

WESTTOWN GAZETTE

A QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP
From the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors

MANAGER'S REPORT

On August 16th, Westtown Township came to an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on a course of action for the provision of public sewer in the Township.

In essence, this course of action is made up of two elements. The first is the completion of a formal plan to extend the public sewerage collection system. The second is the actual implementation of that plan. This phase will be directed by an established schedule.

As to the first element, the development of a plan, the Township will determine those areas into which the public sewer will be extended. In the development of this plan, the Township will utilize the information gathered in the prior effort, updating it with new data not previously available. In developing this final plan, the Township will look at all aspects of the matter and investigate all possible options. As the Township considers where and how to extend the sewer collection system, they will study all the information gathered. However, the Township will not be at liberty to interpret that information on its own. Rather the Township will need to follow the guidelines set forth by DEP. DEP standards will dictate, based on the information gathered, where the sewer collection system will be installed. The Township will be required to follow that direction.

As part of the development of this plan, the Township will hold public hearings. In this way the Township will receive public input on this plan and will keep its residents informed of the progress. At this time, the schedule for these hearings has not been set. However, public notice of these hearings will be made on the Township website and through whatever other means are available. Regardless, the final plan is to be completed and submitted to DEP no later than September 30, 2012.

Within sixty (60) days of DEP's approval of the submitted plan, the second element of the agreement with DEP becomes foremost. Within that time, the Township is to initiate the implementation of the final plan. The plan will provide a schedule of that implementation. Given that the plan is not finalized, neither is the schedule. However in this, as in the earlier phase of the plan, the Township will be guided by the standards of DEP. It is anticipated that the schedule will set either 5 or 10 year deadlines for initiation of the sewer projects in specified areas. The Township may implement the sewer installation plans more quickly than specified, but DEP will require that implementation occur within the scheduled periods.

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Westtown Township ~ Chester County, Pennsylvania

Westtown Township is both family and community oriented. Westtown emphasizes a high quality of life while enjoying and maintaining its natural and manmade environments.





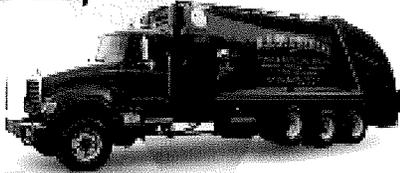
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Westminster Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
10 W. Pleasant Grove Rd. (Rt. 202S)
West Chester, PA 19382
610-399-3377 www.westminsterpc.org



Pastors: Don Lincoln, Gary AnnFessoni, Ann Hartfield, Shelli Lathan

Sunday services:

Traditional - 8:00, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Contemporary - 9:40 & 11:30 a.m.

Radio WCHB 1520AM broadcast, Sunday at noon
Adult, Youth and Children Sunday school classes offered
Childcare provided at all services

Wednesday morning:

Prayer and Communion Services - 9:10 a.m.

A Stephen Ministry and Celebrate Recovery congregation

Westminster Preschool
610-399-3910 • preschool@westminsterpc.org
Jackie Steinmetz, Director

Parent & Me, 2-1/2 year old, 3 year old, 4 year old and pre-kindergarten classes offered

610-399-9171

Fax 610-399-9172

MARTIA MALLOY HUTCHINSON
ATTORNEY AT LAW

First Niagara Bank Building
1197 Wilmington Pike - Rt. 202 & 926
West Chester, PA 19382

Pa Attorney ID No. 44225

e-mail - EsqRN@aol.com

TRAILER & MOTORCYCLE
INSPECTION



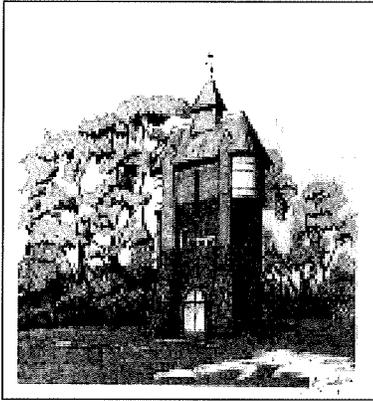
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WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF CHESTER

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Westtown Township Board of Supervisors

Thomas A. Foster, Chair

Charles P. Barber, Vice Chair

Carol R. DeWolf, Police Commissioner

Street Address: 1039 Wilmington Pike • West Chester, Pennsylvania 19395

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

Phone: (610) 692-1930 • **Fax:** (610) 692-9651 • www.westtownpa.org

(Comments for the Manager & Board of Supervisors) - supervisors@westtown.org

CHESTER COUNTY USEFUL CONTACTS AND PHONE NUMBERS

Government Services Center - 601 Westtown Road

Chester County Court House – 2 N. High Street, West Chester Borough

District Justice for Westtown – William Kraut (District Court 15-2-03)
610-436-5757

Chester County Court House & Government Services Center

Information 610-344-6000

Children, Youth & Families 610-344-5800

Department of Emergency Services 610-344-5000

Health Department 610-344-6225

Septic Systems – 610-344-6126

Recycling/Hazardous Waste – 610-344-6692

License Bureau (Dog, Fishing, Hunting) 610-344-6370

Marriage License Bureau 610-344-6335

Office of the Ageing 610-344-6009

Passports 610-344-6050

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 Conservation District - 610-696-5126

West Chester Area School District

829 Paoli Pike, West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380

Main Number 484-266-1000

School Tax 484-266-1035

State Senate District - 26th District

Edwin B. Erickson – Local 610-853-4100 – State 717-787-1350

email: eerickson@pasen.gov

State House District – 168 District

Tom H. Killion – Local 610-325-1541 – State 717-772-0855

Email: tkillion@pahousegop.gov

U. S. Senator

Pat Toomey – Local- 1-215-597-7200 – Federal – 1-202-224-4254

www.toomey.senate.gov

Robert Casey – Local –1- 215- 405-9660 – Federal –1- 202-228-0604

www.casey.senate.gov

Congressional District – 7th District

Patrick Meehan – Local 610-690-7323 – Federal – 1-202-225-2011

www.meehan.house.gov

Bulletin Board

Westtown Township Building Permits

Beginning August 8th, all Building Permits issued by the Township are listed on the website Building Department page.

Chester County Day October 1, 2011

See article on page 9

Special Township Service

Westtown residents interested in receiving email notice of meeting agendas, schedule changes, special events, etc., should send their email address to maillist@westtown.org. Please put "Mailing List" on the subject line. Residents subscribing to this service will receive the agendas for meetings of the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and Park and Recreation Commission as well as notice of meeting changes, special events, and cancelations.

New Chester County Website

Chester County has launched a website dedicated to promoting sustainable planning practices – www.chescoPAGreen.org. The website will feature tips on energy and water conservation, smart growth and smart transportation.

For Police, Fire, and Medical EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911
For NON-EMERGENCIES, dial 610-692-5100



WE MAY BE GETTING OLDER, BUT WE'RE ALSO GETTING BETTER

By Supervisor Tom Foster

There is more snow on the roof in Westtown Township, but it is not the kind that we all will be shoveling in a few months. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Westtown's population is getting older. There are more seniors and fewer children in our Township.

U.S. Census figures for small communities like Westtown are being gradually released starting with basic demographics such as population trends, age breakdowns, household characteristics and ethnicity. Statistics for income, real estate values and other economic information will be released over the next year or so.

The total population of Westtown as of 2010 was 10,827, which is a 4.5% increase over the 2000 census population figure of 10,352. The most important trend revealed, however, is the aging of Westtown's population. While the rise in median age from 38.7 in 2000 to 40.5 in 2010 may seem slight, the more granular view of the census statistics is a more telling story.

The total number of people over 55 is now 2,933, or 27% of the total population. In 2000, the over-55 number was only 2,070, or 20%. The fastest growing segment is the over 65 population, which has increased from 700, or 18.9% of the population, to 981, or 25.2% of the total.

Conversely, the number of households with children under 18 has dropped from 1,486, or 40.1% of the population, to 1,328 or only 34.1%. Looking deeper, the actual number of children between 5 and 14 has dropped significantly from 1,662, or 16% of the population, to only 1,489 or 13.4% of the total.

This trend is likely to continue based on the decline in children under nine years old. In 2000, the total was 1,390, or 13.4% of the total population. In 2010, the total dropped to 1,311, or only 12.1% of all Westtonians.

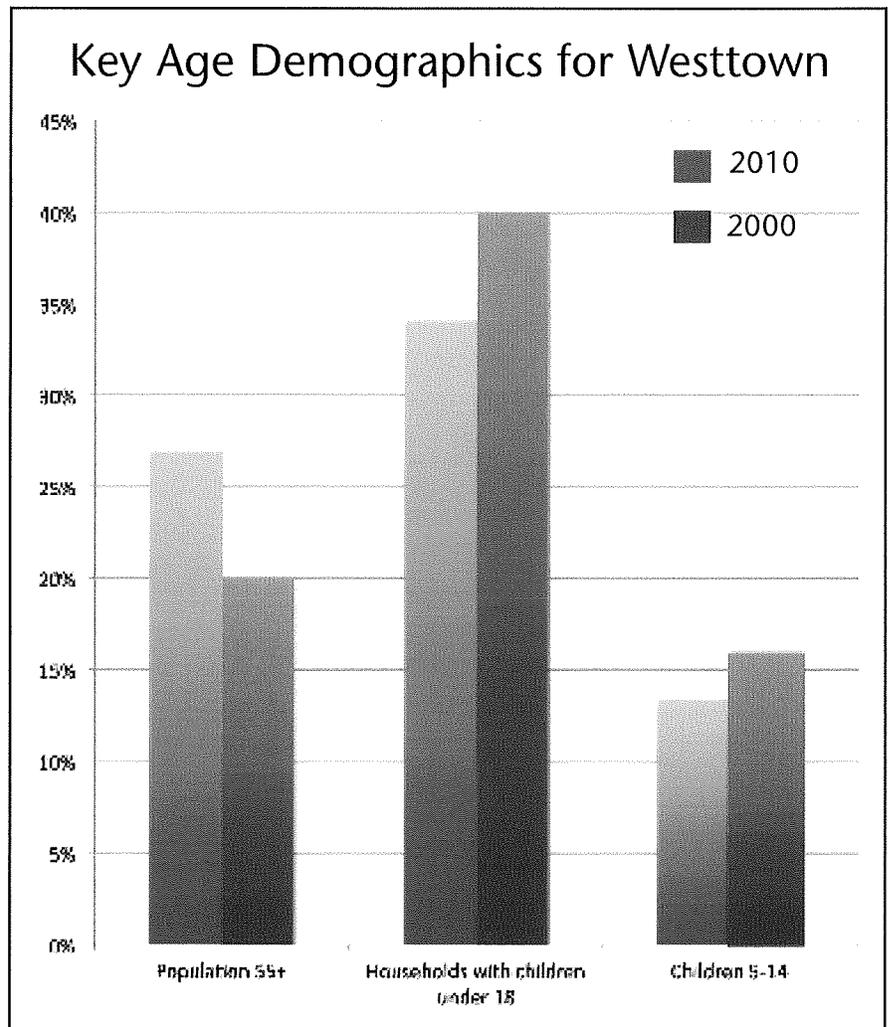
These age demographics are reflected in household size. The total number of households--which includes owner-occupied houses, condos and rental units--has grown about 5% since 2000 from 3,705 to 3,898. The size of households has declined slightly to 2.75 people from 2.78.

By far the largest segment is one or two person households, which account for more than 55% of the total. In 2000, 3,062 were owner occupied. The percentage of owner-occupied units has dropped slightly from the 2000 figure of 82.6% of households (3,062) to 80% of the households (3,157) in 2010.

For Westtown's planning purposes, this demographic information from the U.S. Census Bureau is quite compelling, especially when coupled with the growing trend for people to age in place rather than move to retirement communities.

The accompanying graphic (right) shows the key age demographic trends in Westtown.

All the demographic information can be seen on the American Fact Finder section of the U.S. Census Bureau's website at <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.



EVAN GROSS RESTORES A STORMWATER BASIN TO A NATURALIZED MEADOW

By Supervisor Carol De Wolf

Just beyond Evan's adventurous spirit to become an Eagle Scout is his discipline and meticulous undertaking of a project to decrease the amount of pollutants that end up in a tributary to Chester Creek. Evan is a rising junior at Westtown School, and has worked to transform an ineffective stormwater basin into a naturalized meadow aside the Westtown Public Works facility. This is no easy task and requires knowledge not only about the purpose of the basin, and a naturalized meadow, but some knowledge on plant types and function within the basin along with great vision and patience, as it takes more than a year to see the results.



Evan Gross



Evan also performed the labor intensive aspects to retrofit the basin. The basin captured detergents, oils, salts from the salt pile nearby, and generally everything that the rain water picked up as it found its way to the receiving basin and eventual tributary. The basin did not function as originally planned, and was in great need of a retrofit. The basin was redesigned to alter the outfall pipe to allow the basin to hold about 500 square feet of water, which is approximately 6 inches deep. Evan speaks of this area as the receiving area of the basin, or wet zone. This area was planted with wetland grasses and native plantings. The plantings assist in filtration of the pollutants that get washed into the basin. The second area of the basin, he defined as the dry zone, approximately 3500 square feet, planted with deeply rooted native grasses and wildflowers, and this area surrounds the basin. A level water spreader made of rocks was placed to slow the velocity of the water prior to entering the basin.



Evan raised the \$361.00 by hosting a car wash which brought in \$300.00 and the township donated \$61.00, and the equipment. As a result of Evan's devotion, along with a few other volunteers, Westtown now has the beginnings of what I am sure will become the envisioned retrofit of a basin into a naturalized meadow. The naturalized basin with its deep root plantings eventually will filter the pollutants from the water entering the basin area, once they are firmly established. During the warmer months, there will be less grass to mow and this will lower the maintenance costs of the area. Evan says, "the naturalized basin will provide the habitat for animals, birds and butterflies to take cover and provide additional food sources for them as well." Evan also mentions, he hopes that his project will lower the salt content in the stormwater leaving the basin into a tributary of Chester Creek, by settling out the pollutants. He stresses how through filtration, he also hoped to contribute to the overall water quality downstream within the watershed.

His exemplary work will also allow the township to get stormwater credits for this naturalized basin improvement from PA Department of Environmental Resources as part of the National Stormwater Discharge Permit.

This kind of project takes time to reflect the work and show results, but as you can see in the photo of Evan amongst his many plantings, the basin is already transitioning into a thriving naturalized basin. His personal goal of establishing a living demonstration to eventually encourage others in our local community to do same has great potential, don't you think?

The township expresses it's thanks to Evan for undertaking such a technically complex and labor intensive project.



OAKBOURNE BRIDGE REOPENS TO THE DELIGHT OF RESIDENTS

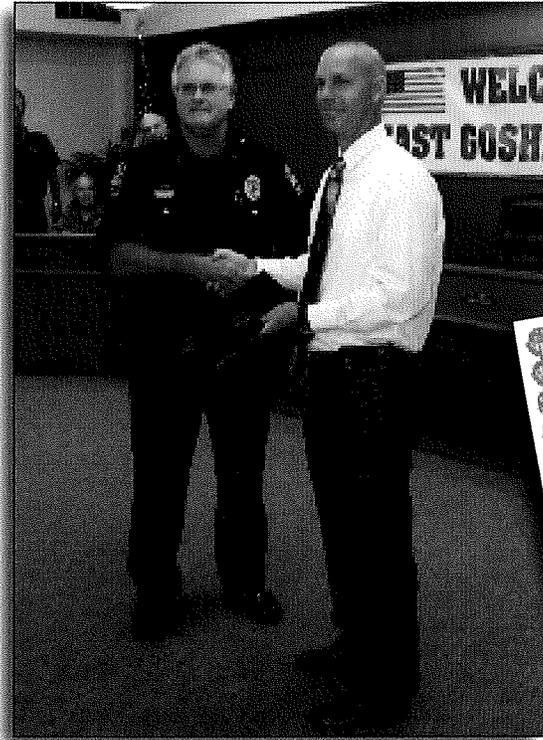
By Supervisor Tom Foster

The first Westtown resident to cross the reopened Oakbourne Road bridge in late June was Mary Bates of Westcroft Place. The bridge had been closed for safety reasons since tropical storm Nicole washed away the bridge's underpinnings last September 30. "I'm so glad this bridge is open again," says Mary Bates. "I didn't know how important this little bridge was until I had to find other ways to get where I was going."



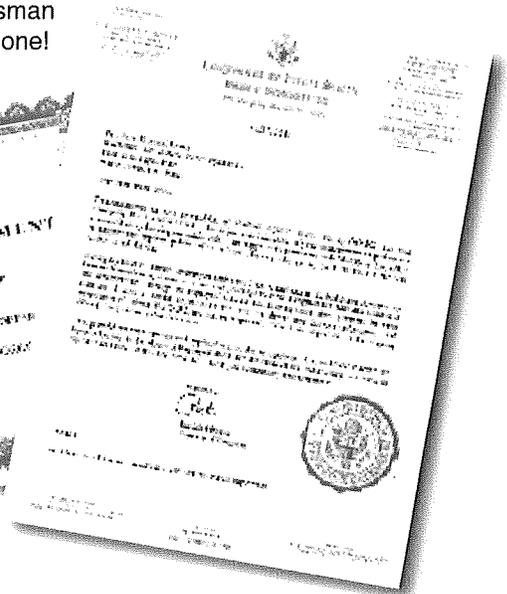
The supervisors looked at a number of alternatives for fixing the bridge from a million-dollar rebuild to a minimal repair. A New Jersey contractor came up with a technique for pumping a concrete mixture under the abutments that came in under budget and on time.

PATROLMAN EDMUND LEWIS HONORED BY MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING (MADD)



Patrolman Edmund Lewis receives award

Congratulations to Patrolman Edmund Lewis from the Westtown East Goshen Police Department for his recognition by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and Congressman Patrick Meehan for his exemplary DUI enforcement. Patrolman Lewis received a Certificate from MADD and a letter of congratulations from Congressman Meehan. Bravo on a job well done!



Award Certificate & Letter from Congressman Meehan

Prescription Drug Take Back Event



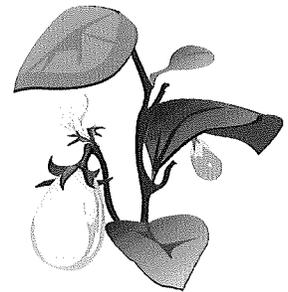
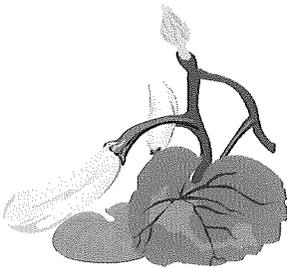
The Westtown East Goshen Regional Police Department will be participating in another National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday October 29, 2011 between the hours of 10:00am and 2:00 pm. The purpose of this event is to allow people who have unwanted, unused, or expired prescription drugs to dispose of them in a safe, convenient, and environmentally friendly manner.

In conjunction with the DEA the Police Dept will have Officers available to accept prescription drugs from the public in the front lobby of the police station located at 1041 Wilmington Pike, West Chester PA, directly behind the Westtown Twp building. Once collected the prescription drugs will be turned over to the DEA to be safely disposed of.



Community Garden at Oakbourne

Lush is the best word to describe the garden plots in Westtown's new Community Garden. Families who have plots got together for a fun pot luck supper mid-August. Most dishes even had items from the garden. It was a great evening for participants of all ages!



Ellen B. Sheehan, Attorney at Law
 L.L.M. Taxation

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 (near route 352)

Alan Leibowitz
 General Manager
 Colleen Modugno
 Store Manager



Westtown School is leading in Innovative Best Management Practices at Westtown Lake

Carol De Wolf

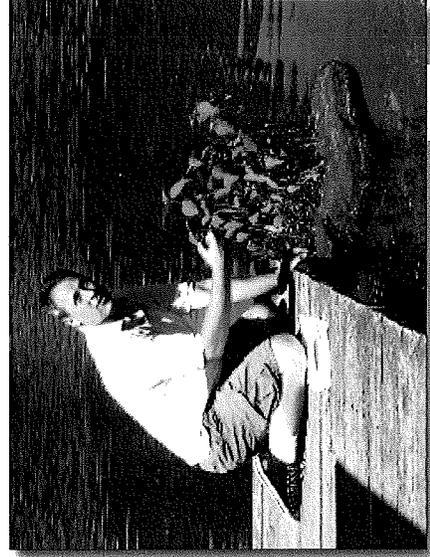
Westtown Lake, a 14.5 acre impoundment on a tributary of the Upper East Branch of Chester Creek has a number of watershed-based and in-lake restoration techniques being utilized to reduce the nutrient and total suspended solids loads as well as improve the overall ecological and recreational value of the lake. The lake has been used by the local community for recreational purposes for years and currently for shoreline fishing as well as being a rich resource for enriching the learning experience in a variety of Westtown School classes held at the lake and the surrounding land.

The lake is a valuable asset to the local community and Westtown School is leading efforts to improve and protecting the water quality and ecology of not only the Westtown Lake itself, but also contribute toward reducing the pollutant loads entering the Upper East Branch Chester Creek. By the way, much of the nutrient load also comes to the lake from upstream contributors, and so it is very important for you to know also some of the best management practices you should be undertaking on your property as well.

There are two innovative in-lake Best Management Practices (BMP's) that the being studied and used to reduce nutrient loading. Two Floating Wetland Islands (FWI's) were placed in the lake. One is 5 square feet, and another 250 square feet. In the photo, Dr. Fred Ludnow, Ph.D., and Director of Aquatic Programs at Princeton Hydro, who has experience in the design, installation, deployment and monitoring of FWI's is describing how these two floating islands work to lower nutrient loads.

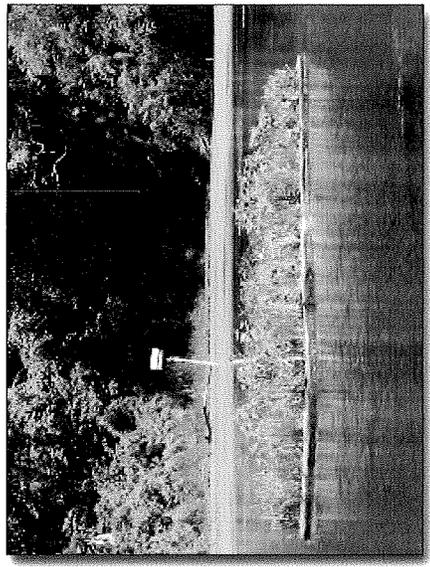
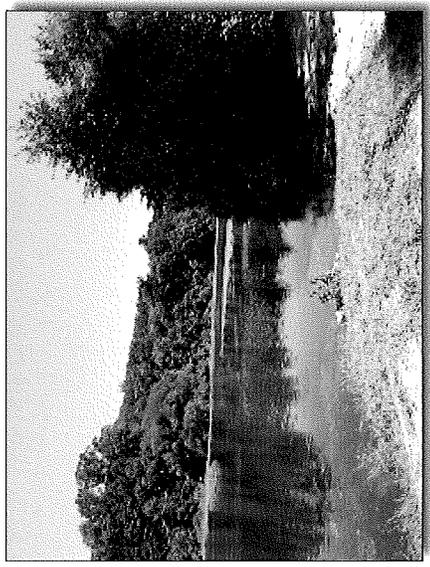
The FWI is a structure composed of a recycled plastic material that is planted with native vegetation which contributes toward nutrient uptake. The microbial mat that develops underneath the FWI assimilates available nutrients and transfers them to the plant biomass growing on the surface of the FWI. In addition to serving as a net sink for nutrients and other pollutants, the FWI can provide structure and habitat for aquatic organisms and other wildlife, as well as be an aesthetic amenity to function as a scenic "lake-scape". The FWI need not be large to mitigate a very large lake area.

Water quality monitoring is also being undertaken to track the results. Princeton Hydro is collecting in-situ data (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and conductivity; Secchi depth is also being measured) at the two in-lake monitoring stations. In addition, inflow and outflow samples are being analyzed for total phosphorus (TP) and total nitrogen (TN). Biological samples are also being collected for the identification of phytoplankton, zooplankton and resident aquatic plants / mat algae.



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WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP



The goal of collecting these data, as well as quantifying the amount of TP and TN in the plant microbial biomass is to calculate how much of these nutrients were removed from the water by the FWI over the growing season. In turn, the resulting data will be used to develop nutrient removal coefficients on a square foot basis for the FWI, which can be used to quantify the nutrient removal capacity of the larger FWI.

The second innovative in-lake BMP is using a Truxor DM 5000 to selectively harvest nuisance aquatic plant and mat algal biomass. There are several nuisance aquatic plants (Elodea, Najas and Ceratophyllum) and filamentous algae (Cladophora, Ulothrix, Oedogonium, and Hydrodictyon) that are common to shallow lakes and impoundments throughout Chester County and Pennsylvania in general. In order to rid these plants that contribute to higher levels of nutrients, Westtown School is trying to minimize the impacts of these nuisance plant conditions and avoid the use of aquatic pesticides by selective harvesting of them.

Given the small size and depth of Westtown Lake, the Truxor, an amphibious vehicle can remove aquatic vegetation and algae from lakes and ponds at the 3' or less level (see Photo of Truxor) as well as invasive wetland or riparian vegetation from the land that result then in lower TP and TN levels. In addition to removing nuisance aquatic plant and algal biomass, the harvested material will be quantified as weight or volume. Biomass samples will also be analyzed for TP and TN. These data will be used to quantify the amount of TP and TN that were removed associated with each Truxor-harvesting event.

This will quantify the nutrient removal capacity of each in-lake BMP's and assess their cost effectiveness. The goal also is to provide specific information to others who may be interested in utilizing either of these innovative in-lake BMPs.

On Thursday, August 11th, Dr. Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro and officials from Westtown School, Chester Ridley Crum Creek Watershed Association, and the general public met with the Pennsylvania Lake Management Society who funded several technologies being put into place to reduce nutrients and sediment going into Westtown Lake and thereafter into Chester Creek. The School officials invited the public to hear Dr. Lubnow discuss the project and view the technologies being demonstrated, including the floating wetland islands and the "Truxor" machine used to harvest nutrient removing buffer vegetation.

Westtown School is committed to community and we are so fortunate to have them leading this effort in our watershed! Next time you take a walk at the lake check out these floating wetlands islands.



WESTTOWN GAZETTE

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

OAKBOURNE MANSION: Soon To Be a Very Cool Place

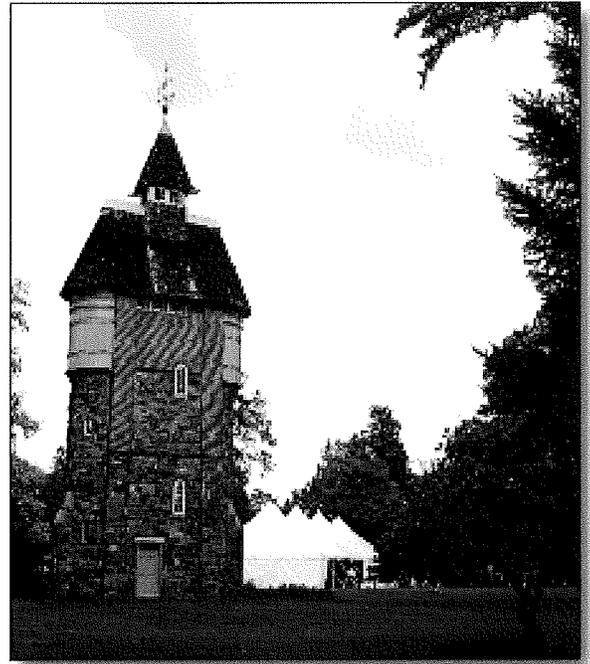
The oppressive heat this summer has kept Oakbourne Mansion rather quiet, but we have had several wonderful tented events. Although the thick stone walls helps keep the worst of the heat out of the Mansion, the lack of air conditioning limits its appeal for indoor weddings, parties and other events. But there is good news. Thanks to the income brought in by rentals earlier in the year, the supervisors have authorized installation of air conditioning throughout the first floor. The job may be done by the time you read this article. This improvement will greatly increase the summer appeal of the Mansion—and rental income that will help feed the township coffers.

Now that cooler weather is just around the corner, activity at Oakbourne Mansion is picking up rapidly. Every weekend in October has either a township event, a public activity or a private rental. October 1 is Chester County Day, which is regional house tour that benefits Chester County Hospital. Oakbourne has been selected as a rest stop and picnicking site for the participating public. Not only will this be a public service, but the attendees will have a chance to experience the beauty of our park and Mansion, so these ticket holders may want to plan their own event there. Since the Mansion will be open, the Oakbourne Commission certainly wants to invite any Westtown resident to stop by and take a tour whether or not you are a ticket holder for Chester County Day.

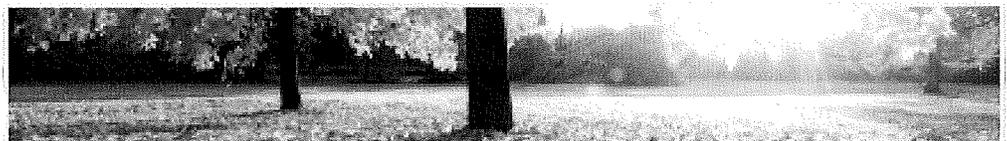
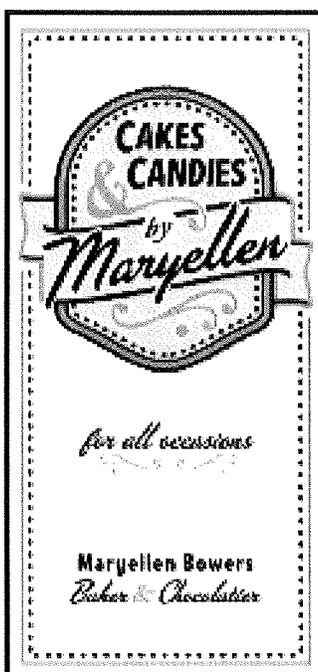
The Mansion will again be lavishly decorated for the Holidays, and private events have already been booked. Special rates will apply to any Westtown resident that wants to hold a family or company party over the Holidays. Please come out to Oakbourne on October 1 to see this beautiful facility that belongs to all of us in Westtown.

Eva Foster

Oakbourne Mansion Commission



The summer heat did not dissuade some people from holding their weddings at Oakbourne. The addition of air conditioning inside the Mansion will greatly enhance its summertime appeal.



Chester County Day House Tour

Saturday, October 1, 2011: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Celebrate 71 years of the fine Chester County living with a local treasure that has a national reputation. Chester County Day is the oldest House Tour in the nation. Organized by the Women's Auxiliary to The Chester County Hospital, "The Day" features the finest architecture, art, landscaping and antiques in the area. Your \$35 ticket gives you access to 28 of the finest private homes throughout the southeast quadrant of Chester County, which includes Devon, Newtown Square, Malvern, Sugartown, Willistown, East Goshen, West Goshen, Westtown and West Chester.

Treat yourself to a healthy appreciation of Chester County's rich heritage while supporting The Chester County Hospital in its ongoing mission to bring world class care close to home. There is something for everyone on this year's tour from townhomes to country estates, and antique collections to spectacular garden landscapes. There's no better way to enjoy the beauty of autumn in Chester County. Call 610-431-5301 or log on to www.ChesterCountyHospital.org and search "the Day" for more information and ticket sales.



Don't forget about all the FUN & FREE things being brought to you by your
TOWNSHIP'S PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION!

Join us on . . .

October 8th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**The Fourth Annual
 Best Of Westtown
 Dog Show**



- ☛ Does your dog have the best smile?
- ☛ Do you have the hairiest dog people have ever seen?
- ☛ Does your dog have the land-speed record for fastest tag wagging?

We have fun categories like that and more! Go to www.westtownPA.org/parkandrec.htm to down-load an entry form. Fee is \$5.00 per dog.

Or join the hundreds who come to watch and cheer on a favorite! Dog-related vendors and organizations will also be there.

December 4th 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**The Second Annual
 WINTER
 Holiday Festival**



- ☛ Get your groove on as Santa plays all types of holiday music!
- ☛ Stuff yourself on delicious cookies and yummy hot chocolate!



- ☛ Make nature-friendly ornaments for the Park's trees!
- ☛ Get creative with the holiday-themed arts & crafts!
- ☛ And try your hand at some of the games!

These are the last family-fun events for the year!! So, join us! All events are scheduled to be held at Oakbourne Park on South Concord Road. More information about our events can be found at: www.westtownpa.org/parkandrec.htm

Please contact us if you are willing to get involved. It's just a small commitment of your time... we don't bite.

Email us at parkrec@Westtown.org to express your interest in any or all events.

You can even help while working from home!

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY LAWS

With the school year upon us once again it is the time to think about school bus safety laws in Pennsylvania. The following are some points to remember:



A driver must stop when meeting or overtaking a school bus with its red lights and stop arm activated; this includes all directions if at an intersection.



Stop at least 10 feet from the school bus.



Do not proceed until the red lights and stop arm on the school bus are deactivated.



Do not proceed until children are safely out of the way.



On roadways with a physical barrier, such as a concrete median barrier or a clearly indicated dividing section such as grass, trees, and/or shrubs driver's proceeding in the opposite direction are not required to stop, **HOWEVER**, if you are in doubt stop!



Police and school bus drivers are on the lookout for violations. If convicted of violating the school bus stopping law the penalties include: 5 points on your license, a 60 day license suspension, and a fine of \$250. Please do your part and pay attention as the school buses are out on the road again this year and help keep their precious cargo safe.



Developing a Wilder Aesthetic: Converting Lawn to Meadow for Bird Habitat

Courtesy of Natural Lands Trust's Center for Conservation Landowners

French aristocrats popularized the idea of the green, grassy lawn in the 18th century when they planted the agricultural fields around their estates with turf. The message was clear: they had more land than they needed and could afford to waste some.

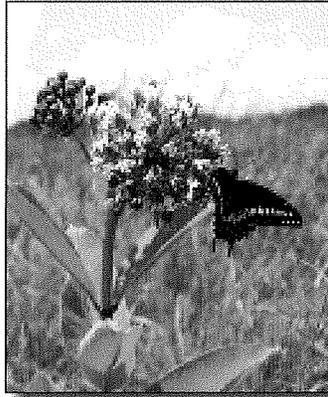
Today, Americans spend approximately \$30 billion every year to maintain over 23 million acres of lawn. Lawns in the U.S. consume around 270 billion gallons of water a week. And American homeowners apply 10 times more fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides to their grass than farmers do to their crops, which results in chemically dependent lawns that negatively affect the health of people, pets, plants, and wildlife.

Through our Center for Conservation Landowners, we work with homeowners interested in adopting a more ecologically savvy and cost-saving approach to lawn care. Simple changes—such as applying fertilizer at the right time of year, replacing chemical herbicides with natural corn gluten meal, and setting mower blades higher for longer grass—make a big difference. But how about taking things a step further? Consider converting a portion of your lawn to meadow in an effort to reduce the need for watering, mowing, or chemical treatments and to create an ideal habitat for native bird and butterfly species.

Over the last century, changes in agricultural technology—combined with a loss of farmland to development—have caused a decline in the quantity and quality of grasslands for wildlife. Old hayfields, traditionally harvested late in the season, provided ideal breeding habitat for many birds. Today, our remaining hayfields are fewer in number and usually mowed earlier. These changes have threatened the survival of bird species dependent on large (25 acres-plus) areas of grasslands and meadows, such as Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Upland Sandpiper.

While most homeowners are unable to create the size habitat necessary to support a breeding population of these species of concern, there are many benefits to converting even a portion of your lawn to meadow. Species such as Gold Finch, Field Sparrow, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Phoebe, and Eastern Kingbird occupy smaller grasslands. These areas may also support unusual migratory grassland birds as a stopover in their search for suitable breeding locations.

An easy way to get started is to mow a portion of your lawn only once or twice a year. You may be amazed by how beautiful your cool-season turf grasses are at full maturity. The cool-season grasses will die back in June, but be rejuvenated by fall with the



return of cooler weather. The grasses can be augmented with wildflowers and native grasses to give the meadow color, diversity, and visual interest. Wildflowers in particular attract insects that are an important component of birds' diet. They also provide nutritious seeds for birds, and serve as nectar and breeding host plants for butterflies.

You also can plant native warm-season grasses, which grow during the heat of summer, among the turf grasses and wildflowers. Smaller species, such as little bluestem and broom sedge, as well as taller species, like big bluestem and Indian grass, are upright in habit and have clump bases that provide protective cover for nesting. They also boast beautiful golden fall color and structural winter interest.

To maintain your meadow, it must be cut once or twice a year, and timing is everything! While mowing in the spring might appease suburban sensibilities, most meadow wildlife is nesting at this time of year. And mowing mid-summer to mid-fall does not allow enough time for the vegetation to renew itself until the following spring, leaving little cover.

Avoid mowing in the two periods between April Fools Day and Flag Day (April 1 to June 14), and Independence Day to Halloween (July 4 to October 31). The ideal time to mow is during the month of March.

When vegetation is allowed to grow beyond the height of a lawn, it can be perceived as untidy or unkempt. To help communicate that a meadow is intentional and managed, give it a natural shape, a crisply mowed edge, and plant wildflowers and grasses in odd-number groupings of three or more for visual "punch."

Once your meadow is established, it will require little watering or maintenance, which will save you time and money. Herbaceous weeds can be hand-pulled and seasonal mowings will thwart woody invaders. (Or simply remind yourself that "wildflowers are weeds with better press agents" and consider accepting a little imperfection for Nature's sake!) When the neighbors ask where the lawn has gone, tell them you adopted a wilder aesthetic... then sit back and watch the butterflies and birds flock to your backyard slice of heaven.

About the Center for Conservation Landowners: Natural Lands Trust established the Center for Conservation Landowners (CCL) to share its broad-based experience in land stewardship with landowners throughout eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. The CCL offers educational opportunities as well as a suite of consulting services to landowners and land managers interested in restoring and cultivating the rich and complex habitats native to this region. For more information, contact Drew Gilchrist, director, or 215-272-1982.



CALENDAR SCHEDULE

The following are the dates for fall curb side pickup: All Saturdays – September 24th, October 22nd, November 5th & 19th, and December 10th. Christmas Tree pickup will be January 14th, 2012

The Township Office will be closed on the following dates:

Thanksgiving – November 24th and November 25th.

Christmas – December 23rd, and December 26th.

New Years Day – January 2nd.

All Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission Meetings, and Park and Recreation Meetings are held at the Township Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown. Time 7:30pm

OCTOBER

Board of Supervisors – 3rd & 17th
Planning Commission – 5th
Parks & Recreation – 11th
Friends of Oakbourne – 20th
Westtown Dog Show – 8th–10:00am Oakbourne Park
Yard Waste Collection – Curb Side – Saturday 10/22
Prescription Drug Take Back Program – Police
 Building Lobby Saturday 10/29 – 10:00am- 2:00pm

NOVEMBER

Board of Supervisors – 7th & 21st
Planning Commission – 9th
Parks & Recreation - 8th
Yard Waste Collection–Curb Side – Saturday 5th & 19th

DECEMBER

Board of Supervisors – 5th & 19th
Planning Commission – 7th
Parks & Recreation – 13th
Yard Waste Collection – Curb Side – Saturday 10th
Winter Festival – Oakbourne Mansion & Park –
 Saturday 4th – 3:00Pm – 5:00Pm

JANUARY 2012

Board of Supervisors – 3rd * & 16th
Planning Commission – 4th & 18th
Parks & Recreation – 10th
Christmas Tree Collection – Saturday 14th

*Tuesday

PennDOT: Free Motorcycle Safety Courses Available Through October

Pennsylvania residents with a motorcycle license or learner's permit still have time to take free courses through the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program to obtain their license or enhance their riding skills. Courses for new and experience riders are available at approximately 70 locations statewide through October. A full schedule is available online at www.pamsp.com.

The 15-hours Basic Rider Course (BRC) consists of five hours of in-class instruction and 10 hours of practical riding experience. This comprehensive safety and skills overview provides valuable training for new riders and gives experience riders the opportunity to polish their skills and correct any unsafe riding habits they may have developed. Students taking this course are provided a motorcycle and helmet, but must bring all other protective gear.

If a rider has completed the BRC, the six-hour Basic Rider Course 2 (BRC2), formerly known as the Experienced Rider Course, allows skilled riders to refresh their safety knowledge and hone their on-road skills. Riders taking the BRC2 are permitted to carry a passenger while practicing balance and steering techniques in a controlled environment. Students taking the BRC2 must provide their own motorcycle and protective gear.

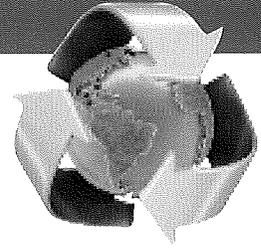
Due to the growing popularity of three-wheeled motorcycles and the unique safety concerns they present, a 3-Wheeled Motorcycle Basic Rider Course (3WBRC) is being offered in Butler, Lehigh and York counties. The 12-hour course includes four hours of classroom instruction and eight hours of practical riding experience. Students must provide their own three-wheeled motorcycle and protective gear.

To enroll in a course, residents must have either a motorcycle learner's permit or license. Motorcycle learners's permit holders who successfully complete a course will be issued a motorcycle license. Those who successfully pass their skills test on a three-wheeled motorcycle will be issued a motorcycle license with a "9" restriction, meaning they are prohibited from operating a two-wheeled motorcycle.

For more information or to enroll in a course, visit www.pamsp.com or call 1-800-845-9533, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and noon. Riders can also get information at PennDOT's motorcycle safety website at www.livefreeridealive.com.



RECYCLING & TRASH INFORMATION



YARD WASTE/LEAF COLLECTIONS: The following are the collection dates for the remainder of the year: All Saturdays. Curb side September 24th, October 22nd, November 5th, November 19th, and December 10th. Make sure all yard waste is curbside by 7:00Am – place in biodegradable bags, or a container that may be dumped – NO PLASTIC Bags. Limbs must be 3 feet in length and tied.

HOLIDAY PICKUPS: The Following are the official holidays for A. J. Blosenski when your trash will not be collected: New Years Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your makeup days are: Monday pickup your trash and recycling will be collected the Saturday before the holiday. Thursday pickup your trash and recycling will be collected the Saturday after the holiday.

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS: Saturday, October 8th, Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA. Computers Accepted.

PREPARATION OF RECYCLING: at the bottom of this page is a summary of how to prepare your recycling for pickup. We are not a single stream collection therefore you must separate your recyclable items from your paper items. All glass, bimetal cans, plastic #1 to #7, and aluminum cans are to be comingled in your recycling bin. Newspapers, junk mail, magazine, phone books, etc are to be tied or in a brown paper bag.

LARGE ITEM COLLECTION: Large items will be picked up at your last scheduled pickup each month. You are allowed three items, such as, dish washer, couch, chair, water heater, etc. If you are not sure about an item please contact the Township.

Available at the Township office is information on where to discard items such as polystyrene packaging peanuts, propane tanks, automotive waste, Aluminum buy back centers, batteries, computer recycling, cell phones, and Fluorescents. Also available are brochures on how to compost, make a rain garden and rain barrels.

Discarding of Paint – latex paint can go in your regular trash. Make sure the can is empty and dry with the lid off. The paint can be hardened by putting down newspapers and kitty litter or sand and pour the paint on top. The paint will harden and you can roll up the newspapers and place in your trash can. Oil based paint can be taken to a hazardous waste collection.

Bulk Pickup – If you have any item with Freon (refrigerator, air conditioner) you must have the Freon removed, and a sticker on the item stating that it has been removed, as it will not be picked up on your bulk pickup date. Call the Township Office for information on Freon removal.

Recycling Bins available at the Township office – no charge.

HOW TO PREPARE ITEMS FOR RECYCLING

GLASS—Green, Brown & Clear: Bottles or Jars only. Rinse Clean. Remove lids and rings. Labels may be left on. NO plate glass, ceramics, drinking glasses, etc.

PLASTIC: Must be marked with #1 through #7 inside triangle on bottom. Rinse clean. Remove lids and discard. Labels may be left on. NO unmarked containers or containers marked with other than #1 through #7 inside the triangle on bottom. No antifreeze or motor oil containers.

ALUMINUM BEVERAGE CANS: Rinse clean. Cans may be flattened. No bottle or jar lids, no pie plates or aluminum foil. No other aluminum items.

BI-METAL CANS: Rinse clean. Cans may be flattened. Examples include pet food cans, soup cans, vegetable cans. NO cans with plastic parts. NO paint or aerosol cans.

NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINES, PHONE BOOKS, JUNK MAIL, SMALL CARBORD BOXES (CEREAL, CRACKERS, ETC) & OFFICE PAPER: Combine in paper bag or bundle and tie.

YARD WASTE (*excluding leaves*): May be included in regular pickup. Bags of grass not to exceed 50 lbs. Branches acceptable in tied bundles no longer than 3' in length.

CARDBOARD BOXES: Must be cut in three foot squares, tied and placed next to the recycling bin. This is necessary because of the compacting system of the recycling truck. Unfortunately if the cardboard is not prepared this way it will be taken with the regular trash. Cereal boxes and similar cardboard items may be combined with newspaper.



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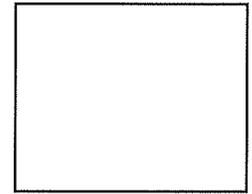
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