

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

VOLUME 44 - FALL 2014

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

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

Board of Supervisors

David M. Dumeyer
Chairman
Edward C. Fisher
Vice Chairman
Frank R. Burkhardt
Township Supervisor
Kent B. Gardner
Township Supervisor
Naomi G. Martin
Township Supervisor
Ron L. Youtz
Township Manager

Proposed Municipal Services Complex

In our fall 2011 Newsletter we advised you of our efforts to plan for our future building needs. At that time, the Township was engaged with an architectural firm to conduct a feasibility study that outlined various concepts to consider what would assist us in planning for our future. The feasibility study was completed later that year and presented to the Board of Supervisors. The study provided the Township with four separate options to consider.



Township Administrative and Police facilities were originally constructed in 1976 and expanded in 1990.

Our Township population has grown substantially over the past few decades and consequently so has the size of our Police Department. In response to that growth and the necessity to provide essential public safety services for our community, the Police Department has outgrown its existing space. The current facility creates many challenges in regard to space and other limitations. The 2011 feasibility study estimated the cost of a total renovation of this building at more than \$800,000. In addition, in order to meet all applicable codes and ADA requirements, renovating the existing building would cause a net reduction in useable space.

Since the time of the feasibility study we have engaged in discussions with the West Hempfield Fire & Rescue Company because they are also planning for a new facility. The original fire station in Silver Spring was built in 1955, and additions were constructed in 1966, 1975 and 1991. The Fire Department carefully assessed the current facility and identified future needs. The existing facility has many deficiencies and is very inefficient regarding energy consumption.

Earlier in 2014 the Board of Supervisors appointed a building committee that would meet to further identify our needs and to explore options on how we can best fulfill our responsibility of providing the various public services for the Township.

Further discussions and investigating led us to the concept of a combined facility that could include Police, Fire and Administrative departments. The committee toured a similar facility in Cumberland County, the only one of its kind that we were able to identify.

In the near future, the Building Committee will be making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the particulars of estimated building size along with what such a facility would most likely cost. We believe that a combined

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ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

If you are paying trash bills or street light/fire hydrant assessments to the Township through online banking it is extremely important that you make sure that you are:

- 1 sending the payment to the proper place with payment payable to "West Hempfield Township";
- 2 referencing the correct account number for the bill you are paying;
- 3 referencing the correct address the bill pertains to; and
- 4 paying the correct amount due as referenced on the bill stub.

These type payments are not sent to us electronically. We receive an actual check from your bank, and since we do not receive the bill stub along with the payment, it is often difficult to determine your payment intentions. We receive numerous payments with incorrect account numbers referenced, as well as checks payable to us, but which are intended for your gas company, the electric company, the water company or other service suppliers.

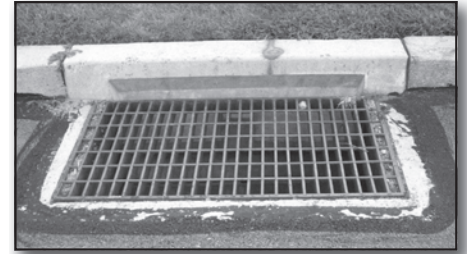
Your attention to the above items is greatly appreciated by Township staff and will ensure that your payment is credited to the proper account in a timely manner.



Reducing Runoff: Clean Water is Every Resident's Responsibility

The next time it rains or when the snow starts melting with the approach of spring, take a look outside. There, you'll see water trickling over your lawn, down your driveway, and into the street.

To some, this may be a calming sight. However, for anyone who knows anything about runoff, this is an alarming event because as the water flows over land, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and carries them to nearby streams, wetlands, lakes, and storm sewer systems. There, the runoff is discharged, untreated, into the water we all use for swimming, fishing, and drinking. As a result, stormwater runoff is one of the greatest threats to the nation's water supplies.



Instead of being part of the problem, township residents can be part of the solution by practicing healthy household habits that can keep common pollutants, including pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids, off the ground and out of storm water. We've pulled together some suggestions to help you get started:

VEHICLE AND GARAGE

- ◆ Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and, eventually, local waters.
- ◆ Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Be sure to clean up any spilled fluids with an absorbent material, such as kitty litter or sand, and remember: Don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain; instead, dispose of the absorbent material properly.
- ◆ Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.

LAWN AND GARDEN

- ◆ Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, follow the guidelines for the recommended amounts. Also, avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into local streams.
- ◆ Select native plants and grasses that are drought- and pest-resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.
- ◆ Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas, and compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- ◆ Don't overwater your lawn and only water during the cool times of the day. In addition, don't let the water run into the storm drain.
- ◆ Cover piles of dirt and mulch that are being used for landscaping projects to prevent pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard and into local waterways. Also, vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.

HOME REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT

- ◆ Before beginning an outdoor project, look around for the nearest storm drains and be sure to protect them from debris and other materials.

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COLLECTIONS & RECYCLING

(Note: Clip and save as a reminder)

YARD WASTE COLLECTION STOPS IN OCTOBER

Please remember that after October 16th of this year, yard waste will not be picked up as a special collection. After October 16, 2014 and through March 2015, small amounts of yard waste can be placed out as regular trash. If you have more than the toter or the three containers allowed, a yellow tag must be attached to each extra container. Kraft bags do not have to be used during this time. As usual, no loose brush or woody material will be taken; it must be contained in some manner or tied into bundles no more than 30 pounds.

Please do not bag leaves for trash disposal at this time of year since the Twp. Highway Department will collect leaves curbside. Please refer to the collection schedule to the right for those pickup dates.

Please mark your calendars as a reminder that collection of yard waste as a special, separate pick-up will resume in April 2015 and does require that you purchase biodegradable bags from the Township. The final date for drop-off this year at the Woody Waste Site will be Saturday, September 27, 2014.

LEAF COLLECTION

The Township provides leaf collection to residential properties each fall. Please rake leaves to the front of the curb or along the edge of the road. Leaves need to be within five feet of the curb or the edge of the road for our equipment and crews to efficiently collect them. Our crews attempt to follow the schedule, but it may vary due to volume and/or weather conditions. During dry weather conditions dust is always an issue and we will do our best to keep it to a minimum. The dates listed are when we will start in your area and it may take us a full week to complete the route. We ask for your patience during this season as this can be a difficult task for our crews. We will continue our work until each route has been collected 4 times. Below is the schedule:

Residents East of Prospect Road: October 20th, November 3rd, and November 17th. Final collection will start the week of December 1st.

Residents West of Prospect Road: October 23rd, November 10th, and November 24th. Final collection will start the week of December 8th.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

West Hempfield residents are again invited to drop off their Christmas trees for recycling during the month of January at the parking lot of Fairview Park on Fairview Road. An area will be set aside for this purpose. Please note, this is different from our summer drop-off site. Trees may be dropped off at any time, weekends or weekdays. Please be sure to remove bags and decorations from your tree before leaving it on the pile. The trees will be ground into mulch for the township parks.

Trees disposed of with your trash will not be recycled and must have a red \$4.00 tag attached. Please be sure the red tag is clearly visible from the street. There is no set date for placing your tree in the trash, but none will be taken after April 1st. Please note that trees must be less than 6 feet in length to be disposed as trash. Please consider recycling your tree this year.

COMMERCIAL RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS

We remind all commercial establishments that we will be mailing the annual recycling report requests for 2014 soon. Please be sure you are compiling your disposal weights needed to complete this report. Corrugated cardboard, high grade office paper, glass bottles and jars, steel and bimetal cans, and plastic items with a #1(PET) or #2(HDPE) MUST be recycled by all commercial establishments. In addition, automotive repair shops should be recycling used motor oil, other vehicle fluids, tires and batteries. All items reported need to be documented with copies of weight tickets or a signature of the recycling center if not collected by a licensed hauler. This includes paper recycled with Shred-It. If you have any questions when you receive this request, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Call to Community Members to Join Walk Audit

Have you seen a lot more West Hempfield residents out and about walking these days? It sure seems like more and more people are walking and running. Join us to learn how to make West Hempfield more walkable! This fall, you are invited to join residents, community planners, transportation experts, bicyclists, health professionals, and business leaders in a walk audit. West Hempfield is joining Millersville Borough, Penn Township, Lancaster City and East and West Lampeter Townships to partner with the Lancaster County Planning Commission and Lighten Up Lancaster County to look at ways to increase walking in our communities. The date is to be determined.

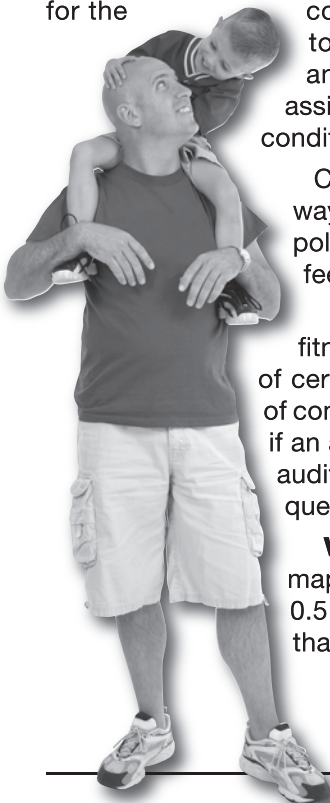
What is a Walk Audit? A local engineer will lead a group walk in West Hempfield Township to help you experience and assess the physical activity and healthy living “friendliness” of the area. Potential goals of the audit are to educate, inspire, and create a practical plan for the community. The walk audit is a key planning tool to provide area leaders, policy makers, and community members with the technical assistance needed to assess walking and biking conditions while creating a plan to improve them.

Completing the walk audit as a group is a great way to actively involve everyone in the project and policy development, allowing for each person’s feedback to be heard and valued.

Why a Walk Audit? Walking improves fitness, helps keep the air clean, reduces risks of certain health problems, and promotes a sense of community. However, people are unable to walk if an area is unsafe or difficult to utilize. This walk audit will enable community members to ask the question “How walkable is West Hempfield?”

Walk Audit Route(s). We are currently mapping out a route for the walk audit. It will be 0.5 to 2.0 miles long for a 30 to 90 minute walk that allows time to stop, observe and discuss.

For more information, please visit:
www.lightenuplancaster.org



PIPELINE PROJECT

The Township Board of Supervisors is aware of the ongoing interest from our residents regarding the proposed Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project planned by Williams Partners. The Township has met and continues to communicate with Williams so that the concerns from our community regarding the placement and potential impact from the proposed project are addressed. The Township believes that our role is to maintain communications with both Williams Partners and our residents to ensure that should this project move forward, it is undertaken in the safest and most environmentally sensitive manner as possible. We suggest that you keep monitoring our website for updates on the pipeline route as they become available.

TRICK-OR-TREAT

Trick-or-Treat night will be held on October 31st of each year, unless this date falls on a Saturday or Sunday. When this occurs, it will be held on the Friday prior to October 31st. This year, Trick-or-Treat night will be held Friday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SAFETY TIPS

- Trick-or-Treat in groups and always with a responsible adult.
- Look both ways before you cross the street.
- **NEVER** cross the street from between parked cars.
- When available, walk on the sidewalk, not on the street.
- Only go to houses with their outside lights on.
- Have parents check treats before you eat them.
- **NEVER** enter a stranger’s house (even if you’re invited).
- Use brightly colored, flame retardant costumes that fit and carry a flashlight so you are seen.
- Wear make-up instead of a mask for better visibility.
- Make sure your trick-or-treat bags are sturdy and easy to handle (not too big).
- Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather.
- **NEVER** take a ride from or enter a stranger’s car.

Be Safe & Have Fun!

TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT

**Friday, October 31st
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

*for West
Hempfield Township*



Proposed Municipal Services Complex

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facility will save on the overall costs of construction as there will be many areas within the building that could be shared spaces. The consolidation of facilities will also allow us to realize future savings on energy and maintenance costs.



The Board of Supervisors will carefully review the recommendations and determine options to make this much needed project a reality. Any proposed facility will come with a considerable cost that will require some level of debt service. Inherently, along with debt service is the need for the necessary revenue

to accommodate the payment of this debt. To do so, an increase in our current level of real estate tax would be required.

It is the Township's intent and desire to remain transparent throughout this process and to assure our residents ample opportunity for comments from those we serve.

Please look for further information regarding this project as we carefully explore all options.

Reducing Runoff: Clean Water is Every Resident's Responsibility

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- 🔥 Sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris, such as concrete and mortar.
- 🔥 Use the smallest amount possible of hazardous substances, such as paint, solvents, and cleaners, and make sure you follow the directions on the label. Clean spills immediately and dispose of the waste safely. Homeowners should store substances properly to avoid leaks and spills.
- 🔥 Purchase and use nontoxic, biodegradable, recycled, and recyclable products whenever possible.
- 🔥 Clean paint brushes in an indoor sink, not outside. Also, filter and reuse paint thinner when using oil-based paints. One way to properly dispose of excess paints is through a household hazardous waste collection program. Unused paint can also be donated to local organizations.
- 🔥 Reduce the paved areas and increase the vegetated areas in your yard. Also, use native plants in your landscaping to reduce the need for watering during dry periods. Homeowners should also consider directing downspouts away from paved surfaces and onto lawns and take other steps to increase infiltration and reduce polluted runoff.

(Note: This information was provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.)

Stormwater runoff tainted with all sorts of debris, chemicals, and dirt is one of the biggest threats to clean water nationwide. Township residents can lessen the problem by practicing healthy habits that keep common household pollutants out of storm water.

Instead of being part of the problem, township residents can be part of the solution by practicing healthy household habits that can keep common pollutants, including pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids, off the ground and out of storm water.

WINTER WEATHER TIPS AND INFORMATION

In a few short months we will once again be entering the Winter Weather Season. We all remember the challenges of last year's record snowfall events. We appreciate the patience and cooperation of all residents as the Public Works Crew worked continuously to keep our roadways safe and passable.

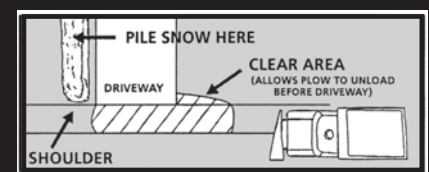
Snow and Ice Removal Tips:

Vehicle Parking: When possible, park vehicles off the roadway in your driveway, so crews do not need to navigate around parked vehicles.

Mailboxes: Make sure your mailbox and post are in good condition and secure. The Township is not responsible for damages from snow that comes off the plow, only if the plow or truck actually strikes your mailbox.

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

Driveways: Abide by the following diagram to help make the snow removal process easier, safer, and more effective for all:



Sidewalks: Make sure a path of at least three (3) feet in width the entire length of your sidewalk is cleared of all snow and ice within 24 hours after it has ceased to form.

Buildings: Remove and clear away any accumulation of snow and ice on buildings and other structures that is liable to fall on sidewalks and public roadways.

Roadways: Do not push or deposit snow or ice onto public roads or loading/unloading areas of a public transportation system at anytime.

West Hempfield Township

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Lancaster, PA 17601



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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 (such as washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, water heaters, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and freezers) will be collected for all Township trash customers during a special pickup scheduled for **Saturday, October 11, 2014**.

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 date to ensure pickup. If you need to purchase tags, please do so **BEFORE NOON** on Friday, October 10, 2014.



If, for any reason, your appliance, tires and/or rims 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, or leave a message on our weekend answering machine.



Holiday
TRASH SCHEDULE

(Note: Clip and save as a reminder)

The Thanksgiving holiday will not affect trash collection for Wednesday customers, but Thursday customers will be delayed by one day to Friday, Nov. 28th. Christmas 2014 and New Year's 2015 will not affect trash collection for Wednesday customers, but will be delayed by one day for Thursday customers to Friday, Dec. 26th and Friday, Jan. 2nd. No other holidays affect trash pickup during the fall of 2014. Additional holidays for 2015 will be listed in our Spring newsletter.

Please make sure your trash and recycling are placed curbside the evening before. No return trips will be made for items not put out in time.

