



# WESTTOWN GAZETTE

A Quarterly Newsletter to the Citizens of Westtown Township - Summer Issue #38



## ***Hello Westtown Neighbors,***

We've all formally turned the page on our calendars to summer, which means summer vacation for our younger Westtown residents, and hopefully, for all of us, a more relaxed, less stress-filled time. This summer brings with it the lifting of numerous Federal and State-imposed health restrictions and guidance, making things "feel," at least somewhat, as they did pre-March of 2020.

For the past 15+ months, the Board of Supervisors and Township staff have carried on the business of the Township, albeit largely in virtual/remote fashion. However, with the easing of health restrictions, Township meetings and hearings will once again return to the "in person" format. Like other local municipalities, Westtown Township is considering the feasibility of offering "hybrid" (in person/virtual) public participation for its meetings and hearings, and is exploring the details and potential mechanics of doing so.

Please check the Township's website regularly for scheduled meetings of the Board of Supervisors and other Township commissions and boards, and information on options to participate.

As many of you may know, in early spring the Board of Supervisors approved the master plan for Oakbourne Park. Countless hours by the Township's park consultants, staff, and numerous volunteers made it possible and produced a plan that is exciting with much needed proposed improvements throughout Oakbourne Park, yet workable from a fiscal standpoint. Again, special thanks to all those who participated and made it happen. The Township now moves into the planning phase, including the process to retain design consultants and apply for a number of available grants for park improvements of the types envisioned.

This summer, the Township will also once again be offering recreational and community events that have been staples

for our residents. Summer outdoor movie nights (with free popcorn) are back at Oakbourne Park on June 25 ("E.T."), July 30 ("Field of Dreams"), and August 27 ("Up"). Please also circle October 10th on your calendar for the return of Westtown Day. Our Historical and Parks and Recreation Commissions and Township staff are hard at work planning this event, and after a one-year hiatus, Westtown Day will be back better than ever.

If you have questions or any suggestions regarding any matter within the Township, please do not hesitate to contact the Board of Supervisors or Township administration at 610-692-1930 or [administration@westtown.org](mailto:administration@westtown.org).

Happy summer to all!

**Scott E. Yaw, Esq.**  
*Vice-Chair, Board of Supervisors*

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# Westtown Township, County of Chester

## Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



**Board of Supervisors:** Carol De Wolf, Scott Yaw, Richard Pomerantz

Street Address: 1039 Wilmington Pike • West Chester, Pennsylvania 19382

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 79 • Westtown, PA 19395-0079

Phone: 610-692-1930 • Fax: 610-692-9651 • [www.westtownpa.org](http://www.westtownpa.org)

### CHESTER COUNTY USEFUL CONTACTS & PHONE NUMBERS

#### Chester County Government Services Center:

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19382  
 Information: 610-344-6000  
 Aging Services: 610-344-6350  
 Children, Youth, & Families: 610-344-5800  
 Emergency Services: 610-344-5000  
 Health Department: 610-344-6225  
   Septic Systems: 610-344-6526  
   Recycling/Hazardous Waste: 610-273-3771  
 License Bureau (Dog, Fishing, Hunting): 610-344-6370  
 Marriage License Bureau: 610-344-6335  
 Passports: 610-344-6310  
 Recorder of Deeds: 610-344-6330  
 Tax Assessment: 610-344-6105  
 Tax Claim/Lien Bureau: 610-344-6360  
 Voters Services: 610-344-6410

#### Chester County Court House:

313 W. Market Street, West Chester Borough, PA 19380

#### District Justice for Westtown:

Martin Goch (District Court 15-2-03): 610-436-5757

#### Chester County Conservation District:

610-925-4920

#### West Chester Area School District:

782 Springdale Drive, Exton, PA 19341  
 Main Number: 484-266-1000 / School Tax: 484-266-1035

#### State Senate - 9th District:

John Kane: Local: 610-436-3320 / State: 717-787-4712  
[www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us)

#### State House - 156th District:

Dianne Herrin (D): Local: 610-696-4990 / State: 717-705-2075  
[www.pahouse.com/herrin](http://www.pahouse.com/herrin)

#### U. S. Senators:

Robert Casey: Local: 215-405-9660 / Federal: 202-224-6324  
[www.casey.senate.gov](http://www.casey.senate.gov)  
 Pat Toomey: Local: 215-241-1090 / Federal 202-224-4254  
[www.toomey.senate.gov](http://www.toomey.senate.gov)

#### Congress - 6th District:

Chrissy Houlahan (D): Local: 610-883-5050 /  
 Federal 202-225-4315  
[www.houlahan.house.gov](http://www.houlahan.house.gov)

#### For Police, Fire, & Medical Emergencies, DIAL 911.

#### For Non-Emergencies:

610-692-5100

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### Neighborhood University

Neighborhood University is offered by the West Chester Area Council of Governments to educate citizens about local government and increase awareness of available municipal services and resources. Classes start Thursday, September 23. Registration is \$10 for the 8-week program. For more information and to enroll in Neighborhood U, visit <https://wcacog.org/neighborhooduniversity>.

#### TV Disposal

The Lanchester Landfill is now limiting drop off disposal to one TV per household. NO PROJECTION TVs are permitted, and you must show ID that you are a Westtown resident.

#### Crimewatch

This online tool gives the public direct access to crime and public safety related information happening in their community. Residents are encouraged to download the CRIMEWATCH mobile app. For more information visit [www.chester.crimewatchpa.com/wegopd/](http://www.chester.crimewatchpa.com/wegopd/) or to learn more about CRIMEWATCH Pennsylvania visit [www.CrimeWatchPA.com](http://www.CrimeWatchPA.com).

#### Ready Chesco

This service is used to notify you during a major crisis or emergency, and delivers important emergency alerts, such as weather, road closures, health, or community alerts. To sign up for Chester County's electronic notification system for emergency information go to: <http://www.readychesco.org>.



#### Stay Informed

To receive information about meetings, special events, and public service announcements via email, please go to the Township website and click on the blue Get Email Alerts button at the top of any page.

#### Pay Sewer and Trash Bills Online

Residents can use Visa, Master Card, or Discover to pay utility bills online at [www.westtownpa.org](http://www.westtownpa.org). There is no fee for this service.

#### Save paper!

If you would like to receive the *Westtown Gazette* electronically, send an email to [info@westtown.org](mailto:info@westtown.org) and request to be put on the electronic delivery list.

# Manager's Message

## The 2022 Budget, Environmental Advisory Council, Westtown Day, and a Return to Normalcy

Summer is always a busy time in Westtown, and especially so this year as we emerge from the pandemic and return to life as normal. After 16 months of virtual meetings, we are excited to begin conducting public meetings in person once again. Residents who want to follow the Board of Supervisors without leaving the comfort of their homes are encouraged to watch the meetings on the Township's YouTube channel, which can be found by googling "Youtube Westtown Township."

### Movie nights at Oakbourne Park are back!

		
<b>June 25</b> <i>E.T.</i>	<b>July 30</b> Field of Dreams	<b>August 27</b> Up

Movies start around 8 PM. Participants will be asked to distance from other family groups. Free popcorn and glow sticks will be provided. *No rain dates.*

One of the most important upcoming meetings will be held on the evening of Monday, August 9, when the Board of Supervisors will meet to begin preliminary discussions about the 2022 Township budget in a Workshop meeting. This meeting promises to cover a broad swath of topics, including park, sewer, stormwater, and road improvements throughout the Township. Remember that this budget is also your budget!

Speaking of public meetings, the Township's newest advisory commission, the Environmental Advisory Council, has hit the ground running. This group, ably co-chaired by Township residents Taylor Anderson and Meghan Hanney, is exploring a host of environmental best practices, ranging from clean energy to stormwater controls. Their work will be exciting to watch in the months and years ahead.

Last but not least, please mark your calendars for Westtown Day on Saturday, October 10, from 11am to 3pm. This year's event will mark my first Westtown Day as Township Manager, and I am eager to meet as many of you in person as I can. So far, I have been blown away by the dedication and commitment of all of the various Township volunteers who help make Westtown Day happen, including the members of the Historical Commission, chaired by Pam Boulos, and the Parks and Recreation Commission, chaired by Ida Fritsche. Let's make this year's Westtown Day the best one yet!

Happy summer!



Jon Altshul, Township Manager

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## New Faces

Westtown Township welcomed two employees in June:

### **Kyle Dool, Township Planner**

Kyle Dool obtained his undergraduate degree from Penn State, and his Masters in City and Regional Planning from Clemson University. Kyle's responsibilities include oversight of the Township's On-Lot Sewage Management Program, building permit review, staff liaison to the Historical Commission, and assisting the Director of Planning and Zoning, Maggie Dobbs, with various Township planning and zoning projects. Kyle replaces Mila Robinson, who left in late April to pursue a position in the private sector.

### **Karen Sockel, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant**

Prior to coming to Westtown, Karen worked for the West Chester Borough in the Building, Housing, and Code Enforcement department. Karen has extensive administrative experience, and has hit the ground running, helping residents with building permit applications, assisting with tax and utility payments, and supporting the Township Manager. Karen will also assume the role of Trash & Recycling Coordinator.

# Friends of Oakbourne

*By Tom Bare, President, Friends of Oakbourne*

Finally, with Covid on the decline, the Friends of Oakbourne (FoO) were able to get back to planting during this spring season. Two memorial trees and three replacement trees were planted on a fine spring day in early May. For the past several years, Westtown's Public Works Director, Mark Gross, has generously offered to provide FoO with help from his staff and equipment in planting trees. Because of this help, FoO now has the ability to order and pick up larger trees than were previously possible when we loaded trees into the back of our SUVs for transportation from the nursery to the park. Likewise, digging holes for the trees is no longer a problem when a backhoe and operator are available to do the job, especially in rocky areas or when the ground is as hard as concrete. So, in about 3 hours, five trees (three of which were large with rootballs and trees weighing about 300 - 500 pounds each) were picked up at the tree nursery, transported to the planting sites at Oakbourne Arboretum, placed in their holes, and then backfilled with soil. The next day, FoO mulched and watered all of the trees, and fenced the ones that needed to be protected from deer.

Two dedicated trees were planted in the Bark Woodlet area of the park which is located adjacent to the Gaudenzia property line in the area of the Oakbourne Park walking path. The Bark Woodlet area is specifically for trees that have unique and unusual bark. One of the trees planted was a lacebark pine (*Pinus bungeana*), dedicated by Pam and John McGillian to the memory of Christopher J. Galeone. This pine tree, a native of China, has a somewhat rounded shape and may reach a height of 40 - 50 feet at maturity. A most striking feature of this tree is that at about 10 years of age, the bark begins to peel to reveal patches of purple, white, and green that is most noticeable during the winter months.



*Lacebark Pine (Pinus bungeana) dedicated to Christopher J. Galeone*

The second dedicated tree, also planted in the Bark Woodlet area, is the first tree planted on the north side of the walking path. This tree is a Lacebark Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia 'ALLEE'*, also called *Chinese elm*), and was dedicated by friends and family to the memory of Cindy Minka. This elm grows to a height of 40 - 50 feet and is reminiscent in its growth habit (vase shaped tree with a rounded crown and long pendulous branching) of the beloved and magnificent American Elm which was decimated by Dutch Elm disease; fortunately, Lacebark Elms are resistant to Dutch Elm disease. Other distinguishing features of this tree are its relatively small dark green glossy leaves and, as it matures into a larger tree, its exfoliating bark that provides a textured look with brown, orange, green, and gray colors.



*Lacebark Elm (Ulmus parvifolia 'ALLEE') dedicated to Cindy Minka*

Three trees that have been planted in the Oakbourne Arboretum over the past five years have been on FoO's watchlist of trees that were not thriving because of disease or environmental factors. Rather than see these trees continue to struggle, we decided to remove and replace them with similar or identical trees.

To that end, a Scarlet Oak (previously dedicated to Charlie & Hilda Brown) that had become diseased was removed and replaced with a Chinkapin Oak (*Quercus muhlenbergii*), a member of the white oak family. It is a native medium sized tree that will reach 40 - 60 feet in height and has leaves with a dark green glossy upper surface and a pale gray-green or white lower surface. The Chinkapin is a valuable source of food for native birds and mammals as well as many species of butterfly & moth caterpillars and other insects.



Park bench dedicated to Bob & Peg Malkames

Several years ago, in partnership with the Westtown Goshen Rotary Club, FoO planted 19 trees along the entry drive to Oakbourne Park. One of the Chestnut Oaks that was planted for this project has not thrived and has thwarted our best efforts at caring for it. FoO even went as far as consulting with a tree expert to try to stimulate its growth with a fertilization program, but to no avail. This small tree was removed and replaced with a larger Chestnut Oak (*Quercus montana*) that will hopefully thrive and be more in concert size wise with its adjacent companion trees.

And finally, a relatively small Oriental Spruce (*Picea orientalis* 'Skylands') that was planted last year in memory of Aram Avesyan was not thriving and was replaced with an identical vigorous specimen.

A memorial park bench dedicated by the Flurer family to the memory of Bob & Peg Malkames was installed to replace an old deteriorated bench located between the pavilion and the playground area. This bench will undoubtedly get a lot of use since it is located in the shade facing the playground area.



The Oakbourne Mansion & Clock Garden on an early Spring day

## FRIENDS OF OAKBOURNE

The Friends of Oakbourne continue to enhance the grounds at Oakbourne Park, and will concentrate their efforts this summer on the west side of the water tower. Contact Tom Bare (tmbare@hotmail.com or 610-399-1572) if you are interested in donating a park bench or tree to be planted in Oakbourne Park to honor a special person or loved one or to commemorate an important occasion.

# The Railroad Comes To Westtown

*by Dave Walter, Township Historical Commissioner and Treasurer, West Chester Railroad Heritage Association*

Most residents of Westtown have probably heard the honk of a railroad engine horn and the rumble of a passenger train on the railroad tracks that bisect the township. It is hard to miss the former Pennsylvania Railroad line: going east and west in our township, one can only cross it at either the underpass on Oakbourne Road (if your vehicle isn't higher than 9' 6"), or the overpass on Street Road. Here's a brief history of those tracks.

In 1832, a railroad first reached West Chester, the growing county seat of Chester County. Merchants decided to connect West Chester with the "Main Line of Public Works" (the Philadelphia & Columbia Railroad) which had bypassed West Chester through the Great Valley. These businessmen connected West Chester with the Main Line, at what is today's Malvern station, by building a horse-drawn railroad line.

Within a decade, other business interests, especially those on the south side of West Chester who weren't efficiently served by the line to Malvern, decided that competition was needed in order to provide better and less expensive service to the markets in Philadelphia. They joined with Delaware County manufacturers, merchants, and farmers, to incorporate and build a railroad from the Schuylkill River at Chestnut Street in West Philadelphia to West Chester via Media, Glen Mills, and Westtown.

Construction began on the West Chester & Philadelphia Railroad Company (WC&P) in 1854. A carved stone "1854" marker along the tracks in Westtown is still in place. Financial difficulties led to a bankruptcy and re-organization, and the railroad was not completed until 1858. The first train into West Chester on the new line commenced operations on November 11, 1858.

The station called "Westtown" has always been in Thornbury Township, just south of Street Road. Here, north of Street Road, Westtown School had a siding built for the delivery of coal, and another siding existed for general freight. The stop at Oakbourne Road in Westtown originally may have been known as "Lecompton" and served a picnic grove. By 1861, according to an area map, the station's name was "Belmont," which was the name of the nearby Hulme estate. Later, the stop became known as "Hemphills" after another local landowner, and finally, in 1885, it was named "Oakbourne" when the Smith family took over the Hulme property and refurbished and enlarged the mansion that exists today. The huge Pennsylvania Railroad (the "Pennsy") effectively acquired the line in 1879, and it was electrified for commuter trains in 1928.

Other railroad lines were proposed to run through Westtown Township. An 1854 map depicting the proposed WC&P included a branch off the line from Westtown to Oxford in southern Chester County. This branch was eventually built from Wawa to Oxford and on to the Susquehanna River. Another line, to be known as the "Chester Creek and Brandywine Railroad," was organized under an Act of the Pennsylvania Assembly on April 5, 1868, to connect the WC&P at Westtown station with the mouth of Pocopson Creek on the Brandywine. By 1873, \$45,000 was subscribed and a survey of the roadbed and acquisition of property was in process. This line would have served Brinton's Quarry and paralleled Street Road through today's Pleasant Grove community and Crebilly Farm. The line was never built, but a short embankment was started and can be seen today extending westward from the tracks north of Westtown station and terminating in the backyard of a private residence on Westbourne Rd.

For a number of weeks, after the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863, the railroad carried materials and supplies to the Union Paroled P.O.W. camp at Oakbourne alongside the track and Goose Creek. The "Oakbourne" station primarily served the local farmers and Williamson's saw and grist mills. In 1871, a two and a half story structure was built with living quarters for the station agent. Members of the Speakman family served as agents from 1878 until 1928. The Oakbourne Post Office was established in 1883, with Mrs. Speakman serving as postmistress until it closed in 1928. After the turn of the century, in addition to the locals, the station did a bustling business with visitors and workers going to and from South Concord Road's J.C. Smith Memorial House for Convalescent Women (now Oakbourne Mansion) and the Pennsylvania Epileptic Hospital (now Gaudenzia). Coal for their powerhouses and local residents was delivered on a siding at the station. Improved roads and widespread use of automobiles eventually led to a decline of passenger traffic. After 1961, commuter trains no longer stopped at Oakbourne and the station was soon demolished. Look closely, just west of the railroad bridge, and one can see where the station driveway ran. A cut stone retaining wall, erected by the Pennsy in the 1880s, can be seen north of the station site where the freight and coal siding once existed.

With the Eastern railroads in serious decline, the Pennsy merged with the New York Central in 1968 and, when it failed, it became part of Conrail in 1976. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) acquired the line in 1983.

The decline in passengers continued, and SEPTA abandoned service beyond Elwyn in 1986. For more than ten years, the rails through Westtown were quietly rusting away. Then, in 1997, Four States Railroad Service, Inc. leased the tracks from SEPTA, did extensive track rehabilitation, and began excursion trains between West Chester and Glen Mills. A portion of the line through the woods between Oakbourne Road and Westtown Station can be seen from the trails in Oakbourne Park, but it is not permitted to trespass or hike along on the tracks.

To see the line, take the popular excursion trains that continue to this day, under the volunteer efforts of the West Chester Railroad Heritage Association. The WCRHA offers Sunday excursions in the summer, and extra "Fall Foliage," "Christmas Tree," and "Santa" trains during the holidays. Check out their website at [wcrailroad.com](http://wcrailroad.com), and take the family out for a leisurely 15 mile round trip ride from West Chester, along the beautiful Goose and Chester Creeks, to historic Glen Mills and back.



Excursion train crosses Goose Creek near Oakbourne Park. Photo by Ron Fricker, courtesy of West Chester Railroad Heritage Association.

# Planning & Zoning

*By Maggie Dobbs, Director of Planning & Zoning*

There are three active land development plans under review in Westtown. All of the plan materials and review letters from Township consultants can be found on the Planning Commission page of the Township website. Please check our website for when these developments will be discussed at upcoming public meetings.

## **Stokes Estate – 1013 Shiloh Road**

The applicant, Fox Clearing, LLC., has submitted a Conditional Use application for the development of the 65-acre farm property with 68 new single-family detached homes. The developer has proposed that a new roadway will service the development and connect into Shiloh Road across from Hunt Road, and into Shiloh Hill Drive. The plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at upcoming meetings prior to scheduling the Conditional Use hearings. The Conditional Use process, similar to that of Crebilly Farms, will provide the Board of Supervisors with an opportunity to review the plan and attach suitable conditions to the plan that will need to be met if and when the plan is approved. After conditional use approval, the plan would still need to go through the land development process to verify conformance with all applicable Township ordinance requirements. Residents are encouraged to attend these meetings to learn more about the project, ask questions, and provide input to inform the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors' decisions.

## **Crebilly Farm**

Conditional Use proposal for 319 single-family detached and townhouse homes, located at the intersection of Routes 202 and 926.

Conditional Use hearings continue for the Toll Brother's project at Crebilly Farms. Upcoming hearings will resume in-person at the Rustin High School Auditorium on Monday, July 12 at 7pm to accept public comments. If Conditional Use approval is granted, the plan will then go back to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for land development review.

## **Sawmill Court – 924 S. Concord Road**

The Planning Commission completed its review of the proposed land development plan for 20 residential twin dwelling units, and recommended it for approval to the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on May 5. As of early summer, the Board of Supervisors is in the process of reviewing the application. The proposal would create twenty new twin, or "carriage" homes, with a walking trail and a sidewalk along S. Concord Road.

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## Westtown Promotes Responsible Pet Ownership

Earlier this year, the Westtown Board of Supervisors adopted a Dog Ordinance with the goal of promoting responsible dog ownership. The ordinance has a number of provisions that Westtonians should be mindful of, including:

- Dog owners shall not allow dogs to run "at large." Dogs running at large pose risks to humans and dogs alike. To that end, please keep your dogs fenced in or on leashes. This is especially important when taking dogs for walks in your neighborhood or at Township parks!
- Dog owners shall not allow their dogs to continuously bark, regardless of whether they are on private property. Continuously barking dogs undermine Westtown's quality of life and create a potential nuisance for adjacent property owners. The ordinance defines continuous barking as a period of 10 minutes or more or 30 minutes or more of intermittent barking.
- Dog owners must clean up dog waste that is deposited on any other person's private property, or on any public property including sidewalks, streets, and parks.

The ordinance includes a number of enforcement provisions for violations, ranging from warnings for first-time violations to fines of up to \$600 for repeated violations.

Thank you in advance for ensuring that Westtown remains safe for all residents, whether they walk on two legs or four!





# Public Works News

There are a number of projects in the Township scheduled for this summer. Aqua PA has been replacing water mains in several locations including Hummingbird Lane, Hunt Drive, and Carolyn Drive. Aqua crews will begin work on the northern end of Shiloh Road in late June. PECO has also been at work in Westtown making gas main upgrades in several locations including Pleasant Grove. The Township will begin work on the sewer line on Ponds Edge Road in mid-June. This project is anticipated to take approximately four weeks to complete.

In addition, the rehabilitation of the South New Street Bridge is scheduled for this summer. These projects may create delays, detours, and road closures. We thank residents in advance for their patience and cooperation with the utility companies and contractors as they work to improve Township infrastructure.

For details on Township projects, please visit the **Roads & Public Works** page of the Township website.

In late summer, the Township's annual road maintenance program will include improvements to the following roads:

- Ashley Road (entire)
- Dunning Drive (partial)
- Stable Lane (entire)
- Shiloh Hill Drive (entire)
- Centre School Way (entire)
- Shippen Lane (entire)
- Tyson Drive (partial)
- Ponds Edge Road (entire)
- Rollinview Drive (entire)
- Carroll Brown Way (partial)
- Elk Lane (entire)
- W. Pleasant Grove (spot patching)

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## Westtown Day

The Township Historical and Parks and Recreation Commissions are hard at work planning Westtown Day!

This annual community celebration will take place:

Sunday,  
**OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
OAKBOURNE PARK

The event will feature carnival games, food trucks, live bands, Civil and Revolutionary War re-enactors, local vendors, crafts for the kids, and more!

Take a tour of the historic Oakbourne Mansion. Let the kids "dig" for archaeological artifacts. Shop from local businesses and artisans. Tour a police car, ambulance, and fire truck. There's something for all ages.

For more information, visit [www.westtownday.com](http://www.westtownday.com). If you are interested in sponsoring this event, or volunteering to assist the day of the event, please contact Pam Boulos at [PBoulos@cvmprofessional.com](mailto:PBoulos@cvmprofessional.com).



# Important Dates

## JULY, 2021

- 5 - Office Closed for Independence Day
- 6(T), 19 - Board of Supervisors
- 7, 21 - Planning Commission
- 10 - Yard Waste Collection
- 12 - Toll Bros/Crebilly Farm CU
- 13 - Parks & Recreation
- 15 - Historical Commission
- 27 - Environmental Advisory Council

## AUGUST, 2021

- 2, 16 - Board of Supervisors
- 4, 18 - Planning Commission
- 13 - Parks & Recreation
- 14 - Yard Waste Collection
- 19 - Historical Commission
- 24 - Environmental Advisory Council

## SEPTEMBER, 2021

- 6 - Office Closed for Labor Day
- 7(T), 20 - Board of Supervisors
- 8, 22 - Planning Commission
- 11 - Yard Waste Collection
- 14 - Parks & Recreation
- 16 - Historical Commission
- 28 - Environmental Advisory Council

## OCTOBER, 2021

- 4, 18 - Board of Supervisors
- 6, 20 - Planning Commission
- 9 - Yard Waste Collection
- 10 - Westtown Day
- 12 - Parks & Recreation
- 21 - Historical Commission
- 26 - Environmental Advisory Council

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** - 7:30 pm

**EAC** - 6:00 pm

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION** - 6:00 pm

**PLANNING COMMISSION** - 7:30 pm

Township Municipal Building  
1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown

**PARKS AND RECREATION** - 7:00 pm

Oakbourne Mansion  
1014 S. Concord Road, Westtown

# Neighborhood University 2021



After a pandemic-related hiatus last year, the West Chester Area Council of Governments (WCACOG) is pleased to announce the return of Neighborhood University! In-person classes begin on September 23, 2021. This program offers the opportunity to learn about local government, tour public facilities, and better understand available municipal services and resources. The goal is to provide area residents with the tools necessary to be better advocates for their community.

Neighborhood University of Greater West Chester is open to any resident or business owner, age 16 or older, from one of the participating communities: East Bradford Township, East Goshen Township, Thornbury Township (Chester County), West Chester Borough, West Goshen Township, West Whiteland Township, and Westtown Township.

Local officials will cover topics including the local government in Pennsylvania, stormwater, public safety, planning/zoning and land development, road and trail projects, public works, and public finance and taxation.

Registration cost is \$10 for the 8-week program. Class size is limited. Sessions will be held on Thursdays at 7:00 PM (unless otherwise noted) in various locations throughout the greater West Chester area. For more information and to register, visit <https://wcacog.org/neighborhooduniversity>.



# Household Waste Disposal

Please follow these guidelines on the preparation and disposal of household waste and recyclables:

## TRASH

**Household trash must be securely contained in plastic bags or lidded receptacles.** Construction debris, hazardous waste, and electronics are not accepted.

## RECYCLING

Recyclable materials (glass, plastics #1-6, aluminum, steel, paper, and cardboard) must be in the recycle bin, or other clearly marked recycling container. **Do not put recyclables in plastic bags.** Rinse food debris and dispose of lids. Flatten cardboard boxes and place in the recycle bin or another cardboard box, or bundle with twine or string (do not use duct tape) and place beside the bin. **Loose cardboard will not be collected.**

## YARD WASTE

Yard waste is collected on scheduled days. It must be in paper bags or containers that can be dumped. Branches no more than 3" in diameter and 3' in length must be bundled & tied. Logs, stumps, rocks, dirt, and ashes will not be collected. Yard waste pick up dates are posted on the Township website. Pickup reminders are emailed to residents who subscribe to the Township listserv. The township strongly encourages residents to compost yard waste and mulch grass clippings.

## BULK ITEMS

On the last pick up of each month, A.J. Blosenski will collect up to three bulk items per house. Holiday collection make-ups include bulk items. A mattress and/or box spring are accepted on bulk item day. Construction debris, TV's, safes, and auto parts cannot be accepted for collection.

## HAZARDOUS WASTE

Visit <http://www.chestercountyswa.org> for hazardous waste collection events scheduled throughout the county.

## MEDICAL WASTE

There is a medication return box at the Westtown East Goshen Police Dept. Additional information on the disposal of home healthcare waste is available on the Township website.

## ELECTRONIC WASTE

TV's, computer monitors, appliances, and other electronics may be disposed of at the Lanchester Landfill for FREE (7224 Division Highway, Narvon, PA). Residents may bring up to three items per day visit, including one TV (no projection TV's). Retailers and E-Waste collection events charge for TV's and computer monitors, so take advantage of this service.

# Recycle Right. When in Doubt, Throw it Out!

Many people are still operating under the misconception that recycling every possible scrap of paper, metal, plastic, and glass is the most environmentally sound practice. "Aspirational recycling" is severely limiting the marketability of material worldwide. Most notably, China is no longer accepting U.S. recyclables due to the high rate of contamination.

Here's a guide for what **NOT** to put in the recycling bin:

- Anything with food waste in it - You don't have to wash containers, but rinse to remove food scraps and residue.
- Plastic bags and film - These items get stuck in the processing machinery, resulting in expensive repairs and down time. Recycle CLEAN plastic bags, and plastic film packaging at the grocery store.
- Empty snack bags
- Greasy pizza boxes
- Used paper plates, napkins, paper towels, tissues, or diapers
- Paper cups (e.g. coffee cups, fast food drink cups) - The thin plastic lining that help prevent cups from leaking makes it difficult to process.
- Plastic straws, plastic utensils, or takeaway cup lids
- Shredded paper
- Styrofoam
- Scrap metal, hangers, aluminum siding, or metal cookware

**If you want to do something positive for the planet by recycling, then do it right. When in doubt, throw it out!**

**Discount Code: Westtown**  
**\$25.00 off**  
a Roll-off Dumpster  
**\$10.00 off**  
Junk Removal  
Service

**AJB** Trash & Recycling Service  
**A.J. Blosenski Inc.**  
[www.ajblosenski.com](http://www.ajblosenski.com)  
**610.942.2707**

**Four Generations of Quality Service from the Blosenski Family**

- 96 Gallon Carts Available
- Bulk Item Removal
- Special Cleanups
- Roll-off Dumpsters
- Storage Containers
- Commercial Compactors
- 1-40 Yard Containers
- Event & Party Boxes
- 100% Customer Satisfaction

**Dependable Roll-Off Service**

**Servicing Westtown Township**

MasterCard American Express Discover Visa  
Discount cannot be combined with any other offer.

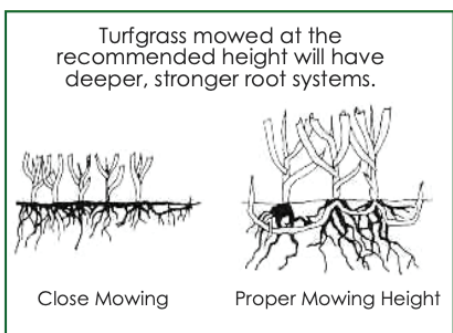


Westtown Township  
1039 Wilmington Pike  
P.O. Box 79  
Westtown, Pennsylvania 19395

Prsrtd Std  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
West Chester PA  
Permit No 10

## Raise Mower Height for Healthier Lawns, Cleaner Water

Turfgrass, like other plants, must manufacture sugars through photosynthesis in their leaves if they are to develop into a high quality lawn. Closely mowed lawns have limited leaf area to take in the sunlight to produce the food they need to be healthy.



In addition to leaf area, a direct relationship exists between the height of turfgrass plants and the depth and total mass of their root system. ***Kentucky blue grass and tall fescue lawns mowed at the recommended summer height of 3 inches have roots more than twice as deep as those of closely cropped lawns.*** The shallow, weak roots of closely mowed lawns exhibit stress first and loss of grass plants to competing weeds is more likely, particularly during the summer. Raising mower heights during the summer will keep soil temperatures cooler, preserve soil moisture and help maintain turfgrass quality.

Thicker lawns are more weed resistant, absorb more stormwater, lose less sediment during storms, and need less fertilizer. So this June, ***remember to raise your mower height to three inches, or remind your lawn service company, for a healthier lawn and cleaner streams this summer.***



## THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO PROTECT CLEAN WATER!

This message is brought to you by your municipality and Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association, [www.crcwatersheds.org](http://www.crcwatersheds.org).