 1984 he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. During his tenure Sergeant Mullin served in many capacities including Traffic Sergeant, Criminal Sergeant and lastly Patrol Sergeant, a position he held up until retirement.

Sergeant Mullin was one of the Department's Accident Reconstructionists and one of the original reconstructionists of the Regional Crash Scene Investigative Unit that today is comprised of officers from West and East Hempfield Townships, Manor Township, Columbia Borough, and East Lampeter Township. The Department often utilized Sergeant Mullin's photography skills during his years on the force. He also taught classes at the Citizens' Police Academy and received many awards and commendations throughout his career.

The Board would like to thank Sergeant Jeffery G. Mullin for his many, many years of dedicated service to the citizens of West Hempfield Township and Mountville Borough and certainly wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP'S VISION 2040

Included in this newsletter is a 2-page survey vital to the Township's new Comprehensive Plan. Vision 2040 will consider where we are as a community, where we want to be in the future, and the steps we need to take to get there, by looking at where new development should go, how we protect our farmlands and natural areas, and how we provide for the public facilities and services we will need. We know our Township will evolve and change over time, and we need your input to determine what steps we should take to manage that change.

Completed surveys can be mailed to or placed in the dropbox at the Township Office at 3401 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17601 by October 31. Thank you for your participation in the future of West Hempfield Township.

A Fond Farewell



A fond farewell goes out to longtime Township employee Ron Youtz. He has accepted a new position in West Bradford Township, Chester County, as the Public Works Director.

Ron is a native of Columbia and began his employment in the Township as Public Works Director in March 1995. In October 2008, he was appointed Township Manager. His many years of experience in Public Works was an asset in helping him to deal with the zoning and planning issues of the Township.

He assisted a great number of residents in understanding and coping with how the proposed gas pipeline in the Township might impact their properties and advised them of upcoming informational meetings and ways to have their concerns addressed.

Ron was diligent in proposing balanced budgets over his years as Manager. He recently was working on plans to construct a modernized Township facility in conjunction with the West Hempfield Fire and Rescue Company.

An excellent communicator with his staff, his professional associates, and the public, Ron did not shy away from the tough issues facing the Township. He will be missed by Township residents and employees alike. We wish him the best in his new endeavor.



West Hempfield Fire & Rescue Fundraiser

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8: Chicken BBQ at 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Hall. Eat-in and drive-thru service are available. We remind everyone to please follow the signs and to enter from the rear parking lot off Ivy Drive.

WINTER ICE AND SALT

AccuWeather is predicting average snowfall for southcentral Pennsylvania this winter. However, the development of La Niña could lead to some big East Coast systems during the second half of the season.

Significant winter storms have a major impact on Township roads and our residents. Shoveling, plowing and salting are all common winter activities after a snow or ice storm. When dealing with ice, there are several types of deicers, ranging from regular salt (sodium chloride) to potassium chloride and magnesium chloride, to “green” products such as calcium magnesium acetate (CMA). However, any type of salt used in excess has an adverse effect on the environment.

■ Adding too much salt to an icy surface is a waste of money and increases damage to concrete, metal, rebar, bridges, cars, vegetation and drinking water.

■ Excessive salt can also prematurely age cement and asphalt through the freeze-thaw cycle.

■ Too much salt can saturate and destroy a soil’s natural structure and result in more erosion and sediment flowing into local watersheds.

■ High concentrations of salt can damage and kill vegetation.

■ Salt poses the greatest danger to freshwater ecosystems and fish. As salt increases in a stream, bio-diversity decreases.

■ Excess salt can seep into groundwater and run off into reservoirs, affecting the taste of drinking water.

Some best management practices for ice control when using salt can prevent an overabundance of salt and chemical runoff into the Township’s streams, the Susquehanna River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

■ Shovel snow early and often. Salt and deicers are not effective when more than 3 inches of snow have accumulated.

■ If the temperature drops after a snowstorm, the snow can turn icy and be harder to remove.

■ The more scraping and removal of ice that you can do, the less deicer you will need to use. Deicers work best on a thin layer of ice.

■ After you remove all the snow and ice, sprinkle salt sparingly. A successful rate for rock salt is about a handful per square yard. If using calcium chloride, the amount needed is less—about a handful for every 3 square yards.

■ As the sun comes out or the temperature rises, the deicer will make a slushy mixture of water and ice. Remove this before the temperature drops again and you should have an ice-free surface until the next storm.

■ Consider the temperature. Salt and CMAs have a much slower effect on melting snow and ice at temperatures below 25° Fahrenheit.

■ Track winter weather and only use salt and deicers when a storm is imminent. If a winter storm does not occur, sweep up any unused material, store it and recycle for the next big storm.

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MITTEN COLLECTION

West Hempfield Township’s municipal office staff is sponsoring a community outreach project for the holidays. Donations of new hats, gloves, scarves and socks for both children and adults are needed. The collection bin will be in the lobby at the Township Office at 3401 Marietta Avenue. Last day to donate is December 15, 2016 when the items will be taken to a Lancaster County charitable organization in time for the cold weather. Thank you in advance for your kindness!





Collections & Recycling

CLIP AND SAVE AS A REMINDER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Large Appliance & Tire Pickup Day for Township Trash Customers Only

- Each large appliance must be marked with a blue tag - \$12.00.
- Rimless tires must have one yellow tag attached - \$1.50.
- Tires with rims must have two yellow tags attached - \$3.00.
- Items should be placed curbside on Friday evening, October 14. The hauler usually starts the appliance pickup by 6:00 a.m. on Saturday.
- If you need to purchase a blue or yellow tag, please do so **BEFORE NOON on Friday, October 14.**
- If you have already purchased the necessary tag(s) and are disposing of an appliance, tires and/or rims, please register your name and address with the Township Office **BEFORE NOON on Friday, October 14** to ensure pick-up.

- If your appliance and/or tires are not picked up on Saturday, October 15, leave the items curbside and call the Township office on Monday, October 17 after 8:00 a.m., or leave message on the Township's voicemail.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Last Day for Yard Waste Bag Pickup

- After October 13, 2016 yard waste in the Township brown Kraft bags will not be picked up.
- From October 17 through March 2017 small amounts of yard waste, including bundles of branches, can be placed in the regular trash.

- If you have more yard waste than what fits in the toter or the three allowed containers, a yellow tag must be attached to each extra container. Yellow tags are sold in a sheet of five for \$7.50.

- No loose brush or woody material will be picked up. Woody waste must be contained in some manner or tied into bundles and weigh no more than 30 pounds. A green tag is required for each bundle. Green tags are sold in a sheet of five for \$7.50.

- Yard waste collection in the brown Kraft bags resumes April 2017. You are required to purchase these biodegradable bags from the Township. The sale of the bags pays for the pick-up program. Bags purchased at Lowes, Home Depot, Walmart or other stores are not permitted.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Last Day for Woody Waste Disposal

- This is the last day the Township's woody waste site is open. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to noon.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 17

Curbside Leaf Collection Begins

- The Township Public Works Crew will begin residential curbside leaf collection starting Monday, October 17.
- Rake leaves to the front of the curb or along the edge of the road. Leaf piles need to be within five feet of the curb or the road edge for Township equipment and crews to efficiently collect them.
- Township crews attempt to follow

the schedule, but leaf pick-up may vary due to volume and/or weather conditions.

- Dust is always an issue during dry weather conditions. The Township does its best to keep dust to a minimum.

- The dates listed are when the Public Works Crew **BEGINS** collecting in your area. It may take a full week to complete the route. The Township asks for your patience as this can be a difficult task for our crew during this season. Leaf pickup will continue until each route has been collected four times.

- **Residents East of Prospect Road:** Weeks of October 17, October 31 and November 14. Final collection starts the week of November 30.

- **Residents West of Prospect Road:** Weeks of October 24, November 7, and November 21. Final collection starts the week of December 5.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

Trick-or-Treat Night

- Halloween activities will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

2016 HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

- **Wednesday Customers:** The Thanksgiving holiday does not affect your trash collection.

- **Thursday Customers:** Due to Thanksgiving your trash collection is delayed one day to Friday, November 25, 2016.

- Christmas 2016 and New Year's Day 2017 fall on a Sunday and do

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SUPERVISORS PROMOTE TWO TO SERGEANT

The West Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors promoted two detectives - Christopher W. Kunkle and George F. Brace, Jr. - to the rank of Sergeant at the Board's August 2, 2016 meeting. In addition to their promotions, both detectives were recognized for their past performances and demonstrated leadership ability.



Detective Christopher W. Kunkle

Detective Kunkle has been a member of the West Hempfield Township Police Department since October 1996, first as a part-time officer and then as a full-time officer. He is a 1996 graduate of Ephrata High School and has Bachelor of Arts degrees in Criminal Justice and Sociology from Millersville University. He received his Act 120 Municipal Police training from the Reading Police Academy. For the first 6 years of his career, Detective Kunkle was assigned to the Patrol Division.

In April 2002 he was promoted to the rank of Detective and was responsible for the investigation of the more serious crimes that occurred within West Hempfield Township.

As a member of the county's Major Crimes Unit, Detective Kunkle was involved in many high profile investigations that took place in the Township as well as other municipalities throughout the county. In January 2012, Detective Kunkle was temporarily assigned to the Lancaster County District Attorney's office as an investigator. Detective Kunkle is a skilled investigator and extremely detail oriented. He has received his Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance certification.



Detective George F. Brace, Jr.

Detective Brace has been a member of the West Hempfield Township Police Department since January 2002. He is a 1987 graduate of Archbishop Wood High School and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Gwynedd-Mercy College in 1993. Detective Brace is a US Naval Reserves veteran and obtained the rank of Petty Officer prior to being honorably discharged in 1997. He received his Act 120 Municipal Police training from Temple University Police Academy. For the first five years of his career, Detective Brace was assigned to the Patrol Division.

In May 2007 he was promoted to the rank of Detective and was responsible for the investigation of the more serious crimes that occurred within West Hempfield Township. As a member of the county's Major Crimes Unit, Detective Brace was involved in many high profile investigations that took place in the Township as well as other municipalities throughout the county. In December 2014, Detective Brace completed a 10 month course and became a certified polygraph examiner.

Prior to becoming an officer with the West Hempfield Township Police Department, Detective Brace was a special agent with the United States Secret Service assigned to the Philadelphia Field Office and was employed with the East Earl Township Police Department as a patrol officer, Department OIC, as well as Chief of Police from January 1997 until April 2000. He is a skilled investigator and polygraph examiner.

Sergeant Kunkle shall assume duties as the Criminal Investigations supervisor and Sergeant Brace will be assigned to Administration and Accreditation.

PROMOTIONS & NEW HIRES

At the September 6, 2016 West Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors meeting, Chairman David M. Dumeyer administered the Oath of Office to newly hired officer Christopher D. Pfeiffer. Additionally, the Board of Supervisors promoted Officer Robert L. Bradfield to the rank of Detective.



Mr. Pfeiffer is a 2008 graduate of Solanco High School and a 2011 graduate of Delaware County Community College's Act 120 Municipal Police Officers training program. Mr. Pfeiffer has been employed

by numerous police departments in Lancaster County on a part-time basis and most recently, until September 5, 2016, was employed as a full time officer with the Southern Regional Police Department. Upon receiving his oath of office, Officer Pfeiffer will be assigned to patrol.



Officer Bradfield has been employed with the West Hempfield Township Police Department since October 2008. He is a 2004 graduate of Donegal High School and attended Lancaster Bible

College as well as Harrisburg Area Community College. Officer Bradfield received his Act 120 Municipal Police Officers training from HACC. During his tenure with the Department he was assigned to the Patrol Division. In addition to his patrol duties, Officer Bradfield has become one of the department's certified Use of Force and firearms instructors. Recently he was assigned to temporary duty in Criminal Investigations, an assignment he volunteered for. Officer Bradfield is detail oriented, organized and shows a strong work ethic. He has conducted his investigations in a well-structured manner.

We wish both officers the very best in their new positions.



WINTER WEATHER TIPS AND INFORMATION

Winter weather will soon be upon us. While we can never predict the number of storms, the intensity, or the snowfall amounts, we ask for patience and cooperation from all residents as the Public Works Crew operates continuously to keep Township roadways safe and passable.

West Hempfield Township has approximately 80 miles of Township-owned roads to maintain during winter weather events. Our first objective is to make every road passable. Each weather event is different and our plan and approach to snow/ice removal varies accordingly based on the forecast and the size and duration of a storm.

Below is a list of suggestions which will assist residents and the Public Works Crew in the snow removal process:

Vehicle Parking: When possible, we strongly recommend that all vehicles be parked off the roadway and in the driveway. Plowing operations can be carried out much more efficiently when crews do not have to navigate around vehicles parked on the street. This policy is even more important in cul-de-sacs. Parking in cul-de-sacs creates a huge challenge in our efforts to clear those areas.

Mailboxes: The Public Works Crew makes every effort to avoid causing damage to mailboxes. Mailboxes are in the Township right-of-way but are the responsibility of the property owner to maintain. Please take the time before this winter season to



be sure your mailbox and post are in good condition and are secure. The Township is not responsible for damage to mailboxes from snow that comes off the snowplow. The Township is responsible if the plow or truck actually strikes your mailbox.

Fire Hydrants: For you and your neighborhood's protection, please remember to clear snow away from any fire hydrants located on or near your property.

Driveway Shoveling Tip: Below is a diagram of the Township's driveway clearing recommendations. The following guidelines will help make the snow removal process easier, safer, and more effective for all.

- Plow or shovel snow to the right side of the driveway as you face the intersecting roadway. Piling shoveled snow away from the direction of oncoming snowplows prevents the bulk of the snow being pushed back into the driveway.

- Eliminate snow piles at the driveway entrance whenever possible. High accumulations of snow will obstruct the vision of motorists when exiting from driveways and hinder the ability of oncoming motorists to see a vehicle pulling out of a driveway. Tall snow piles have the potential to cause accidents.

- Do not push snow out onto roads at any time. This creates hazardous driving conditions for all vehicles.



SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL REGULATIONS

In 2001, West Hempfield Township adopted an amendment to the Township Code concerning the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks throughout the Township. The Ordinance places the responsibility for this removal on the owner and/or occupant of any property that fronts a street with a sidewalk.

Chapter 12, Article III requires:

1 Within 24 hours after the snow has ceased to fall or ice has ceased to form, there shall be a clear walk along the entire length of sidewalk of at least three (3) feet in width.

2 In the event that the snow or ice on a sidewalk becomes so hard that it cannot be removed without the likelihood of damage to the sidewalk, the responsible party shall cause enough sand or other abrasive to be placed on the sidewalk to make travel reasonably safe, and shall, as soon thereafter as weather permits, cause to be cleared a path in the sidewalk of at least three (3) feet in width.

3 Every responsible party shall remove and clear away any accumulation of snow and ice on a building or other structure which is liable to fall on any sidewalk, roadway, or public way within 24 hours after the cessation of any snow, sleet, or freezing rain.

4 Every responsible party shall remove and clear away, or cause to be removed and cleared away, any accumulation of snow or ice surrounding a fire hydrant located along the frontage of the property of the responsible party within 24 hours after cessation of any fall of snow, sleet, or freezing rain.

5 Depositing of snow or ice on a fire hydrant, sidewalk, travel lanes of a street or loading/unloading areas of a public transportation system by property owners/occupants is prohibited.

West Hempfield Township

3401 Marietta Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601



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Winter Ice and Salt

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■ In the spring, plant native vegetation in stormwater drainage swales and ponds that may receive salt-laden runoff. These native species have a greater chance for survival and act as an effective buffer to reduce nutrient export into the Chesapeake Bay. Salt tolerant trees include green ash, black locust, sycamore, sweet gum, pin oak, hemlock and bald cypress. High bush blueberry and bayberry are salt tolerant bushes.

■ Store salt and other deicer products on an impervious surface in a dry, covered area to prevent ground contamination and/or stormwater runoff.

Thank you for the large part you play in protecting our waterways in all seasons!

Information courtesy of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Collections & Recycling

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not affect trash collection for either Wednesday or Thursday customers.

■ Holidays not listed for 2016 do not affect trash pickup.

■ Holiday trash collection for 2017 will be listed in our Spring newsletter.

■ Make sure trash and recycling are placed curbside the evening before. Return trips are not made for items not put out in time.

JANUARY 1 TO 31, 2017

Christmas Tree Disposal & Recycling

■ West Hempfield Township residents may drop off Christmas trees for recycling at the Fairview Park parking lot on Fairview Road. Please note: This location is different from the Township's summer woody waste drop-off site.

■ Trees may be dropped off any time weekdays or weekends.

■ Remove bags and decorations from

the tree before leaving it on the pile.

■ The trees are ground into mulch for use at Township parks.

■ Please consider recycling your tree this year.

Trees Disposed of in Trash:

■ Trees placed out for trash pickup are not recycled.

■ To be disposed of as trash, the tree must have a red tag (\$4.00) attached and must be shorter than six (6) feet.

■ No Christmas trees will be picked up after March 31, 2017.

RECYCLING BINS

■ The Township provides a recycle bin to every Township trash customer.

■ If your recycle bin is cracked or broken beyond repair, bring in your old bin for trade-in and disposal in order to receive a new bin. Otherwise, you will be charged \$5.00 for a replacement bin.

■ The old bin can be disposed of at the Township building.