

WEST EARL TOWNSHIP 157 W. METZLER RD. PO BOX 787 717.859.3201

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WEST EARL TOWNSHIP

WINTER 2021-2022

Holiday Hours

The Township office will be closed on: December 24th, 2021 December 31st, 2021

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

CHRISTMAS TREE DROP-OFF

Christmas trees may be dropped off at the Township compost facility with the use of a valid compost card.

Eagle Disposal will be picking up trees on January 11, 2022 for Township refuse customers.



New Water Rates for 2022

Starting January 2022 water rates will increase to \$13.95 for the first 2,300 gallons (minimum rate), and \$7.70 for every additional 1,000 gallons.

The Township contract trash rate will remain at \$22.00 per month.



You can receive your monthly bill via email.

You can pay ahead on your water and/or trash bill. If you don't want to worry about this bill every month, pay ahead.

You can pay your bill online at www.westearltwp.org.

Contact the township office for more details.

Recycling items available at the Township Office

*Recycling Bins (fee may apply) *Household Battery Collection Bags



Some Winter Safety/Guideline Tips



Wear layered clothing, mittens or gloves, and a hat. ... Cover your mouth to protect your lungs from severely cold air. ... Keep dry. ...

Stretch before you go out. ...

Avoid overexertion, such as shoveling heavy snow, pushing a vehicle, or walking in deep snow....

Walk carefully on snowy, icy sidewalks.

NOTE FROM THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

With winter quickly approaching, property owners are reminded that snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours after the cessation of any snowfall, sleet, or freezing rain. A path of at least 24 inches must be cleared. Failing to do so could result in the issuance of a "Quick Ticket" with a \$25.00 fine.

Snow and Fire Hydrants



WINTER DRIVING KIT

The following items, if carried in your vehicle, will be invaluable should a winter emergency develop:

Ice scraper Cloth or paper towels Booster cables Blanket Cellular phone Warning flares or triangles Snow brush Traction mats Flashlight **Gloves or mittens** Small snow shovel Bag of abrasive (sand, salt or cat litter)

Melting Snow: It's Stormwater, too!



When snow melts at your home it can create lots of problems that are both similar to spring rains and unique to winter weather.

Winter snow often puts a pristine white coat over every surface that makes for beautiful photos and lots of family fun. However, it's not long before the sun comes out to expose a host of issues created by the melting snow. Just like when rain falls the rest of the year, melting snow turns into stormwater runoff. Heavy rains sweeping across your yard and driveway carry pollution and high volumes of water into our nearby streams, lakes, and other waterways. Melting snow does the same

things. Both rain and snow melt can seriously impair Pennsylvania's waters when they travel over the land in our developed communities. They can also cause significant property damage at your home.

In winter, melting snow actually causes a few unique stormwater problems. Because the ground is often frozen at the surface, melting snow can't infiltrate into the soil the way a light or moderate rain would be able to. So even a small amount of snow can cause localized flooding on your property. When snow builds up over several small storm events without melting in between, it can turn into large winter storm impacts when it finally does melt - leading to potential community wide flooding events. In both cases, that standing and flowing water on the ground is picking up all kinds of debris, pollutants (especially de-icing salts and chemicals), and litter that will find their way into nearby streams.

Here are some tips for managing your property for winter stormwater this season:

- When piling your snow after shoveling and plowing, choose locations where the snow will have the most opportunity to infiltrate instead of becoming stormwater runoff. Pile your snow in areas where you don't usually have ponding in the spring rains, on relatively flat areas, and away from sensitive areas like streams, ponds, and your private well if you have one.
- Clear your downspouts to allow melting roof snow to flow and not collect at your foundation.
- Make sure your nearest storm drains are clear. Do not pile snow on storm drains and make sure your neighborhood plow is not piling snow over the drains too. Clear away any snow that may have been kicked onto the drains by passing cars.
- Use de-icing chemicals and salts judiciously. Use what you need to make your walkways and driveways safe, but try to avoid spreading around sensitive areas like waterways and your private well.
- Postpone outdoor construction projects in winter, when you can't establish new vegetation to reduce soil loss and muddy runoff.
- Pay special attention to places that are eroding during snow melt, and make a plan to improve these areas in spring using plants that can slow and stop erosion, like native grasses and meadow plants or native trees and shrubs

This article is courtesy of the Penn State Extension. If you have additional questions about stormwater, or you are just interested in learning more, you can find a full series of videos and articles in the **Penn State Extension Stormwater Basics** series at *https://extension.psu.edu/water/stormwater-management*. West Earl Township also offers resources for learning more about stormwater at *www.westearltwp.org/pages/stormwater_education.html*

WESA Members Recognized for Service to Community



West Earl Township made the decision to sell the sewer system to Lancaster Area Sewer Authority in an effort to control the costs of the sewer system. The sale was completed in October of 2020. The West Earl Sewer Authority (WESA), having no further business to tend to, held its last meeting on September 13, 2021. At their October 25, 2021 meeting, the Board of Supervisors recognized the members of WESA for their many years of service on the Authority. The members recognized were Mike Reed for 12 years of service, David Noyes for 10 years of service, the late Don Eckel 10 years of service-posthumously accepted by his daughter Lisa Eckel, Brian Kane

(not pictured) for 4 years of service and Teresa Beever for 27 years of service as WESA's Administrator.



A note from Representative Keith J. Greiner

The Redistricting Process Explained

Every 10 years, the Pennsylvania General Assembly has the responsibility to realign the Commonwealth's congressional districts according to population, a process known as redistricting. Using the latest information collected through the U.S. Census, we determine the number of congressional seats to which Pennsylvania is entitled. Then we redraw the geographic area of these congressional districts to ensure fair and equal representation and the constitutional principle of "one person, one vote." There are 435 congressional districts nationwide, including 18 in Pennsylvania, but based on 2020 Census data, the Commonwealth will lose one of those districts because its population grew by only 2.1% - a much slower rate as compared to other states. Our new congressional map will include 17 districts. Information on the Census is available at **census.gov**.

One of the most important aspects of the redistricting process is the gathering of public input. The House and Senate State Government committees had held regional public hearings across the Commonwealth to do just that this fall.

The public was encouraged to attend these regional hearings and provide input. Following the public hearings, our congressional district boundaries will be included in legislation that will be voted on by the Pennsylvania House and Senate and sent to the governor.

At the same time, work is being done to redraw district boundaries for the state Legislature. Like redistricting for congressional districts, the Pennsylvania Constitution provides for the Commonwealth to be equally divided into 50 senatorial and 203 representative districts every 10 years, based on the latest census figures. The process, which seeks to ensure fair and equal representation and that each citizen's vote carries the same weight at the ballot box, is carried out by the Legislative Reapportionment Commission, created by the state Constitution. The commission is comprised of five members - the majority and minority leaders in the House and Senate and a chairman, who is elected by the leaders or, in the absence of an agreement, by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. This year, the court named Mark A. Nordenberg, former chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh and former dean of the law school.

The commission is currently working on redistricting. To follow its work and provide input, visit *www.redistricting.state.pa.us/*. Legal challenges significantly delayed resolution of redistricting in Pennsylvania in the last cycle. If all goes smoothly this time, the process would be complete and new district maps drawn in time for the May 17, 2022, primary election.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE



A lot has happened since I was appointed your police chief in January of 2020. The most significant of these has been that we have been contracted by the Borough of Akron to provide police services under a 5-year agreement that began on January 1st, 2021. We have grown from a small 5 officer department into a 12 officer police department protecting Akron and West Earl 24-hours a day. This new partnership with Akron solidifies the long working relationship the two police departments have enjoyed for decades working alongside of each other.

This partnership will allow us to provide quality police services to the residents of both municipalities at a level neither could have done on its own. We now enjoy 2 officers on duty at all times available to answer calls for service and will have a fulltime detective to investigate crimes. Our focus going forward

will be to continue to expand our officer's professionalism and skills. This includes updating policies, procedures and providing the most up to date training to our officers. It is my vision for the West Earl Police Department to be the best Law Enforcement Agency in Lancaster County.

Our goals next year include more community policing activities such as a National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, and building stronger ties to the communities we serve. The Department will also be seeking Accreditation through the Pennsylvania Law enforcement Accreditation Commission.

If a member of our staff or I can ever be of service, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Chief Eric S. Higgins



FARMERSVILLE FIRE COMPANY

74 E. Farmersville Rd., Ephrata 17522 (717)-354-5841

Upcoming Event

Annual Community Sale March 25, 2022 @ 4:30

WEST EARL FIRE COMPANY

14 School Lane Ave., Brownstown, PA 17508 (717)-656-6791

Upcoming Events

All-you-can eat Breakfast January 22, 2022 6am-10am

All-you-can eat Breakfast February 26, 2022 6am-10am

> Annual Quilt & Consignment Auction March 19, 2022



West Earl Township

Refuse/Recycling Collection Schedule

2022

Eagle Disposal customers only

Trash/Recycling	Trash/Recycling	Trash/Recycling and	Trash/Recycling and
	and Yard Waste	White Goods	Christmas Trees
-			

Questions or concerns about the refuse and recycling schedule? Contact us at 717-859-3201.

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Please note: Monday holidays WILL affect your pickup day

The following items are approved recyclable items (commercial & residential) Plastic Bottles and Jugs Glass Bottles and Jars Metal Food and Beverage Cans Corrugated Cardboard (must be broken down and flattened)



West Earl Township

2022 Meeting Schedule

157 W. Metzler Road TABLISHED 183? Brownstown, PA 17508 **Board of** Board of Planning Water Akron Borough **Supervisors Supervisors** Commission Authority and West Earl 2nd Mon. 4th Mon. 3rd Tues. 1st Mon. Township 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM **Police Liaison** 1/24/22 1/3/22* 1/18/22 1/10/22* Akron Borough 2/14/22 2/28/22 2/15/22 2/7/22 Building 3/14/22 3/28/22 3/15/22 3/7/22 4/5/22 4/11/22 4/25/22 4/19/22 4/4/22 at 6pm 5/9/22 5/23/22 5/17/22 5/2/22 6/13/22 6/27/22 6/21/22 6/6/22 7/11/22 7/25/22 7/19/22 7/5/22* West Earl Twp 8/8/22 8/22/22 8/16/22 8/1/22 Building 9/12/22 9/26/22 9/20/22 9/6/22* 9/6/22 10/10/22 10/24/22 10/18/22 10/3/22 at 6pm 11/7/2022* 11/14/22* 11/15/22 11/7/22 12/5/22* 12/19/22* 12/20/22 12/5/22

* = Notes a meeting date that was changed from regular meeting schedule to accommodate for holiday or other requirement.

New Compost Yard Rates

As of January 1, 2022, the rates to access the compost yard will be as follows:

COST PER TRIP

West Earl residents Upper Leacock residents Non-West Earl residents Commercial accounts \$2.00 per trip \$10.00 per trip \$20.00 per trip \$50.00 per trip

The compost yard accepts leaves and tree branches. You may also pick-up mulch when available. The yard is open 24/7 year round. Cards to access the compost yard can be purchased at the Township Office during normal business hours.

West Earl has one of the only local composting facilities in Lancaster County and we strive to provide this service as proficiently and inexpensively as possible. We urge residents to take

West Earl Township 157 W. Metzler Road Brownstown, PA 17508

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

911

Emergency Municipal Office Municipal Fax Police Department (Non-Emergency)

717-859-3201 717-859-3499 717-859-1411

Monthly Meetings

Board of Supervisors

2nd & 4th Monday of every month at 7 PM

Water Authority

Planning Commission

3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 PM

Park & Recreation Board

1st Monday of every month at 7PM

3rd Monday of the month (as needed) at 7 PM

Zoning Hearing Board

1st Wednesday of the month (as needed) at 7PM