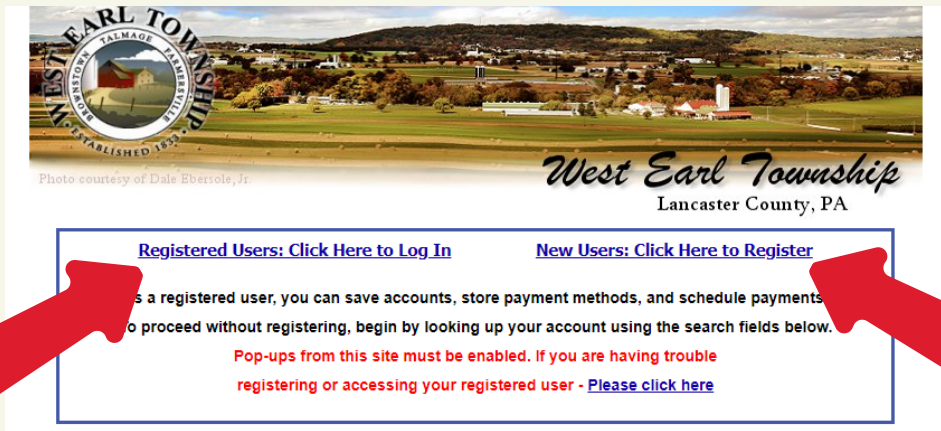


# West Earl Township

Lancaster County, PA

157 W Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA - (717) 859-3201

## You Asked, We Listened: New Utility Payment Feature Available



Until now, West Earl Township did not offer a way to have WATER OR TRASH bills automatically withdrawn from your chosen account. Now, you can go on-line and set-up automatic payments!

Log on to [www.WestEarlTwp.org](http://www.WestEarlTwp.org), click on the "Bill Pay & Utilities" button, click on "Pay Bills Online", then click on "Pay Utility Bills Online Now". The screen, shown above, will come up. To set-up the automatic payments, you must click on the "New Users: Click Here to Register" link to enter your preferred payment method.

Once you are registered, you will receive an e-mail from the Township that will indicate the date and the amount that will be drafted for your WATER OR TRASH bill. Please note: Township employees have no access to your credit card or checking account information.

Please be aware, there will be a \$25 fee for accounts that do not have sufficient funds when the payment is drafted.

Still have questions? Call the Township at (717) 859-3201.

## Want to keep up with what's going on in West Earl Township?



Follow the Township's Facebook Page or go to [www.WestEarlTwp.org](http://www.WestEarlTwp.org) for all the latest news and happenings.

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## White Goods & Tire Pick-Up

Residents who use the Township's waste hauler can place broken or unwanted appliances and tires out for pick-up with a pre-purchased tag on the following dates:

Monday, May 13  
Tuesday, May 14

## Curbside Yard Waste Pick-Up

Curbside waste pick-up for those residents who utilize the Township's waste hauler will begin on Monday, April 8 and Tuesday, April 9 and run every other week until the first week in October 2024.

# West Earl Water Department Urges Customers to ‘Get the Lead Out’

There is nothing more important to West Earl Township than providing our customers with safe, reliable, affordable water.

As part of this mission, we want to help keep your household safe from lead. While we treat and test water to make sure that it is lead-free when it leaves the treatment facility and travels through the water mains, some older homes in our community have lead in service lines, household plumbing materials and faucets. Homes built before 1991 may have had lead used during construction.

Lead is a powerful toxin that is harmful to human health. Infants, young children and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of lead because it accumulates in the body. There is no identified “safe” level of lead so, wherever possible, households should seek to reduce and eliminate exposure.

Lead can slowly dissolve into the water or break off in tiny particles. To protect our customers, West Earl monitors and adjusts the water’s chemistry to prevent corrosion that may result in lead at the tap. We also sample water for lead at high-risk homes in the community. If no part of your service line or plumbing contains lead, your household is likely not at risk. However, the only way to be certain is to have your water tested by a certified laboratory and to inspect – with the help of a licensed plumber – your household plumbing for lead components.

**In the next few months, you may be contacted by West Earl Water Department regarding your home’s water supply line. The Water Department is required to compile a complete inventory of the materials used in the water supply lines for each home by October 2024.**

For more information on steps you can take to reduce lead exposure or the upcoming inventory requirements, please contact the Township office at (717) 859-3201.

Help us eliminate this threat to your drinking water. Together, let’s get the lead out.

## Top 5 Most Asked Township Questions

### **Can I make a payment for my trash or water bill over the phone?**

No, unfortunately we do not accept payments over the phone. You can pay online at [www.WestEarlTwp.org](http://www.WestEarlTwp.org), set-up automatic withdrawal through the Township website, drop payments in the night drop or mail in your payment.

### **Do I need a permit to install a fence?**

Yes, please call the Township office Monday through Friday 7:30AM to 4:00PM. The Zoning Officer will walk you through the process of getting a permit for a fence or other project.

### **I’ve heard that West Earl has a Compost Facility, how can I gain access?**

The Compost Facility is located at 161 Locust Street, Talmage. Trips to the Compost Facility can be purchased at the Township building during regular business hours. Trips are \$2.00 per entry for Township residents. Brush, tree trimmings and leaves can be dropped off at the facility. Mulch is also available for pick-up.

### **Why didn’t my trash get picked up?**

You are allowed 96 gallons of trash per week through Good’s Disposal, the Township’s waste hauler. If you wish to place a large item out for pick-up, you must purchase a red tag from the Township office. Recycle bins may only contain RECYCLABLES. If you have anything that is not recyclable in the bin, it will not be emptied.

### **Why are there small flags or spray paint markings in my yard?**

April showers bring May flowers AND utility marking flags! Those small flags in your yard may be from a utility marking known as a PA One Call. These flags indicate water, sewer or electric infrastructure that may be located underground on your property. The Township may be able to tell you why they were placed on your property.

## Past Due Water and Trash Account?

Do you have a past due water or trash account with West Earl Township? Please call the Township office to discuss payment options.

Starting April 15, 2024, all accounts that owe more than \$250 in past due charges will be sent to a third-party collection agency.



## Save the Date

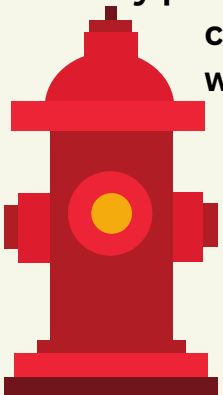
West Earl Township Police Department will host its third National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at Akron Borough's Broad Street Park. More information to follow.

## Hydrant Flushing Scheduled

West Earl Township's Water Department will be flushing the fire hydrants in your area starting May 6, 2024 through May 17, 2024. This process removes sediment and minerals that collect in the water mains.

As a result, you may notice a temporary drop in water pressure or may experience discolored water coming out of your tap. Running the cold water from the lowest point in the house, or in the bathtub, for several minutes typically clears the line. You may prefer to wait until the water runs clear before drinking or washing clothes or dishes in the water.

We thank you in advance for your patience while we perform this necessary maintenance on the water system.



## Road Work Ahead

West Earl Township Road Department has the following projects slated for the 2024 construction season:

### Oil and Chip

Diamond Station Rd  
Linden Grove Rd  
Goods Rd  
Cabin Dr  
Willis Pierce Rd  
Covered Bridge Rd  
Peach Rd

### Inlet Repairs

Groff's Drive  
Millstone Drive  
Waterwheel Drive

### Sidewalk

East Main Street  
(S. State St. to Church St.)

### Paving

Forest Hill Road

Residents will be notified prior to any road closures or detours.



# A MESSAGE FROM REPRESENTATIVE KEITH J. GREINER

## Budget and Legislative Update

The House Appropriations Committee recently concluded its annual budget hearings, which examined Gov. Josh Shapiro's proposed \$48.3 billion spending plan for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Budget hearings give the administration's department heads the opportunity to advocate for their funding, while lawmakers gather details to determine if the proposed spending is justified. They also serve to gather timely information about important program or policy issues. Unfortunately, there was very little detail in the governor's budget plan. One thing is clear, however. The governor's budget would spend far more than we can afford. We owe it to Pennsylvania residents and employers to enact a fiscally responsible plan that will fund the core functions of government and eliminate waste. A final budget is due by June 30. For additional information about the budget, including video of each of the hearings, visit [PAHouseGOP.com](https://PAHouseGOP.com).

To make budgeting a little easier for older Pennsylvanians, I worked to pass legislation to raise the income eligibility limits for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. This legislation made about 175,000 more seniors eligible for property tax or rent relief. Now I am working with my House colleagues to further improve the program. The changes would streamline the application process by allowing people to simultaneously apply for the rebates when filing their annual state income taxes; require the Department of Revenue to decide on a completed application within 10 days of receipt or it will be deemed approved; and remove confusion about the application deadline by permanently setting it for Dec. 31 each year. For more information about the program, visit [www.revenue.pa.gov](https://www.revenue.pa.gov) or call my office at 717-588-2044.

One of the most pressing issues facing our young people these days is finding affordable housing. For those who can only dream of home ownership, we are working to make it possible. We have a 12-bill package that focuses on affordability through tax breaks, grants, and incentives for both homeowners and builders, as well as reassessing and updating building codes and regulations. An abundance of affordable housing would also cure our labor shortage and help our families, businesses and communities thrive.

Recently, I was appalled to learn that a man in our district who sells puppies online has been arrested on four counts of aggravated animal cruelty, and four counts of misdemeanor animal cruelty. He is charged with killing four sheepadoodle puppies and disposing of them in a compost pile where manure runoff goes. His reason for the killing was "black puppies are not selling." In 2017, I co-sponsored Libre's Law, named for a Boston Terrier who suffered severe abuse and neglect at the hands of a breeder here in Lancaster County. The comprehensive animal protection law strengthened the charges that can be filed for animal neglect and cruelty. But the especially heinous circumstances of this crime call for even stiffer punishment. For that reason, I will be introducing legislation directing the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission to provide a sentencing enhancement for a person who euthanizes a small animal kept as a pet in a manner not currently authorized by law.



Finally, I also introduced legislation to help licensed professionals. House Bill 1364, which has strong bipartisan support, would enable boards and commissions to issue advisory opinions to licensees on relevant laws or regulations. My bill would provide licensees with the clarity they need to avoid disciplinary action and penalties. I will continue to work with the Pennsylvania Department of State's Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs to make our laws work better for business owners.



# Message from the Chief of Police to Our Community

Dear Residents,

As your Police Chief, it is my responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of our community, which includes both our residents and their cherished pets. In light of our ongoing efforts to promote responsible pet ownership and adherence to state laws, I want to emphasize the critical importance of registering your dogs and ensuring they are properly tagged and microchipped.

Registering your dogs is not just a formality; it is a state law that we are committed to strictly enforcing. Compliance with this law is essential for several reasons. First, it provides a comprehensive database of all pets and their owners. This information is invaluable in situations where lost animals need to be reunited with their families quickly. A registered, tagged, and chipped dog can be identified immediately, facilitating a swift and stress-free reunion with its owner.

Microchipping offers a permanent method of identification that cannot be lost, altered, or intentionally removed. This tiny chip, no larger than a grain of rice, is your pet's permanent link back to you, ensuring that even if the collar or tags are lost, your pet can still be identified.

In our commitment to this cause, we have also had to make a difficult but necessary decision. Effective March 11, 2024, the Police Department will be implementing a \$50.00 kennel fee for every dog we bring in and hold. This fee is to be paid by the dog's owner upon retrieval of their pet. The implementation of this fee is not intended to be punitive but rather to cover the costs associated with the care and shelter of lost pets until they can be returned to their owners. It also serves as an incentive for pet owners to comply with registration, tagging, and microchipping requirements, which will significantly reduce the likelihood of their pets becoming lost.

I understand that this message carries with it certain demands on you, the pet owner. However, I cannot stress enough the importance of taking these steps to ensure the safety and security of your pets. As a community, it is our shared responsibility to look after one another, and that includes our four-legged friends.

I urge you to take action now, if you haven't already, to register your dogs, equip them with up-to-date tags, and have them microchipped. These simple measures can prevent potential heartache and stress in the future, and they reaffirm your commitment to the well-being of your beloved pets.

Let us work together to ensure that our community remains a safe and welcoming place for all its members, both human and animal. Should you have any questions or need assistance with registering your pet, please do not hesitate to contact the local police department or animal control services.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your ongoing commitment to responsible pet ownership.

Sincerely,  
Chief Eric S. Higgins



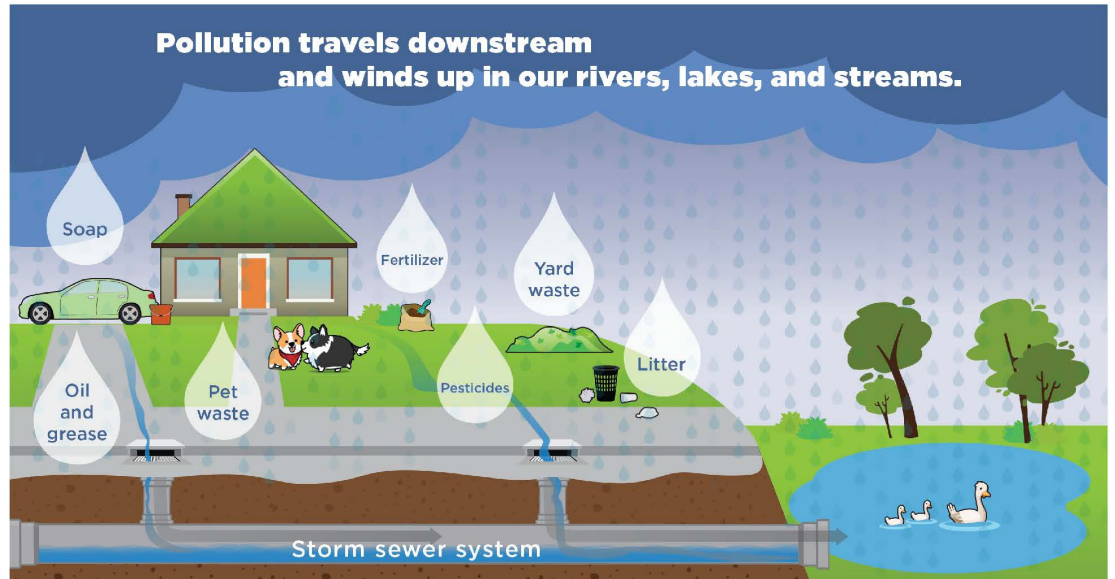
# WEST EARL TOWNSHIP'S MS4 UPDATE

**H**ave you ever watched water run down a gutter or pool on the side of the road during a storm? What happens to all the water? Most stormwater—the water from rain and snow—runs over the land and down a storm drain. The water flows through a network of underground pipes and open channels directly to our streams, rivers, and lakes. That's why keeping stormwater clean is vital to the health of our waterways, community, and even our economy.

## KNOW WHAT'S IN THE FLOW

When water flows off our property after a storm, what's on our lawns, roads, buildings, and parking lots flows with it. The water that doesn't soak into the ground picks up oil, litter, fertilizer, and other unhealthy items along its way that wind up in our rivers, lakes, and streams.

Water pollution can start on your property in ways you cannot see, but that affect your health and the whole community downstream. Watching what we put in our storm drains and



on our property makes our rivers, lakes, and streams cleaner, healthier, and more enjoyable. And by investing in solutions to manage stormwater, we help make our community a safer, greener, healthier, and more enjoyable place to live.

**Stormwater is the water that flows over the ground after it rains, snows, or sleet. It can become polluted as it runs over hard surfaces and flows downstream.**

## West Earl Township Meeting Dates April

Water Authority ..... Monday, April 1  
Board of Supervisors ..... Monday, April 8  
Planning Commission ..... Tuesday, April 16  
Board of Supervisors ..... Monday, April 22

## May

Water Authority ..... Monday, May 6  
Board of Supervisors ..... Monday, May 13  
Planning Commission ..... Tuesday, May 21  
Board of Supervisors ..... Tuesday, May 28

## June

Water Authority ..... Monday, June 3  
Board of Supervisors ..... Monday, June 10  
Planning Commission ..... Tuesday, June 18  
Board of Supervisors ..... Monday, June 24

### RECYCLING BINS 'YES'



### RECYCLING BINS 'NO'



### PLACES TO RECYCLE OTHER ITEMS

Go online to **Earth911.com** and plug in your zip code.

Here are some drop-off locations the site lists for various materials:

**Newspaper, office paper, magazines, phone books, hard and soft cover books:**  
Lancaster city's drop-off recycling center, 850 New Holland Ave.

**Magazines:** Ephrata Public Works Complex, Church Avenue; McDonald's, 1434 Manheim Pike rear lot, Lancaster; West Lampeter Township rear building; Lancaster Airport, container left of Winkie's and The Pilot Shop; Wissler Motors, Mount Joy

**Batteries:** Get collection bags from your municipality and place batteries beside your trash or drive to Household Hazardous Waste facility, 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster

**Plastic bags:** Many grocery stores recycle them

For more information on local recycling, go to the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority website: [lcswwa.org/lswma\\_recycling.cfm](http://lcswwa.org/lswma_recycling.cfm)