

West Earl Township

Lancaster, County PA

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157 West Metzler Road
P.O. Box 787
BROWNSTOWN, PA 17508
(717) 859-3201

PA State Representative Relocates Office to West Earl Building

Recent redistricting changed the congressional district boundaries for several State Representatives in Pennsylvania. Because of this, Pennsylvania State Representative Keith Greiner's current office location is no longer located within the new boundaries of the 43rd Legislative District. We are honored that Representative Greiner and his staff members have chosen to move their office to the West Earl Municipal Building. We anticipate his office will be fully moved into the Municipal Building by October 1, 2022.



GRANT FOR NEW COMPOST YARD GATE SYSTEM

Township Roadmaster, Neil Stoltzfus, applied for a Development and Implementation of Municipal Recycling Grant through DEP that will assist in the replacement of the current gate system at the Township's Compost yard. The Township was awarded a grant in the amount of \$26,940. The new gate system will require each person with a current compost gate card to switch to a new key fob to gain entry into the

yard. This change is expected to take place in late October or early November. A letter with more information on that change will be sent out to each cardholder in the near future.



STORMWATER GRANT TO HELP WITH MS4 REQUIREMENTS

Sara Service, West Earl Township's MS4 Coordinator, wrote and applied for a grant to assist with the Township's MS4 requirements. We are pleased to announce that West Earl Township has been awarded a 2022 Lancaster Clean Water Fund Grant for the Turtle Hill Stream Bank Restoration Project in the amount of \$331,000.

The Turtle Hill Streambank Restoration Project includes implementation of an approximately 1,535 linear feet streambank restoration project along an unnamed tributary to the Conestoga River north of Turtle Hill Road in Ephrata. The project area is agricultural and is directly downstream from a 1,250 linear feet stream restoration project completed by the Township in 2019. The proposed restoration includes grading the existing vertical banks to create a low, flat floodplain bench on each side of the unnamed tributary that allows increased stream flows to access the floodplain, dissipating potentially erosive energy. The proposed project includes 3,245 linear feet of livestock fencing, 8 permanent fence gates, and 196 linear feet of livestock slat crossings.

The Lancaster Clean Water Fund, administered by the Lancaster Community Foundation and managed by the Lancaster Clean Water Partners, is awarding \$1,731,835 to five Implementation Large Grant projects, one of which is the Turtle Hill Stream Bank Restoration Project. Funding for these projects is from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Countywide Action Plan Implementation grant to Lancaster County.

Clean water is a priority for partners across all of Lancaster County, especially since most Lancaster streams and much of its groundwater are unhealthy. The Lancaster Clean Water Fund serves as a catalyst for increased collaboration to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of current and future clean water projects in accordance with the Lancaster Countywide Action Plan. The Turtle Hill Stream Bank Restoration Project construction began in early August and is now completed.

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement to the PA Department of Environmental Protection.



THE VIEWS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHOR AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

White Goods Pick-up

The Township's trash hauler, Eagle Disposal, is scheduled to pick up your unwanted or broken appliances on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. This service is open to residents who have a contract with the Township for trash removal. You must have a BLUE trash tag on the item, which can be purchased at the Township office before 3:30 PM Friday, October 14, 2022.



SIDEWALKS: YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PROPERTY OWNER

The Code of West Earl Township requires the owner of a property which abuts a public sidewalk to maintain the sidewalk in good repair. Failing to maintain a sidewalk in good repair can create hazardous conditions for pedestrians.

Conditions that can create a hazard to pedestrians include:

- Vegetation blocking the pedestrian route.
- Sidewalk panels that are deteriorating and are not smooth.
- Gaps in the sidewalks.
- Uplifted panels, gaps between panels, bumps, and edge drop-offs.
- Sunken sidewalk panels which can create tripping and drainage issues.

In the cold weather months, the owner or tenant of a property must clear a path of at least 24 inches wide from snow, ice, or freezing rain within 24 hours after the cessation of weather event.

In the event the snow and/or ice on the sidewalk has become so hard that it cannot be removed without likelihood of damage to the sidewalk the property owner or tenant must place an abrasive on the snow and/or ice to make travel reasonably safe and shall, as soon thereafter as weather permits, clear a path on the sidewalk of at least 24 inches wide.

Please feel free to contact the West Earl Township Code Enforcement Department if you have a question regarding your sidewalk or to report a sidewalk in disrepair.



Trick-or-Treat and West Earl Lions Club 2022 Halloween Parade

Trick-or-Treat has been set for Monday, October 31st from 6PM to 8PM. There is no rain date, however, the Township does not stop neighborhoods from rescheduling or establishing a rain date.

The West Earl Lions Club will hold it's annual Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 27, 2022. Those who wish to march in the parade and have their costume judged should register at Lion's Park starting at 5:45PM until 6:15PM. The Parade route will begin at Marlou Avenue and Locust Street at 7:00PM. The parade will end at the West Earl Fire Company where free refreshment will be served and prizes for costumes will be presented.



ILLEGAL DUMPING

West Earl Township has a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit that requires the Township to implement control measures to protect water quality and reduce pollution. An MS4 is made up of a series of inlets, storm drains, pipes, basins, and outfalls that collect and convey stormwater.

If that stormwater is polluted with trash, landscape waste like grass clippings and leaves, hazardous substances like oil, or other illegal materials, it can increase the cost of treating drinking water, cause harmful algal blooms that can harm aquatic wildlife, create unpleasant conditions with bad smells, and come with expensive fines from state and federal governments.







These are examples of illegal dumping of liquid waste, trash, and grass clippings that will affect local water quality.



This factsheet describes good house-keeping practices to use to minimize the discharge of chemicals, landscape waste, trash, and other illegal pollutants into our local waterways. These techniques will protect water quality and enhance quality of life in the Township.

Keep in Mind

-  Keep streambanks, detention basins, inlets, and parking lots free of trash and other debris like grass clippings and leaves to keep streams and stormwater conveyance systems flowing freely and cleanly.
-  Dumping or storing landscape debris (grass clippings, leaves, soil/dirt) or hazardous items (oils, grease, etc.) in and near streams, inlets, and basins is not allowed and will cause impacts to water quality.
-  Pet waste in or near a stream, inlet, or basin should be cleaned up promptly.
-  If you see something strange (soapy suds or unusually colored water in a local waterway or BMP), or see someone storing or dumping material like leaves, grass clippings, trash, or liquids near or into a local waterway, inlet, or basin, please call the Township at 717-859-3201 and ask for Sara Service.

Employee Spotlight: Amy Carter

West Earl is very proud of the staff members that keep the Township running smoothly. In this edition of the West Earl Township Newsletter we are getting to know Amy Carter. Amy is the Director of Finance for the Township and brings 29 years of experience to the position.

Amy started in July of 2012 as a part time bookkeeper, but her role has since expanded. Amy has been full time for the past 7 years. Amy is in charge of payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable. Amy works with the Board and the Township manager to build a balanced Township budget.

Amy is originally from Aston, Pennsylvania and earned her degree in Accounting from Shippensburg University. When Amy is not working on the Township's finances, she spends her free time with her two daughters and her husband of 28 years.



Important Dates

All Township meetings are scheduled for 7PM unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, September 20	Planning Commission Meeting
Monday, September 26	Board of Supervisor Meeting
Monday, October 3	Water Authority Meeting
Monday, October 10	Board of Supervisor Meeting
Tuesday, October 18	Planning Commission Meeting
Tuesday, October 18	White Goods Pickup
Monday, October 24	Board of Supervisor Meeting
Thursday, October 27	Lions Club Halloween Parade
Monday, October 31	Trick-or-Treat 6PM to 8PM

Township's Emergency Management Coordinator Graduates FEMA's Advanced Academy



On August 5th, Bill Howard, the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator graduated from FEMA's National Emergency Management Advanced Academy at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. Bill completed the four resident courses, about 160 hours, in the Advanced Academy including: Application of Advanced Individual Concepts in Emergency Management, Assessment of Teams in Professional Emergency Management, Contemporary Issues in the Emergency Management Organization, and Advanced Concepts and Policy in the Emergency Management Profession. The Academy is designed for emerging leaders and mid-level managers wanting to advance their skills. Students learn skills critical to performing leadership responsibilities such as program management and oversight, effective communication at all levels, integrated collaboration, and strategic thinking. "Most importantly it provided me with 34 new contacts in the emergency management world," Bill said.

In addition to the class time, the Advanced Academy provides students the opportunity to demonstrate their critical thinking ability by researching and writing a NEMAA paper on emergency management topics. The paper will be available in FEMA's National Emergency Training Center library for other emergency management professionals. Bill chose the topic, "UAS for Transportation Emergency Management" since drones have become mainstream in emergency management. Bill also presented his paper to the class and plans on presenting it at conferences in the future. Bill was in class number 36 and is among 1100 other emergency management professionals across the nation that have graduated from the program.

The position of Township Emergency Management Coordinator in West Earl is a volunteer position. Bill has been the Township's EMA Coordinate since 2005. We appreciate that Bill goes above and beyond for this position for the residents of West Earl.

Quarterly Water and Refuse Billing Dates

The billing schedule for Water and Refuse will be as follows:

WATER

Due October 28

Bill is for July, Aug., and
Sept. usage

TRASH

Due November 30

Bill is for Sept., Oct.,
and Nov. usage

A MESSAGE FROM REPRESENTATIVE KEITH J. GREINER

State Grants Strengthen Agriculture, Improve Environment and Recreational Opportunities

Pennsylvania is known for its rich farming tradition and abundance. To ensure the continued growth and preservation of Pennsylvania agriculture and our natural resources, we must be good stewards of our environment and be mindful of anything that could threaten it. Such threats could come as plant or animal diseases, pests and climate change, but we must also work to preserve farmland and ensure we have people willing and able to farm it well into the future. Fortunately, Pennsylvania makes significant investments in programs to achieve these goals.

Often, these investments come in the form of state grants. In fact, the Commonwealth recently announced programs to help military veterans who account for a growing segment of Pennsylvania farmers.

Pennsylvania's farmer-veterans now have the opportunity to apply for state grants of up to \$10,000 to meet their agricultural business needs. Through the Pennsylvania Farm Bill, the state Department of Agriculture has awarded \$200,000 to two veterans' service organizations, which will offer the grants.

Military veterans are a growing segment of Pennsylvania's \$132.5 billion agriculture industry. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Census of Agriculture, Pennsylvania has more than 7,000 military veterans identified as agricultural producers. Grants like these will contribute to that growth by helping to support their success. Interested veteran-farmers can contact Greenforge, Inc. project director Mimi Thomas-Brooker by calling 724-691-1087 or online at pavetsfarm@gmail.com. Community Partnership executive director, Sandra Curry may be reached at 724-431-3623 or scurry@yourcapinfo.org.

Agriculture research is vital to the good health and sustainability of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry. Another grant program is contributing \$2 million in research funding to six Pennsylvania organizations to help grow and sustain our agriculture industry. The funding will be used to find methods to safely control invasive insects such as the spotted lanternfly; enhance pollinator effectiveness; develop new methods of detecting and preventing animal diseases; build a skilled workforce and improve soil and water quality. Recipients include: Center for Dairy Excellence, Dauphin County; Pasa Sustainable Agriculture, Berks County; Pennsylvania State University, Centre County; Rodale Institute, Berks County; Stroud Water Research Center, Chester County; University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, Philadelphia. For details on these grants, visit <https://bit.ly/3L5jaRq>. For more information on agriculture grant programs, visit www.agriculture.pa.gov/funding.

Pennsylvania is also investing \$90 million for more than 330 recreational, conservation and revitalization projects across the Commonwealth. Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) secretary, Cindy Adams Dunn, said this represents the single largest investment in Pennsylvania recreation and conservation in her agency's history and will leverage nearly \$125 million in local, county and private investments, strengthening the state's investment.

The grants will protect more than 7,000 acres of open space and 214 acres of streambank forest buffers. It will include 43 trail projects; 20 river conservation projects and 141 projects to develop or rehabilitate recreation, park and conservation areas and facilities.

In our area, the Lancaster Conservancy is receiving a \$318,000 grant for a one-mile accessible loop trail and handicapped accessible parking lot and trailhead at Clark Nature Preserve. For details, visit <https://www.lancasterconservancy.org/preserves/clark/>

For a complete list of grants by county, visit <https://bit.ly/3QyXtdg>
[http://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?](http://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=4606271&DocName=GrantsLegAnnounce_Round_28.pdf)
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