



London Grove Township

Chester County

Incorporated 1723

Letter from the Vice Chairman

Summer 2015 Newsletter

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Our Finance Director, Natasha Nau, has moved on to a Manager position closer to home. Please join me in thanking her and wishing her well. She will be greatly missed. We recently hired Dawn Maciejczyk as a part time assistant and Jacqui Guenther as a full time Finance Director.

Your supervisors recently voted to keep a promise by reducing the Earned Income Tax back down to .5%, and all the monies collected from that additional “Road Tax” were kept separately and is being spent as planned! Our long-term Capital Plan is funded, and our equipment replacement plan is also being funded from an annual allocation in the budget. By reducing our reliance on consultants, and keeping a watchful eye on our expenditures we are able to demonstrate a stable tax rate for many years to come.

Feel free to email me with any questions at dconnors@londongrove.org . Have a great summer!

David Connors
London Grove Township Supervisor, Vice
Chair



Board of Supervisors:

- Richard Scott-Harper– Chairman
- Dave Connors– Vice Chairman
- Michael Pickel
- Robert Hittinger
- Robert Weer

Yard Waste Pick-up/Household Hazardous Waste Collection

(Free service provided by your haulers)

Yard and leaf waste - Contact your hauler directly to notify them in advance of pickups and for exact specifications and preparation of materials for collection. Leaves must be placed in biodegradable bags, if they are not placed in biodegradable bags they WILL NOT BE TAKEN. Branches and twigs must be bundled and not be longer than 3 feet. All items should be placed out the evening before pickups.

AJ Blosenski - 10/10, 11/7, 12/2 and Christmas tree collection 1/16/2016

Penn Container - 9/4, 10/2, 11/6 and Christmas tree collection 1/2/2016

Republic Services - 10/24, 11/7, 11/21 and Christmas tree collection 1/16/2016

In addition to leaf waste collection by your hauler, Township residents are able to dispose of these materials directly at SECCRA during their normal business hours, once you complete a "Brush Disposal Permit" that is available at the Township Office (bring ID to verify residency). Permits will be issued per calendar year, this is FREE to residents only. The Township also holds free recycling events for residents only, at SECCRA twice a year. This allows for the drop-off of materials that cannot be recycled at the curb; e.g. tires, car batteries, large household appliances and propane tanks. This year's drop-off date is 9/26/2015 from 1p.m.-4 p.m.

Electronics are banned from going into landfills and must now be recycled at a recycling facility. Laptops, desktops, monitors, televisions, etc., are banned from being placed in a landfill with municipal waste. **Manufacturers** of these items are to provide no-cost recycling opportunities for these electronics. **Consumers** are responsible for taking their electronics to an approved electronics collection location or you can also bring electronics to SECCRA to dispose of, for a fee. **Rechargeable batteries** and those containing lead are recyclable, all others can go into your regular household trash.

Every time you purchase a product with recycled content, you are casting a vote for the environment. What you purchase matters and using less makes a difference. START TODAY AND CAST YOUR VOTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT!

2015 HOUSEHOLD HAZADOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (for Chester County residents only, proof of residency may be required, this is NOT for businesses and/or commercial properties)

- ◆ **June 26 @ COATESVILLE LEARNING CENTER, 1425 East Lincoln Highway, Coatesville PA 19320**
- ◆ **September 12 @ OXFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTARTIVE BUILDING, 125 Bell Tower Lane, Oxford PA 19363**
- ◆ **October 10 @ COUNTY GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester PA 19380**

Helpful Information

OPEN BURNING - No person shall ignite, cause, feed, permit or maintain any open fire for the destruction of solid waste or recyclables designated by Ordinance #153, on any property under his control.

To properly dispose of shredded material, place in it a brown paper bag; staple closed and place in recycling container for curb side pickup.

Goddard Park animal lovers- Please be considerate by picking up after your animals. Be sure he/she is licensed, immunized, and when walking on trails, you must have them on a leash. Dogs are personal property and owners are responsible for damages caused by their dog.

FRIENDS OF GODDARD PARK (FOGP) Friends of Goddard Park is a group of citizens that assists the Parks and Recreation Board with various activities and maintenance of the park. They meet the first Saturday of every month from 8:30- 10:00 AM at Goddard Park (weather dependant), assist with light maintenance meet other residents and community members. If you are new to the area, this is a great way to learn what's near your new home. This also can fulfill community project requirements for Girl and Boy Scout or any organization that needs community service hours. The Park is always in need of volunteers, if you are interested, or would like to get more involved, contact London Grove Township at Ssmith@londongrove.org.

AVON GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY will be doing Story Time at Goddard Park the following dates starting at 6:30 PM at the kiosk. Parents/guardian must stay with child for duration of program.

- ◆ Thursday June 25
- ◆ Thursday July 23
- ◆ Tuesday August 18

Farewell Letter

Dear London Grove Residents,

I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work for you first as an intern in the summer of 2012 and then as the Finance/HR Director from January 2013 through April 2015.

I would love to stay longer but I must leave to take the next step in my career as the Town Administrator of Columbia, Connecticut.

I tremendously enjoyed taking care of the human resources needs of the 12 staff as well as managing the accounting and finances of the (now) 17 funds. In addition, I enjoyed taking on tasks such as revamping the accounting software practices, refining the budgeting process and invoicing system, creating the first ever Land Development and Storm Water Management Review and Processing Escrow Agreements, creating a staff Credit Card usage policy, initiating the use of a credit card machine to pay for permits and other fees, negotiating a new website platform and much more.

It was both an honor and a privilege to work with the board, staff and professional consultants. I wouldn't be where I am today without the experience I gained at London Grove and my mentorship with Township Manager Steven C. Brown and predecessor Patricia Morrison.

I pride myself in being a hard worker and leaving a place better than when I found it. I believe I succeeded in accomplishing this in my position and I hope the staff, board and residents agree. I am eternally grateful and words can't express how much I will miss my London Grove family. I wish nothing but the best for the future of the Township.

Sincerely,

Natasha R. Nau

Goodbye Colleague



Reminder from the Code Department

Summer is here and time to get started on all those building projects that you thought about during the winter months. Building permits are required to construct, enlarge, alter, or demolish a building; including replacement of electrical, mechanical or plumbing systems. Zoning permits are required to install sheds under 200 square feet and to erect fences. Our department issues various types of permits, please refer to the Township website or contact the Code Department to discuss the type of permit that is required. Also, keep in mind that ordinary repairs to structures do not require a building

permit; however, these repairs are required to meet the Code. London Grove Township has adopted the 2009 International Building Code and the London Grove Township Zoning Ordinance, which set forth the requirements for permits.

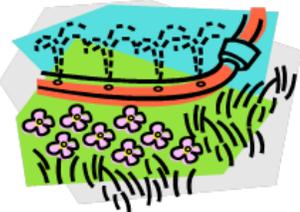


MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY NEWS



Fire hydrant flushing will take place in the month of July. Flushing ensures the hydrants are exercised, maintained, and in full service. This procedure is necessary for the health, safety and welfare of our residents in case of fire. When the hydrants are flushed your water may be slightly discolored from air pockets and disturbance of the water mains. This condition will dissipate when you run your water for a short period of time. The water is still potable (safe to drink). We also periodically flush throughout the year as an extra precaution. The LGTMA respectfully asks that if you have a fire hydrant on your property, please make an effort to weedwack around the hydrant during growing seasons to keep it visible for the fire departments. A visible fire hydrant can save precious minutes while firefighters battle fires. Hydrant markers are placed on all hydrants on the system to assist with visibility throughout the year.

Fats, Oils and Grease (F.O.G.) are substances that commercial, industrial and residential customers must **not** put in their sinks, toilets and drains. F.O.G. can ultimately create blockages in your privately owned sewer pipes and in the public sewer system. Repair costs to clean/remove F.O.G. from the public sewer system are very expensive and ultimately will cost the consumer if this matter is not taken seriously. Please check the Township website, Municipal Authority Public Water & Sewer, F.O.G (Fats, Oils and Grease) Program for helpful ideas to keep F.O.G. out of the LGTMA Sewer System. Thank you.



As summer is here, please be advised that LGTMA customers who are serviced by public water and sewer, should be informed that the sewer portion of your bill is calculated by your water consumption. Please be aware any additional water usage during the summer months such as watering your lawns, washing your cars, filling your swimming pools, watering flowers and gardening will be reflected in the sewer charge portion of your quarterly bill.

11 Simple Things You Can Do to Prevent Water Pollution!

1. Keep litter off the streets so it doesn't wash into storm drains and then into local creeks.
2. Dispose of hazardous household wastes and prescription drugs at designated collection sites.
3. Only apply fertilizers and pesticides sparingly and responsibly.
4. Install a rain barrel or rain garden to capture and soak in storm water.
5. Scoop the poop, then trash it. Pet waste carries with it bacteria that is harmful to human health.
6. Plant more trees along the creek instead of mowing up to the banks.
7. Create wildlife habitat by planting a low maintenance landscape using native plants and trees.
8. Wash your vehicle at a car wash or on the grass and service your vehicle regularly to prevent oils and other fluids from leaking into storm drains.
9. Pump your septic at least every three years to prevent bacterial contamination of water.
10. Only drain pool water that has been tested as chlorine free over grass. Untested water should never be drained over grass or pumped to storm drains.
11. Report spills, dumping or discharges of pollutants into the street, storm water system or streams. Call the Township at 610-345-0100

What's in Your Watershed?

By Shane Morgan, Management Plan Coordinator for the White Clay Wild & Scenic River Program. mpc@whiteclay.org

You are! No matter where you live, work, or play, you are in a watershed. A watershed is simply an area of land that drains to a body of water. While much of the water we see moves across the lands surface as runoff, it's also moving hidden under ground beneath our feet. Unlike townships, watersheds have no political boundaries, only geographical ones. This is good in that it can bring people together for a common cause, like water quality. It's also problematic if we don't work collectively with our neighbors, both upstream and downstream, to improve upon conditions that lead to polluted waters. Residents of London Grove Township are in the White Clay watershed, a bi-state (PA/DE) watershed. Learn more about your watershed and celebrate its outstanding resources at www.whiteclay.org.

The White Clay Creek is a nationally recognized waterway.

Only a select group of rivers in the United States, less than ½ of 1 percent, are designated into the [National Wild & Scenic Rivers system](#). The White Clay Creek is one of them.

The federal designation helps to preserve watershed features that maintain water quality, natural resources and overall quality of life. The federal government does not own or manage lands within the White Clay watershed, but instead works with local partners to protect the streams.

Despite this honor, the White Clay Creek needs TLC...



Mowing up to the creek contributes to unhealthy water quality and poor stream habitat.

The White Clay Creek and the water in its aquifers are a source of drinking water for thousands of people. Your help is needed to reverse the effects of decades of agriculture and development that have negatively impacted the White Clay Creek. Excess fertilizer, animal waste, leaking septic systems, soil erosion, and hard surfaces such as roads and parking lots have degraded water quality and stream habitat. Despite it's prestigious designation, more than 75% of White Clay stream miles are listed as "impaired" or polluted.

It's up to local citizens, elected officials, businesses and conservation groups to work together on ways to protect and improve the White Clay Creek. You can be part of the solution! *Get involved, subscribe to our newsletter, and learn more at whiteclay.org.*

Summer 2015 Calendar of Events

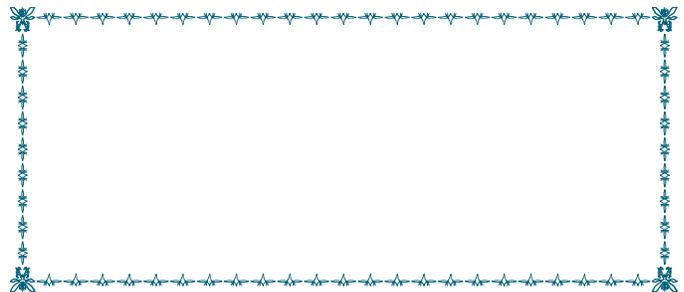
July 2015

- 7/1- Board of Supervisors Meeting
7-10 pm
- 7/3 Township Building Closed Independence Day
- 7/4- FOGP Maintenance Day Goddard Park- 8:30-10 am
- 7/6- London Grove Township Municipal Authority Meeting 7:30-9 pm
- 7/9- Open Space Committee Meeting
5-7 pm
- 7/15- Parks and Recreation Meeting
5:30-7 pm
- 7/16- Zoning Ordinance Steering Committee 3-4:30 pm
- 7/23- Story time in the park 6:30 pm
Goddard Park
- 7/27- Environmental Advisory Council
7-8:30 pm
- 7/29- Planning Commission Meeting 7 pm

August 2015

- 8/1- FOGP Maintenance Day Goddard Park 8:30-10 am
- 8/3- London Grove Municipal Authority Meeting 7:30-9 pm
- 8/5- Board of Supervisors Meeting 7 pm
- 8/13- Open Space Committee Meeting
5-7 pm
- 8/18- Story time in the park 6:30 pm
Goddard Park
- 8/19- Parks and Recreation Meeting
5:30-7 pm
- 8/20- Zoning Ordinance Steering Committee 3-4:30 pm
- 8/24- Environmental Advisory Council
7-8:30 pm
- 8/26- Planning Commission Meeting 7 pm

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Website: www.londongrove.org



The Township is doing their part to reduce and recycle. We will be offering the newsletter electronically, please sign up on our website if you are interested in receiving them.

www.londongrove.org

If you do not have access to a computer or want to continue having newsletters mailed, please call the Township at (610)-345-0100.