



WESTTOWN GAZETTE

A Quarterly Newsletter to the Citizens of Westtown Township - Winter Issue #48

HELLO WESTTOWN NEIGHBORS!

Winter is upon us with many predicting we will not have the good fortune of a mild one, as in recent years. Although we are in winter, the Township’s administrative and public works employees will keep chugging along making sure residents’ questions are answered, roads are plowed, and just generally seeing that the business of the Township gets done. I have watched and admired our dedicated Township staff from not so far for going on six years and can say unequivocally that we, as Westtown Township residents, are really lucky to have all of these dedicated people in our corner and working for our Township.

When I was sworn in as a newly minted supervisor in January of 2018, I knew generally of the challenges and issues facing our Township – potential development of Crebilly, aging infrastructure at Oakbourne Park, and an impending negotiation with our police, just to name a few. With the benefit of some good fortune and very hard work by a lot of people, many of these challenges have been or are being addressed. The new bridge on Oakbourne Road was completed and received statewide recognition from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors because of the complexity of the project. The Township invested in much-needed improvements to Oakbourne Mansion including painting and other structural repairs to the Mansion itself, water tower, and carriage house. And if you drive on East Pleasant Grove Road, you can see the culmination of four years of planning, grant application writing, design, and actual construction at the athletic core

area of Oakbourne Park. No doubt, the new basketball court, pickleball courts, tennis courts, restrooms, pavilion, playground, new parking facilities, and updated trail system will be welcome and well-used additions to our community.

Of course, there remains plenty of work to be done. The Township has come far in the overall effort to preserve Crebilly Farm and expects that in 2024 the planning will get underway in earnest for our new 200+ acre park to use for trails and other passive recreation. Also, planning for needed upgrades to the Township’s sewer infrastructure will be on the immediate horizon. And, hopefully, planning for the “phase 2” improvements in Oakbourne Park in the Mansion area will be around the corner.

As always, 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 supervisors@westtown.org. Better yet, please attend a Board meeting or meetings of our Township’s commissions to express your views in person.

In closing, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank the residents of the Township for allowing me the opportunity to serve these past several years as a supervisor and member of the planning commission. Westtown Township has been around and flourished since 1685. I expect it will be around and continue to flourish for another 400+ years.

Scott E. Yaw, Esq.

Scott E. Yaw, Esq., Westtown Township Supervisor

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Westtown Township, County of Chester

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Board of Supervisors: Tom Foster, Dick Pomerantz, Ed Yost

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

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

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

State House - 160th District:

Craig Williams: Local: 610-358-5925
www.pahouse.com/williams

U. S. Senators:

Robert Casey: Local: 215-405-9660 / Federal: 202-224-6324
www.casey.senate.gov
 John Fetterman: Local: 215-241-1090 / Federal 202-224-4254
www.fetterman.senate.gov

Congress - 6th District:

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

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

For Non-Emergencies:

610-692-5100

BULLETIN BOARD

Commission Vacancies

The Board of Supervisors is accepting applications for the Parks & Recreation Commission and Environmental Advisory Council. To apply, please submit a brief resume or statement of interest to Jonathan Altshul, Township Manager, at jaltshul@westtown.org. Applicants must be current in all municipal obligations.

Recreation Program Survey

Westtown Township is in the early stages of expanding its recreation programming and would like to get resident feedback about the potential demand for different types of Township-sponsored activities. To that end, we have developed a very brief survey to help inform the Township's decision-making process. The survey link is posted on the homepage of the Township website. We would be grateful if you could take a few moments to complete the survey by no later than January 20. The results will be compiled and discussed at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

Crimewatch

The recent prison escape highlights the importance of staying informed about crime in our area. The CRIMEWATCH tool gives the public direct access to crime and public safety information happening in their community. Residents are encouraged to register for notifications and download the mobile app. Visit <https://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 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/online-bill-pay/. There is no fee for this service.

Save paper!

If you would like to receive the *Westtown Gazette* electronically, email administration@westtown.org, and we will remove you from the mailing list. Township newsletters are archived on the Township website under Resident Resources.

Manager's Message

DEAR WESTTOWN RESIDENTS:

I wanted to take an opportunity to wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season and bring you up to speed on some important developments in Westtown Township.

New Earned Income and Real Estate Taxes, Effective January 1, 2024

On November 20, the Board of Supervisors adopted two ordinances that raised the Township's Earned Income Tax (EIT) rate and Real Estate Tax rate to the levels authorized in the November 8, 2022, Open Space Tax Referendum. Therefore, beginning in January, **the Earned Income Tax rate will increase from 1.04% to 1.08% and the Township Real Estate Tax rate will increase from 3.71 mills to 3.92 mills.** These tax increases represent the second and final phase of the tax increases necessary to acquire and maintain Crebilly Farm. Please also note that the additional funds from these tax increases are segregated in a special Open Space Fund that is separate from the General Fund.

Your specific tax increase will depend on 1) your household earned income and 2) the assessed value of your home. For perspective, a household earning \$100,000 will pay an additional \$40 in EIT. Meanwhile, the owner of a "typical" single-family detached home may expect an increase in their real estate tax bill of between \$40 and \$50 per year, with owners of smaller homes paying proportionately less and owners of larger homes paying proportionately more.

If you work for a Pennsylvania-based employer, your EIT withholding should be automatically adjusted in your paycheck beginning on January 1. If it is not, please be sure to check with your payroll department right away. If you file quarterly estimated payments to the Keystone Collections Group, please be sure to remit earned income at the rate of 1.08% beginning with your return corresponding with wages earned in the 1st quarter of 2024.

Your 2024 real estate tax bill will be mailed out by or before February 1. If you have an escrow account, do not make a payment to the Township; your mortgage company will make payment directly to the Township on your behalf.

Update on Crebilly Farm Acquisition

The Township continues to make progress in permanently preserving Crebilly Farm. First, earlier this year, conservation easements were placed on the four large parcels covering 102 acres along the western portion of the property that will remain privately owned. These easements restrict the parcels from being subdivided in the future and will ensure that the land remains protected in perpetuity. The conservation easements were purchased with a \$2.15 million grant from Chester County and a \$1.95 million commitment from the Township, which is secured by the new open space taxes.

Second, the Township is still on track to acquire the remaining 206 acres that will be used as a passive recreation area by late 2024, at a cost of \$20.6 million. The Township, in partnership with Natural Lands, has secured grant commitments and private donations for the acquisition totaling about \$12.3 million. In addition, the Township will contribute about \$5.3 million, which will also be secured by the new open space taxes. This leaves a funding gap of about \$3 million. Fortunately, Natural Lands has now identified a funding source to close that gap and is working hard to ensure that the acquisition remains on track for closing in 2024.

I would also expect that the Township to begin the planning process for how the 206-acre passive recreation area will be used sometime in 2024.

Communicating information about tax increases is obviously a difficult, if necessary step in the operation of the Township, and we are grateful for your understanding. Please do not hesitate to contact me by email at jaltshul@westtown.org if you have any questions or concerns.



Jonathan Altshul, Township Manager

Westtown Township Wants You!

Do you have a passion for sustainability and the environment? Do you love to plan activities and events at the Park?

Then consider giving back to your community and making new connections by volunteering for the Township's Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) or the Park and Recreation Commission!

Township Commissions meet once per month—the EAC meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Township building, while Parks & Rec meets the second Tuesday at 7:00pm at Oakbourne Mansion. All meetings are open to the public.

To apply for either commission please send a brief resume or statement of interest to Jonathan Altshul at jaltshul@westtown.org.

Friends of Oakbourne

by Tom Bare, Friends of Oakbourne

At the end of October, two memorial trees and a tree donated by one of our suppliers were planted with the help of some members of the Westtown Public Works crew. A grouping of four Heritage River Birch (*Betula nigra* 'Cully') trees was planted in the Bark Woodlet area. This grouping of trees was dedicated to Thomas Lyman by Dean and Kim Beebe, Rick and Debbie Clark, and Rick and Linda Cherashore. The Heritage River birch will be a wonderful addition to the Bark Woodlet since its bark will begin to peel and exfoliate when the diameter of its trunks reaches 2-3 inches. The creamy white and tan bark of this birch peels away from the trunk to expose tan, pink, and cinnamon colors and the tree trunks will have a distinct and interesting "shaggy" look all year long.

The other memorial tree, a Shademaster Honeylocust (*Gleditsia tricanthos inermis* 'Shademaster') was dedicated to the memory of Marilyn Vishnefski Grunberg by John and Pam McGillian. The Shademaster Honeylocust was planted along the walking path that parallels the Gaudenzia property on the south side of the park. This tree has small dark green delicate fern-like leaves that provide light dappled shade during the growing season. In the fall the leaves develop a beautiful yellow color. Because of the small leaves, there is not a substantial leaf drop from this tree and essentially no fall leaf cleanup is necessary, a feature most homeowners really appreciate. Also, the Shademaster does not have thorns and fall seedpods that other varieties of honeylocust trees possess. This tree is a relatively fast grower and will eventually reach a height of 50 feet.



Heritage River Birch



Shademaster Honeylocust

A large Sawtooth Oak (*Quercus acutissima*) donated to Friends of Oakbourne by one of our tree suppliers was planted in our arboretum's Oak Grove area. This oak is a non-native oak (native to Japan, China, and Korea) with dark green glossy oblong finely serrated leaves that have late fall color, starting with tinges of yellow gradually turning tan in late autumn. Most of the leaves remain on the tree during the winter and only fall when the buds begin to swell in the spring. The tree is a heavy acorn producer which is a boon for large birds and many mammals. The Sawtooth's acorn is interesting in that the acorn cap is frilled and covers about half of the acorn.



Sawtooth acorn and its frilled cap

Interested In Donating A Park Bench Or Tree?

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 and Arboretum to honor a special person or loved one or to commemorate an important occasion.

The Benefits of Tree Preservation

by Meghan Hanney, EAC Member

A Lacebark Pine (*Pinus bungeana*) that was planted in 2021 as a memorial tree in the Bark Woodlet (an area containing trees with unique and unusual bark) section of the arboretum failed to thrive and was removed. I believe the spot where this tree was planted may have been too wet for the tree to thrive. We planted a new replacement Lacebark Pine in a different area of the Bark Woodlet that has good drainage. You may recall that this tree, when mature, will have unusual peeling bark that will reveal patches of purple, white, and green.

Fall is a glorious time of the year at Oakbourne and Arboretum. The magnificent Ginkgo and Dawn Redwood were at their peak colors when these pictures were taken on November 18, 2023.



Ginkgo



Dawn Redwood

As Westtown residents, we are fortunate to live in an area with such an abundance of mature trees that no doubt contribute significantly to the beauty of our town. Not only do these trees make Westtown such an attractive place to live, they provide some critical services to our properties and neighborhoods. Let's look at some of the significant benefits that mature trees provide to our community and why we might want to consider making efforts to preserve them on our properties.

- **Soil enrichment** – All those leaves that our mature trees drop in the fall protect the ground through the winter and decompose back into the soil making it more nutrient-dense for growing healthier gardens and plants. Decaying leaves also make great compost and mulch!
- **Shade and cooling** – Mature trees filter sunlight and help to keep our houses cool which can save us money on our energy bills and contribute to energy conservation. Mature trees along our streets can also block sunlight from hitting the paved roads, keeping them cooler and preventing them from warming the air around them.
- **Erosion control** – The extensive root networks of mature trees help hold soil in place and prevent erosion in particularly sensitive areas like stream and river banks and steep slopes.
- **Water absorption** – Mature trees are an amazing natural assist to stormwater management and the bigger they are, the more they help. Mature trees' extensive root systems improve the soil around them making the soil better able to absorb water, while the roots themselves act like a network of straws. As a result, trees can help prevent flooding, water damage to buildings, and overflow of sewer systems.
- **Noise reduction** – Large mature trees absorb noise - their thick trunks and layers of leaves (or needles), help to dampen noise from traffic and construction, and other loud activities.
- **Carbon sequestration** – Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store it in their trunks, branches, and leaves. And the bigger the tree, the more carbon it can store. In this and many other ways, trees play a crucial role in helping to mitigate climate change.
- **Pollinator/wildlife support** – Every part of a mature native tree provides critical food and/or shelter to our birds, pollinators, and wildlife whose populations and habitats continue to shrink.

Lastly, mature trees add monetary and aesthetic value to our properties, purify our air by absorbing carbon and creating oxygen, and support our overall mental well-being. By making an effort to protect and preserve our mature healthy trees starting here, in our own backyards, we will help them continue to help us.

Serpentine: That Green Stone

By Pamela Boulos, Westtown Historical Commission

Peppered throughout Westtown and our neighboring townships are buildings made of a curious green stone. Certainly, you have noticed them—on the campus of West Chester University, several houses along New Street, maybe even as far as the University of Pennsylvania's College Hall. What is this stone? Why is it green? Where did it come from?



The yellowish serpentine façade of the stately West Chester University Library.



The blue-green serpentine of University of Pennsylvania's imposing College Hall

The stone is called serpentine, and it is exceedingly rare. It began as an igneous rock and was transformed by pressure and heat into a metamorphic rock based on three minerals: Antigorite, Lizardite, and Chrysotile. In addition to these three base minerals, additional ingredients, such as iron, talc, chromite, and magnite, among others, comprise the stone. The color of the stone can range from pale yellow to dark green and even blue-green, depending on the proportions of various minerals. More Olivine mineral will make the stone yellowish-green, while more pyroxene will make the stone appear bluish.

Only a few countries in the world contain serpentine; in the United States, only Pennsylvania, Maryland, Oregon, and California have it. And Chester County was one of the few places where it was quarried. The most successful of the serpentine stone quarries was located in the southwest corner of Westtown—the Serpentine Ridge Quarry, also known as Brinton's Quarry. While the exact timeframe of activity is a bit unclear, Brinton's Quarry was definitely operating in the early 19th century. Under the ownership of Joseph Brinton from 1870 to 1888, the quarry produced 500,000 cubic yards of serpentine. At its busiest, Brinton's Quarry employed 40 men, not including those who would haul the stone to the railroads at Westtown and Pocopson.

Joseph Brinton spent most of his life at Homestead Farm in Thornbury Township just southeast of the quarry, except for the years he attended Yale to obtain his Ph.B. in chemistry and geology. He was an agriculturalist, scientist, inventor, and savvy businessman. In addition to Brinton's Quarry, Joseph was involved with two other quarries selling other types of stone, including granite and Conestoga Pink Sandstone.



Joseph Brinton, 1929, holding his sister's great grandson, Garrison Brinton.

During peak years, Brinton's Quarry sold \$30,000 worth of stone annually, which in today's dollars is roughly \$1 million. Due to the success and demand for the stone during those peak years, a railroad line connecting the local stations to the quarry was started but was eventually abandoned. In those days, finding skilled stone masons to properly dress the stones - to surface and shape the blocks - was difficult. As a result, Joseph Brinton worked with Henry Disston, the saw manufacturer and owner of Disston Saw Works in Philadelphia, to develop a saw to dress the serpentine stone. In those days, it was typical for rough-cut stone to be delivered to a construction site, and to be dressed there by the masons under the direction of the architect. Brinton simplified this process by having the architect send him their plans for a building. With the aid of the machines he developed with Disston, Brinton would be able to dress the stones at the quarry and deliver them to the job site, ready for installation.

After nearly two solid decades of success, misfortune struck. On April 6, 1887, a fire destroyed the buildings and quarrying machinery. Pumps that stopped the pit from filling with water were compromised, and the quarry was soon flooded with 40 feet of water. The Brinton family attempted to continue quarrying operations above the water line, but after it was found that serpentine is less durable than other stones, business fell off from the glory years.

One day in 1899, when quarrying operations were nearing an end, Joseph Brinton had an argument with his foreman, accusing him of being too inebriated to work and firing him. The story has it that the man went into the borough, had some more drinks, and returned to the quarry, where he cut the boom loose from one of the machines. The boom fell into the quarry pit and has floated in the waters of the quarry ever since—and is now known as The Log.

The quarry has been repurposed as the Quarry Swimming Association, which has been in operation since the early 20th century. Over time, modern amenities have been added, including a sandy beach and a water purification and filtration system.

For more information on serpentine, Brinton's Quarry, the Quarry Swim Club, and other Westtown history, get your copy of *From Farmland to Suburbia, a History of Westtown Township*, available at the Township office for \$20.



Serpentine Stone house on S. New Street

Sources: *The History of the Quarry*, the Quarry Swimming Association, June 2002; *The Evolution of Serpentine Stone as a Building Material in Southeastern Pennsylvania 1727-1931*, Jane Dorchester, 2001; *From Farmland to Suburbia*, the Westtown Township Historical Commission, 2019.

Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department

NEW HIRES

Please join the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department (WEGO) in welcoming our newest part-time officers, Ron Cross and Gemma Lewis.

Ron graduated from West Chester University in winter of 2021 and the Delaware County Community College Police Academy in summer of 2023. A native of West Chester, Ron enjoys going to the gym and doing calisthenics, watching sporting events, and practicing soccer.

Gemma graduated from Downingtown West High School in 2020 and the Delaware County Community College Municipal Police Academy in 2020. Before joining WEGO, Gemma worked for Delaware County Park Police. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, shopping, watching softball or baseball, and listening to music.



EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department is in the process of updating its database for all commercial properties within our coverage area. In order to accomplish this task, we need your assistance and are requesting that you update the emergency contact information for your business. This information is used in the event of an after-hours emergency or incident at your business. The form can be accessed on our website: [WEGO Emergency Contact Form](#).

Good Fellowship Ambulance

2024 Subscription/Donation Drive Underway



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Lifesaving emergency medical transport can put a stress on your family's finances, but with a subscription to Good Fellowship Ambulance, subscribers have **NO out-of-pocket expenses** if treated and/or transported by us - so you can focus on recovery, not finances. Subscribe today!

The volunteers and staff of Good Fellowship Ambulance respond every day at a moment's notice, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to ensure you and your loved ones receive emergency care when you need it!

Good Fellowship is the largest and busiest ambulance service in Chester County, providing Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) to the greater West Chester area. We respond to over 7,500 emergency 911 calls a year! That's 35,000 households over 64 square miles where Good Fellowship provides basic life support and advanced life support services. Good Fellowship is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and struggles to overcome a significant funding deficit every year.

Your Subscription/Donation Provides Crucial Funding of A Critical Service For You And Your Community!

Check your mailboxes for our
subscription/donation
letter or subscribe/donate online today:
<http://www.goodfellowship.com/community/subscriber/>



New Payment Option!
Subscriptions and donations
can also be completed by Venmo.

Public Works Department

What to Know When it Snows

The Public Works Department strives to keep Township roads passable during winter weather events. We thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.

Storm Response Procedure:

- Salting at the beginning of a storm to keep snow and ice from bonding with the paved surface.
- Snow removal begins when snow has accumulated on the road, and continues for the duration of the storm.
- Heavily traveled collector roads are cleared first, followed by developments and low-volume roads.
- After initial clearing, the plow drivers will work on pushing snow back. Depending on the timing and duration of a storm, it may take up to six hours after the snow has stopped to clear the roads.
- After final clearing of snow, salt is reapplied to help prevent re-freezing.

To aid us in the safe and effective removal of snow and ice, do not park on the street during snow or ice storms, especially in cul-de-sacs, where the area snow can be placed is extremely limited due to mailboxes, driveways, and stormwater inlets. Cul-de-sacs may not be plowed if cars are parked in them.

Do not push or blow snow from your driveway onto the roadway. This creates a hazardous situation, and the property owner may be held responsible for accidents resulting from snow placed in the road.

When possible, eliminate snow piles at the end of your driveway which block visibility. Large piles of snow will obstruct your vision and make it difficult for oncoming motorists to see you exiting, or small children playing in the driveway.

To avoid having your driveway plowed shut, leave the last 10 feet of your driveway un-shoveled until we are finished.

Winter Stormwater Management

We encourage residents to limit the use of salt and other chemical de-icing products, which can be harmful to the environment.

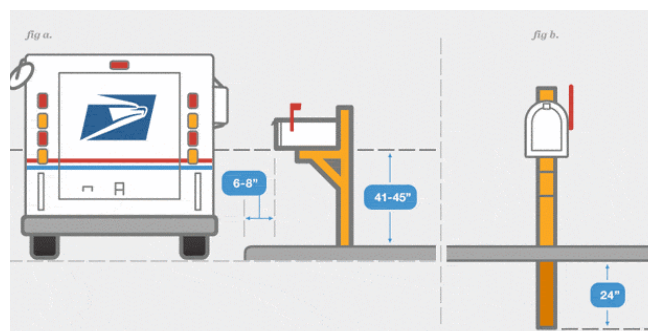
If you must use de-icing chemicals, follow these suggestions...

- Shovel snow onto permeable surfaces so as the snow melts, it will soak into the ground rather than flow directly into a nearby storm drain or stream.
- Control application of chemical de-icers and avoid over application.
- Limit chemical applications near environmentally-sensitive areas including streams, ponds & wetlands.
- Sand, cat litter, and sawdust can be used as an environmentally friendly alternative to salt products. They will improve traction and prevent slipping, but will not aid in melting ice.
- Use salt substitutes that are less harmful, including Calcium Chloride (CaCl₂) and Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA).
- After snowmelt, sweep up residue to prevent it from washing into storm drains and streams.

Do not place shoveled, blown, or plowed snow from driveways or sidewalks onto public streets. If the snow falls on a trash day, place your receptacles back from the edge of the road. Do not put them in the street.

Mailbox Policy:

Public Works would also like to remind residents of the policy regarding mailboxes damaged during snowplowing operations. A sound post and securely attached mailbox will not be knocked over by snow coming off a plow. It is helpful to use a reflector to make your mailbox more visible to plow drivers. Also check that the placement of your mailbox in the right-of-way follows the US Postal Service Standards for residential mailboxes shown in the diagram.



US Postal Service Standards for residential mailboxes

Plow drivers are instructed to drive as slowly as realistically possible in order to minimize problems with mailboxes. Mailboxes are an encroaching, albeit official, structure in the right-of-way, and the Township is not responsible for damage. The Township will not replace mailboxes damaged by snow coming off the plow.

Please do your part to help the Township safely and efficiently remove snow this winter!

Important Dates

JANUARY, 2024

- 1 - Office Closed (New Year)
- 2(T), 16 - Board of Supervisors
- 3, 17 - Planning Commission
- 9 - Historical Commission
- 13 - Yard Waste Collection
- 15 - Office Closed (MLK)
- 16 - Parks & Rec Commission
- 18 - Friends of Oakbourne
- 23 - EAC

FEBRUARY, 2024

- 5, 20(T) - Board of Supervisors
- 7, 21 - Planning Commission
- 10 - Yard Waste Collection
- 13 - Historical Commission
- 19 - Office Closed (Presidents Day)
- 20 - Parks & Rec Commission
- 27 - EAC

MARCH, 2024

- 4, 18 - Board of Supervisors
- 6, 20 - Planning Commission
- 9 - Yard Waste Collection
- 12 - Historical Commission
- 19 - Parks & Rec Commission
- 23 - P&R Egg Hike
- 26 - EAC
- 29 - Office Closed (Good Friday)

APRIL, 2024

- 1, 15 - Board of Supervisors
- 3, 17 - Planning Commission
- 9 - Historical Commission
- 13 - Yard Waste Collection
- 16 - Parks & Rec Commission
- 18 - Friends of Oakbourne
- 23 - EAC

Board of Supervisors - 7:30 pm
Environmental Advisory - 7:00 pm
Planning Commission - 7:00 pm
Historical Commission - 7:00 pm
Township Municipal Building
1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown

**Parks and Recreation
& Friends of Oakbourne** - 7:00 pm
Oakbourne Mansion
1014 S. Concord Road, Westtown

Parks & Recreation

March

23

10:00 AM - Noon*

Egg Hike at Oakbourne Park

BYO basket, grab a map at the park pavilion, and hit the trails to locate egg pick up stations. All ages are welcome. Keep your eyes peeled along the way for hidden golden eggs with special prizes!

**Registration will be required for this popular event.
Registration information will be posted in early March.**



Hosted by the Westtown Township Parks & Recreation Commission

**or while eggs last.*

Recreation Program Survey

We Want to Hear from You!

Westtown is in the early stages of expanding its recreation programming, and we would like to get resident input about the potential demand for different types of Township-sponsored activities. Westtown is committed to ensuring that our recreation programming is inclusive to all residents, regardless of age, race, gender or disability.

To that end, we have developed a very brief survey to help inform the Township's decision-making process. To access the survey, scan the QR code or visit this link: https://pollunit.com/polls/rec_survey1



We would be grateful if you could take a few moments to complete the survey by no later than January 20. The results will be compiled and discussed at a future Board of Supervisors meeting. Thank you for your assistance!

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 #1-7, aluminum, steel, paper, and cardboard) must be in the recycle bin, or other clearly marked recycling containers. **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 posted on the Township website. 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. 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 is 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 Department. 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!

Recycling RIGHT is more important than recycling MORE. 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. Clean, uncontaminated recyclable material improves marketability.

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 downtime. 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 helps 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
- Mirrors, ovenware, flower pots, and window glass
- Oil cans or bottles, aerosol, or paint cans
- Drinking glasses, ceramic dishware

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





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

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2024 YARD WASTE SCHEDULE

JAN 13	FEB 10	MAR 09	APR 13	MAY 11	JUN 08	JUL 13
AUG 10	SEP 14	OCT 12	NOV 09	NOV 23	DEC 07	DEC 21

2024 Holiday Collection Schedule:

Trash and recycling collection will be affected by New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Service on weeks with one of these holidays will roll one day throughout the week, beginning with the service scheduled for the holiday:

New Year's Day:

Monday, Jan 1 collection will be on Tuesday, Jan 2, and Thursday service will roll to Friday, Jan 5.

Memorial Day:

Monday, May 27 collection will be Tuesday, May 28, and Thursday service will roll to Friday, May 31.

Independence Day:

Thursday, July 4 collection will roll to Friday, July 5.

Labor Day:

Monday, Sept. 2 collection will be on Tuesday, Sept. 3, and Thursday service will roll to Friday, Sept. 6.

Thanksgiving:

Thursday, Nov. 28 service will roll to Friday, Nov. 29.

Christmas:

Thursday, Dec. 26 will roll to Friday, Dec. 27.