



WESTTOWN GAZETTE

A Quarterly Report To The Citizens Of Westtown Township
From the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors



Manager's Report:

The Township has received response to our 2012 Act 537 Plan from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The DEP action defines what the Township is required to do with regard to wastewater treatment and disposal for those properties served by on-lot sewage systems. Implementation of an on-lot sewage management program (SMP) was approved for all such areas of the Township except West Wynn I, which consists of properties on Charles Road, Diane Drive, Grant Road, and Leslie Lane.

An on-lot management program was not deemed sufficient for this area because significant problems with on-lot sewage systems exist. Prior to submission of the 2012 Act 537 Plan, the Township had considered various options for providing public sewer to existing residences, including use of gravity sewers and low pressure sewers with grinder pumps. Some Westtown residents strongly objected to these options and the Board of Supervisors accordingly submitted

a plan which did not call for any new sewer extensions, but instead proposed a vigorous on-lot sewage management program. The on-lot SMP, as approved by DEP for most of the Township, will entail required inspections of all on-lot sewage systems as well as regular maintenance activities such as tank pumping.

The recent DEP action will require a minimum of two future Act 537 planning efforts: additional planning for West Wynn I to resolve unacceptability of the on-lot SMP for this area, and updated planning for the balance of the Township based on the results from the on-lot sewage system inspections. The additional planning for the West Wynn I area must be addressed first, and the Township intends to meet with DEP in the near future to clarify associated requirements and acceptable options.

Updated information regarding the on-lot sewage management program and pending Act 537 planning concerns will be provided on the website. A draft On-lot Sewage Management Program Ordinance is currently under review by the Westtown Planning Commission.

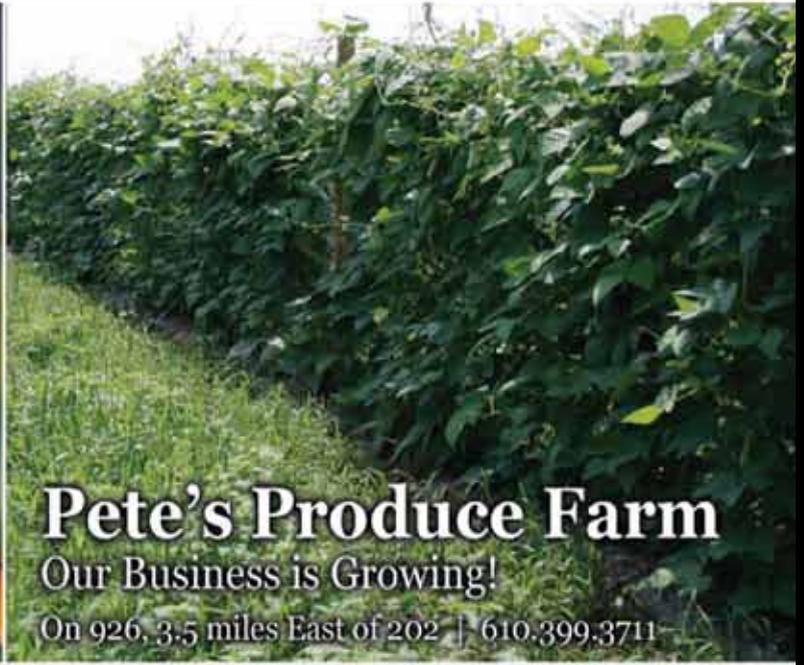
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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Westtown Township Board of Supervisors

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Carol R. DeWolf, *Vice Chair*

Charles P. Barber, *Police Commissioner*

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

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



CHESTER COUNTY USEFUL CONTACTS & PHONE NUMBERS

Government Services Center - 601 Westtown Road

Chester County Court House – 313 E. Market St, 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 - 610-925-4920

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- 1-215-241-1090 – 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 – 6th District

James Gerlach – Local 610-594-1415 – Federal – 1-202-225-4315

www.gerlach.house.gov

BULLETIN BOARD:

Announcing the 2013 Summer Movie Nights:

“WE BOUGHT A ZOO” June 28

“HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA” July 26

“HERE COMES THE BOOM” Sept. 6

Join us at Oakbourne Park, 1014 S. Concord Road. All movies are rated PG and start at 8:15 pm.

Email Alert.

Do you want to be notified of special meetings and events, cancellation of Township meetings, etc? Send an email to maillist@westtown.org

Put “Mailing List” in the subject line.

Website Alerts.

Look for meeting cancellations, special events, press releases from the Westtown East Goshen Police, and other alerts on the News and Information page of the Township website, www.westtownpa.org.

Save paper!

If you would like to receive the Westtown Gazette electronically, send an email to info@westtown.org and request to be put on the email delivery list.

**For Police, Fire, & Medical
EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911**

**For NON-EMERGENCIES,
dial 610-692-5100**

Letter from Chief Brenda Bernot

Westtown East Goshen Regional Police Department



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Chief of Police for the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department. It is an honor to be a part of such a highly respected law enforcement agency - one that genuinely embraces the values of service, performance, and dedication to the community.

Prior to my appointment as Chief, I served as a member of the Pennsylvania State Police for over 28 years in a wide variety of positions such as patrol officer, criminal investigator, training officer, supervisor, Director of the Early Intervention Program, and Troop Commander. During my career, I have had the privilege to serve communities ranging from rural northern Berks County to urban Philadelphia. Prior to joining the State Police in 1983, I received my bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from the Pennsylvania State University. In 2011, I completed my master's degree in Criminal Justice at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. Additionally, I attended the FBI National Academy training program for police executives, in Quantico, VA. This program was eye opening for me because I had the opportunity to study criminal justice issues with law enforcement officers from around the world. I am looking forward to using my experience and education to enhance the performance of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department.



Although most police departments provide patrol, traffic enforcement, and criminal investigation services, I believe what makes the WEGO Police Department unique is our concentrated focus on "customer service." Our officers strive to maintain outstanding communication with the citizens we serve. This communication ensures

that we continually reassess whether we are providing the services that the public desires and whether we are meeting the expectations of the public.

One of my plans for the department is to utilize technology to further enhance the communication between members of the community and our agency. I believe that by using technology

in a fiscally responsible manner, the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department can improve the quality and quantity of services offered to the public. Although citizens are always welcome to call the WEGO police at 610-692-9600 (non-emergency) and 911 (emergency) to ask questions or discuss their concerns, we recognize that some individuals may find it more convenient to communicate electronically. The department's website, www.westtownpolice.org, provides numerous opportunities for communication. For example, under the Home tab citizens can email a specific unit (Detectives, etc.) or patrol officer.

In addition, the Contact Us tab gives citizens the ability to submit information on the following items:

- **Crime tip**
- **Traffic complaint**
- **Ordinance violation**
- **Compliment on officer's performance**
- **Ask a question or make a comment on any topic**
- **Vacation notification and property check request**

Our website also offers access to a wealth of information such as press releases on recent police investigations, scam notifications, monthly activity reports, and notes from monthly Police Commission meetings. We are also currently working on a software upgrade that would permit our department to send out notifications of significant incidents in "real time" to individuals that would like to receive them, thereby enhancing communication and safety.

Another important aspect of communication between a law enforcement agency and the citizens whom it serves is that communication should be proactive, not just reactive. Too often, communication does not occur until after a problem or a crime occurs. In order to address potential issues before they create problems in our community, we welcome the opportunity to provide speakers for groups and organizations on a variety of topics ranging from crime prevention tips to drug awareness training.

The Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department views every opportunity to interact with the public as an opportunity to assist, educate, and enhance communication and therefore, I invite you to contact us if we can be of further assistance. By working together, we can make Chester County an even safer place to live and work.

Westtown Township History

Westtown Hosted A P.O.W. Camp After Battle Of Gettysburg

The Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863, is the most famous and, to many, the most crucial battle of the American Civil War. Westtown residents may be surprised to know that our Township hosted a Prisoner Of War camp for several weeks after the battle.

Union Captain James Elder had selected a piece of the Enoch Williams farm as a training camp for African-American soldiers. Before it could be established, however, the Union army had to deal with 2,000 Union prisoners paroled and released by the Confederate Army as they withdrew from Gettysburg. The decision was made to use the Williams farm as the P.O.W. camp where these troops would remain under guard until exchanged for Confederate prisoners, under the prisoner exchange cartel in place at the time. "Camp Elder" was located along the railroad and stream at South Concord and Oakbourne Roads, the site today of two residential communities, Wild Goose Farms and Liberty Square. The Williams Farmhouse, much remodeled, still stands on the northeast corner.

The paroled prisoners marched into camp on July 14, 1863, where they lived in tents. A hospital was erected for those wounded or ill, attended by local doctors and nurses. Several who died during their captivity were buried at Green Mount Cemetery on Westtown Road in West Chester. The people in the surrounding communities opened their hearts to these real heroes of the victorious battlefield who came from all over the loyal United States and were far from home and kinfolk.

Contemporary reports on the Camp population reveal soldiers from Pennsylvania, Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin, West Virginia, New York, Delaware, Vermont, Ohio, and Massachusetts. The camp commandant was Captain Irwin of Indiana. Some soldiers were natives of Germany, Ireland, Scotland, and England. Visitors would arrive daily at the camp with treats, food, and other supplies for the soldiers. Many soldiers worked for hire, helping local farmers bring in hay, fruits, and other crops. Several romances, and subsequent marriages, developed with the local young ladies.

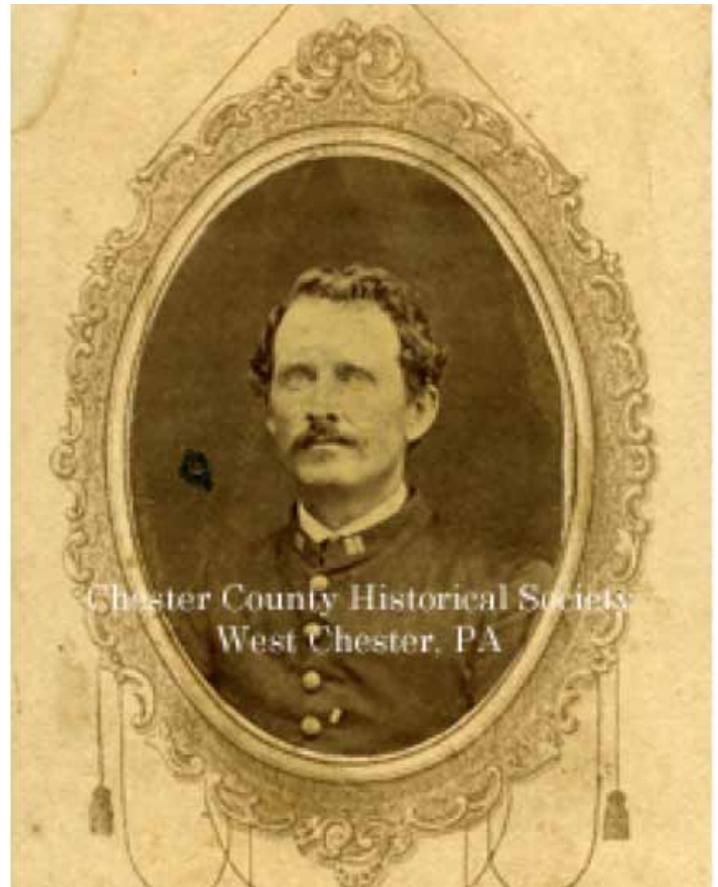
By the end of August 1863, the government decided the paroles were invalid and all the soldiers were shipped back to their regiments. Over time, the presence of a P.O.W. camp in Westtown Township was forgotten. Through the efforts of the Brandywine Valley Civil War Roundtable, the Pennsylvania Historical

and Museum Commission has approved a roadside historical marker for Camp Elder. On Saturday, September 7, 2013 at 1:00pm a dedication ceremony will be held when the marker is installed at Oakbourne Road and Trellis Lane, forever commemorating Westtown's historic connection to the Battle of Gettysburg and the Union victory.

The new Westtown Historical Commission has been established to foster a community appreciation of the rich and varied history of the Township. The Historical Commission invites those who lived or worked in Westtown prior to 1960 to share stories, old photos, anecdotes or remembrances about life in our community more than 50 years ago. These will be shared and stored in the Township archives to further educate present and future residents on the Township's rich and diverse past.

Dave Walter,

Westtown Historical Commission Chairman



Captain Irwin, Camp Commandant



A Brilliant Day for the “Cars and Motorcycles of England” Show at Oakbourne Park

On Saturday, June 1 Oakbourne Park was home to the annual Cars and Motorcycles of England (CMoE) show sponsored by the Delaware Valley Jaguar and Triumph Clubs.

Approximately 1,000 spectators and participants enjoyed the gorgeous day viewing more than 200 Triumphs, Jaguars, MGs, Morgans, and Rolls Royces, and 24 vintage motorcycles including BSAs, Triumphs, Vincents, and Nortons. A 1925 Bentley took Best in Show.

Bruce Schechter, Events Coordinator and Co-Chair of CMoE for Delaware Valley Triumph Club thanked Westtown Township for the opportunity to hold their event at the Oakbourne Mansion, saying, “We couldn’t ask for a better location, or a better group of people to work with.” Charlie Olson, Co-Chair and Director of Delaware Valley Jaguar Club said they are looking forward to next year’s event on May 31, 2014!



Announcing the 2013 Summer Movie Nights!



Featuring...

“WE BOUGHT A ZOO” June 28
“HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA” July 26
“HERE COMES THE BOOM” Sept. 6



Join us at Oakbourne Park, 1014 S. Concord Road. All movies are rated PG and start at 8:15 pm. Bring Your Own Blanket (and flashlight). Snacks, candy, and beverages will be available for purchase. Free to attend!

Other exciting news from Parks and Recreation:

Health and Fitness Classes Coming Soon!



Starting this September, Westtown Township will be offering weekly Pilates, Yoga, and Zumba classes at the Oakbourne Mansion. Classes will be given by certified instructors and will be approximately an hour long. Visit the Parks and Recreation page on the township website (www.westtownpa.org) for the class schedules and registration forms. Township residents will receive discounted pricing, so grab your yoga mat and water bottle and get ready to join the Health and Fitness Program at Oakbourne!

Fall Yard Sale

Due to popular demand, we will be hosting a Fall Yard Sale on Saturday, September 21st from 10am to 1pm at Oakbourne Park. Spaces will be \$10 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Registration will begin in early August.



Oakbourne Mansion Open House Dates

Parks & Recreation will be providing tours of Oakbourne Mansion on the following Sundays from 1pm to 3pm: June 30, July 28, August 25, and September 29.

Check the township website www.westtownpa.org for updated information.
Join us on Facebook: Westtown Township Parks and Recreation.

Friends of Oakbourne News

Tom Bare, President, Friends of Oakbourne



Swamp White Oak

The Friends of Oakbourne (FoO) have planted two dedicated trees in the arboretum area of Oakbourne Park this spring. One of the trees is a Dawn Redwood which has been dedicated to Craig Rybinski by Karen Lewis, who is Vice-President of FoO. Craig is a garden designer extraordinaire and has helped the Friends of Oakbourne in obtaining trees and providing advice at the early stage of our tree dedication program. The Dawn Redwood was thought to be extinct before it was discovered in the 1940's in a remote area of China; while this tree looks like an evergreen, it actually is a deciduous tree, that is, it loses its needles in the fall and grows new leaves (needles) in the spring. The tree has attractive shredded reddish bark and can reach 75 – 100 feet at maturity.



Dawn Redwood leaves (needles)

The other tree planted is a Swamp White Oak tree which was dedicated to the memory of Arnold Cleveland by Pam and John McGillian, who are friends and neighbors of the Cleveland family. Arnie Cleveland was a longtime Westtown resident who, among many other activities, served for many years on the Parks Committee of Westtown Township. The Swamp White Oak was planted on the south side of Oakbourne mansion to replace a huge tree that was felled by Hurricane Sandy. This oak should reach a height of 60 -75 feet at maturity and the leaves of this oak are distinct from other oak leaves in that the top side is a shiny green color while the underside can be gray and fuzzy.



FoO's tree dedication program allows interested individuals to donate trees to not only enhance the beauty of our park but also to honor a special person or loved one or to commemorate an important occasion. Please contact Tom Bare (tmbare@hotmail.com; 610-399-1572) for more information regarding this program.

The Friends of Oakbourne would like to thank the recently disbanded Oakbourne Garden Club for their very generous mon-

etary donation. The funds from this donation will be used for the maintenance, upkeep and renovation of the large circular "clock" garden which is located in front of Oakbourne mansion.

The next meeting of the Friends of Oakbourne will be at 7:00 pm on Thursday evening, July 18, 2013 in the Dunning Room of the Oakbourne mansion. Please join us if you have an interest in preserving and enhancing the beauty of our gem of a park.

Emergency Preparedness

The following article was written by Shriya Roberson, Troop 4048, for her Girl Scout Bronze Award project. Shriya is in 5th grade at Westtown Thornbury Elementary School.

I am writing this article to tell you what you should do to be prepared for an emergency. You never know what is going to happen. There might be a hurricane like Sandy again. If you are not ready when an emergency occurs, then something really bad could happen. If you do prepare and you are ready, you can take care of yourself and your family until help arrives. That is why emergency preparedness is very critical. I hope that after you have read this article you will understand how important emergency preparedness really is.

As part of my project, I interviewed Mr. Don Verdiani, the emergency management coordinator for Westtown Township. According to Mr. Verdiani, every town and city in PA is responsible for responding to emergencies in their area. Mr. Verdiani is in charge of responding to emergencies in our township. When an emergency affects a lot of people, some organizations Mr. Verdiani coordinates with are: FEMA, PEMA, and the Red Cross.

Did you know that about 65% of the people in the US are not prepared for an emergency and only one-third of the people care about emergency preparedness after someone is injured or property is damaged? The kinds of emergencies that are more likely in our area are: fire, power outage, hurricane, blizzard, and flooding.

To get ready before an emergency happens, you should make a family emergency plan and an emergency preparedness kit. The plan tells you what to do for each type of emergency. The kit contains the items you will need for your family to leave your home or shelter in place and be safe. Ready.gov has really good information, including a list that I used to create my emergency kit and a form to create a family emergency plan.

The key points of an evacuation plan:

- **If you need to evacuate, know where you will meet your family members outside of your house, neighborhood, and town.**
- **Make a list of important information like medicines and insurance information.**
- **Make a plan to shelter in place if you must stay in your home.**
- **The last key point (and the most important) is talk with your family about all the information in the plan.**

According to Mr. Verdiani, "People should be aware that in a bad situation they need to be able to take care of themselves for a couple of days." An emergency kit will help you survive because you have the tools your family needs during the wait for FEMA, PEMA, and the Red Cross. The table below lists the items you should have in your emergency kit.

You should also register at Chester County ReadyNotifyPA, so you can be immediately contacted during a major crisis or emergency. ReadyNotifyPA delivers important alerts, notifications, and updates to all your email accounts and devices, such as cell phones and pagers. On the township's website, Emergency Information and Services page (www.westtownpa.org/emergency-information-and-services.php), you will see a link to ReadyNotifyPA.

Now are you ready to start preparing for an emergency. Do not wait until it is too late!

Table 1: Emergency Kit Items

Basic Items

1 gal. of water per person for 3 days
Non perishable food for 3 days
Mess kit
First Aid Kit
Whistle to signal for help
Hand crank radio for weather alerts
Flashlight w/extra batteries
Can opener

Matches in water proof container
Games for younger children
to play while waiting
Plastic sheeting, duct tape,
and dust masks to shelter in place
Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities like gas
Local maps (paper)

Other items

Wipes, trash bags, and ties for personal sanitation
Prescription medicines
Back up glasses (if needed)
Pet food and extra water for your pet
Infant Formula and diapers
Blanket or sleeping bag to stay warm

2013 Road Repair Program

This summer, Westtown will continue road restoration by resurfacing 2.5 miles of the total 55 miles of township roads at a cost of \$602,204. This is double the mileage repaved in 2012, bringing us to a 25 year replacement cycle.



THE FOLLOWING ROADS AND CURBING WILL BE IMPROVED:

ROAD	SECTION
Kerwood Road	Paving entire length
Larchwood Road	Paving entire length and curbs
S. Walnut Street	Oakbourne Road to the Township line
Stanton Avenue	Paving entire length
Goodwin Lane	Oakbourne Road to 1021
Ridge Road	Route 202 to Goodwin Lane
Pennsbury Drive	Paving entire length; partial curbs
E. Pleasant Grove	Sectional repairs
Jeroma Lane	Paving entire length



KEEP DISTANCE
IT'S THE LAW
FOUR FEET



SHARE the ROAD
IT'S ROAD SAFETY, NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

Tips for Motorists

STAY ALERT

Bicycles are legal vehicles in Pennsylvania and are subject to the same rules as cars

GIVE SOME ROOM

When passing a bike, give at least four feet of space – It's the law!

TAKE A LOOK

Check for bikes before turning or opening your car door

LAY OFF THE HORN

Don't honk at a bicyclist unless they are in immediate danger

PAY ATTENTION

Texting and emailing is against the law – and downright dangerous!

Tips for Bicyclists

OBEY THE LAW

A bicycle is a legal vehicle with the same rights and responsibilities as a motor vehicle.

RIDE ON THE RIGHT

But if the road is too narrow for cars to safely pass or when there are hazards, ride in the center of the rightmost lane.

Never ride against traffic.

BE PREDICTABLE

Don't weave in and out of traffic. Signal when possible.

STAY VISIBLE

Use a front light and rear reflector in low light and bright clothing all the time.

To find out more about bicycling in Chester County go to: wcbuer.org/ShareTheRoad



Township Continues Efforts to Crack Down on Delinquencies

Township Supervisors are taking a tough stance on delinquent trash and sewer fees. The Township hired Portnoff Law Associates in the Spring of 2012 to collect unpaid sewer and trash fees, some dating back thirteen years and totaling over \$250,000. Forty-one of the 176 delinquent accounts Westtown Township turned over have been paid in full, with another 10 on payment plans. The remaining accounts are in various stages of the collection process. The Supervisors are pleased with the results thus far, and pledge their continued support of Portnoff's collection process.

Portnoff notifies delinquent account owners of the amounts they owe. Residents are asked to respond with payment or, for those facing financial hardships, to contact Portnoff to set up a payment plan. Those who fail to respond to their notification may face the commencement of legal proceedings to collect the balance due. Residents who continue to ignore their notices will face increasing penalties through the collections process which may result in the delinquent's property being listed for sheriff sale. Nine properties currently fall into this category.

Property owners with delinquent accounts are urged to contact Portnoff at 866-776-1308. An early response and timely payments can provide peace of mind and prevent additional legal action and added costs.

NOTE: Portnoff Law Associates collects delinquent claims only. Current charges must still be paid to Westtown Township.

PORTNOFF LAW ASSOCIATES - 1000 Sandy Hill Rd, Suite 150, Norristown, PA 19401
www.portnoffonline.com

BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS:

1. Automatic Deduction from Bank Account (ACH Payment)

Residents authorize the Township to have sewer and trash bills paid by a direct deduction from a bank account. **This is the easiest way to guarantee that your bills are paid on time and avoid late payment penalties.** Authorization forms are available at the township office or online at the township website (www.westtownpa.org).

2. Online Bill Payment (Credit Card payment)

As of April, 2013 residents can use VISA, Mastercard, or Discover to pay their trash and sewer bills online through Municipay. **There is no fee for this service.** Simply visit the township website and click on Pay Bills Online.

Another payment option is Automatic Bill Payment through your bank (Autocheck), but residents should understand that this option is *not* an instant electronic transfer of funds. Your bank automatically deducts payment from your account on the date you specify, but then a physical check is *mailed* to the Township. **Payment is credited the date it is received by the Township, not the date it is deducted from your account by your bank.** Banks often bundle their autochecks or use a third party for processing, and we have experienced up to a ten day lag between the time a resident's account is debited and we receive their bank check.



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Township Scheduled Meetings & Events

June, 2013

27 – Historical Commission
28 – Movie Night (We Bought a Zoo)

July, 2013

1, 15 - Board of Supervisors
3, 17 - Planning Commission
8 - Parks and Recreation
13 - Yard Waste Pickup
25 - Historical Commission
26 - Movie Night (Hotel Transylvania)

August, 2013

5, 19 - Board of Supervisors
7, 21 - Planning Commission
10 - Yard Waste Pickup
13 - Parks & Recreation
29 - Historical Commission

September, 2013

3 (Tues), 16 - Board of Supervisors
4, 18 - Planning Commission
6 - Movie Night (Here Comes the Boom)
10 - Parks and Recreation
12 – Open Space Task Force
14 - Yard Waste Pickup
21 - Community Yard Sale
26 - Historical Commission

October, 2013

7, 21 – Board of Supervisors
8 – Parks & Recreation
9, 23 – Planning Commission
10 – Open Space Task Force
24 – Historical Commission

All Board of Supervisors (7:30pm),
Historical Commission (6pm), and
Planning Commission Meetings
(7:30pm) are held at the Township Municipal Building,
1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown.

Parks and Recreation Meetings are held at Oakbourne
Mansion, 1014 S. Concord Road, Westtown at 7:00pm.

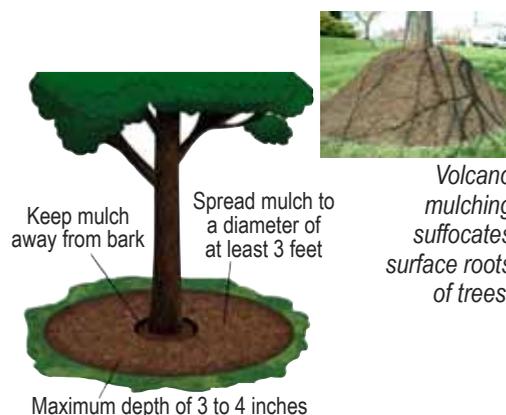
Township Offices will be closed on Independence Day
and Labor Day.

Homeowners Key to Community Stormwater Management

Here are several simple, familiar year-round yard care practices that encourage the absorption of rainfall and water runoff into the soil in residential landscapes. These actions benefit your community by preventing flooding, soil erosion, and polluted runoff that threaten our streams, drinking water, and ecosystems.

■ Cut grass at 2½ to 3 inches tall. Mow often enough so that clippings are not longer than one-third (1/3) of the grass blade, so they can decompose easily into the soil.

■ Mulched beds trap and infiltrate more rainwater than lawn or bare soil. Spread out any excess mulch away from trees and shrubs, making sure the tree's "flare" is exposed, and allowing it to decompose. Top off with a thin layer of fresh mulch, making sure the mulch is no deeper than 3" and does not touch the tree bark. Never spread fresh woodchips around trees or shrubs; their decomposition will harm plants.



Proper mulching can help keep a tree healthy.
(Sarah Cox, Purdue University)

■ Excess nitrogen and phosphorus from lawn fertilization is frequently a pollutant to streams, fostering the growth of algae which deplete oxygen levels, harming fish. Spare your stream by avoiding spring fertilization, and leave your grass clippings on your lawn instead. Grass clippings supply between 25% and 50% of nitrogen and phosphorus needs.

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.

Paper:

Newspaper, Magazines, Phone Books, Junk Mail, small cardboard boxes (cereal, crackers, etc) & Office Paper: Must be in a paper bag or bundled and tied. DO NOT COMINGLE LOOSELY with other recyclables, or your recycling will not be collected.

Yard Waste/Leaves:

Cannot be placed in the regular trash & only collected on scheduled days. Must be in paper bags or in a container that can be dumped. Branches must be three feet in length and tied. Yard Waste collection dates are posted on the Township website www.westtownpa.org, in the Township Gazette, and on your utility bills.

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.

2013 Trash & Recycling Information

Holiday Pickup Schedule: Trash will not be collected on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. For Monday pickups, trash and recycling will be collected the Saturday before the holiday; Thursday pickups will be collected the Saturday after the holiday.

Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Collection: As of January 24, 2013, Pennsylvania law prohibits the disposal of electronic waste in the regular trash. Visit www.chestercountyswa.org for other e-waste collection events scheduled throughout the county.

Large Item Collection: Bulk items will be picked up on the last collection date of the month. You are allowed to put out three large items, such as appliances without Freon and furniture. Construction debris (shingles, drywall, lumber, etc.) will not be collected. If you are not sure about the disposal of a bulk item please contact the Township.

Freecycle: Do you have an item that you no longer need? Consider joining the Freecycle movement. The mission of Freecycle is to keep usable items out of our landfills by offering them to people in your community via an online forum. For more information, visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChesterCntyPAFreecycle/>.

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