



London Grove Township
372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 100
West Grove, PA 19390
Phone: 610-345-0100
Fax: 610-345-0455
Email: admin@londongrove.org
Website: www.londongrove.org
Office Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Board of Supervisors:

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

Codes and Inspections:

Andy Kirk, Code Administrator

Fire Marshal:

Shane Kinsey, Fire Marshal
Robert Weer, Asst. Fire Marshal

Planning Commission

Colleen Preston, Chairman
Frank Scarpato, Vice Chairman
Marie Hittinger
Rick Schroder
Geoffrey Stroud
Charles C. Shock
Aimee C. Bowers

Township Office:

Steven C. Brown, Twp. Manager
Shane P. Kinsey, Public Works
Director
Jacqui Guenther, Finance Director
Dawn Maciejczyk, Admin.
Suzanne Smith, Admin.
Andy Kirk, Code Administrator
Lois Zunino, Codes Admin.

Zoning Hearing Board

William Grandizio, Chairman
Ed Hatchigian
Stacy Starr
Bob Gillespie, Alternate

Zoning Officer:

Steven C. Brown

Tax Collector:

Kurt Engleman, Real Estate Tax
Keystone Collections Group, EIT

FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN

In Township news, we approved our 2016 budget with no tax increases and our bond rating was upgraded to AA! The budget places a heavy emphasis on core issues like roads and emergency services. We are continuing to fund our long term capital plan, our equipment replacement plan, and will be updating both plans in 2016. Inniscrone Golf Course has made all required rent payments to the Township for 2015, which in turn paid ALL related debt service to that asset. In addition to making all required rent payments, our golf course operator is projecting a profit/surplus by the end of the year.

I wanted to also take a second and thank Bob Hittinger; a fellow Supervisor, for six years of service to London Grove. His term is up at the end of 2015. Bob spent a lot of his personal time attending meetings, reviewing documents, and representing his community. Being a Supervisor is nothing less than community service, and can be thankless at times. I also welcome Ray Schoen as the newly elected Supervisor to fill Bob's seat. I am looking forward to working with Mr. Schoen and continue to move London Grove in a positive direction.

Hope everyone stays safe and enjoys their holidays!

Regards,

Dave Connors
Vice Chairman, Board of Supervisors London Grove Township

OPEN SPACE

The London Grove Township Open Space Committee currently is in contact with a number of landowners interested in permanently protecting their property for open space purposes. The Committee, chaired by Jock Hannum, includes Eric Brown, Kim Fields, Elin Green, Anne Hannum, Paddy Neilson, and Lew Wilkinson. Formed by the Board of Supervisors in 2005, It has worked closely with Chester County's Agricultural Lands Preservation Board and with non-profit organizations Natural Lands Trust and the Brandywine Conservancy to place significant acreage under perpetual conservation easements. As a consequence, these undeveloped properties help prevent sprawl and the corresponding cost of infrastructure, and are critical to the continued viability of agriculture in the Township.

As calculated by the Conservancy, there are now 968 acres protected under agricultural conservation easements purchased through Chester County's Challenge Grant Program, in which the County and Township share equally in the cost of the easement purchase. This includes a 38-acre agricultural easement on which settlement occurred in October.

Even more land in the Township is under permanent protection through landowner actions to donate (or, on occasion, sell) conservation easements, primarily to the Brandywine Conservancy but also to Natural Lands Trust. Cumulatively, these easements are protecting 1,357 acres of land in the Township. Taken together, these two conservation initiatives have protected 2,325 acres, or roughly 21% of the land in London Grove. Easements currently in process could yield another 120 protected acres.

The Township's ability to undertake these easement purchases is based largely on its Open Space Earned Income Tax revenue. This funding source was voter-approved in a 2006 referendum and enacted in 2007. At a rate of 0.25%, it gives the Township the ability to respond to landowners who express interest in taking a land protection action. Funds from the Open Space EIT can be used only for these open space protection actions. The Board of Supervisors holds a public hearing prior to any expenditure from this Open Space Fund.

Article by: David Sweet

MS4 Tip: Ice & Snow Removal

Please think about environmentally-friendly ways to control ice. Traction agents help prevent slipping on ice but don't melt it. Sand, kitty litter and ashes can hurt vegetation, clog sewers, and degrade aquatic habitats. Rock salt is the most common product because it's effective and cheap, however, it is highly corrosive and ecologically damaging. A water-friendly option is Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA) products which are low in phosphorous. Use only the recommended amount. CMA is less problematic for soils, vegetation, water supplies, and concrete, and it is non-corrosive, made from corn or petroleum and converts ice into an oatmeal-like mush.

Safety Tips to Help You Help Responders in an Emergency

Seconds count... Especially in an emergency. Help responders to be able to act more quickly in the event they're called to your home.

- ◇ Display your house number prominently in a location easily visible from the street. This can be on a placard at the end of your driveway, on your mailbox, or on your house near the front door. Numbers should be at least 3" high.
- ◇ After each snowstorm, "adopt" a fire hydrant that may be located near your home and clear the snow away from it. Fire fighters can connect to hydrants more quickly when they are readily visible and accessible.
- ◇ Residents are responsible for clearing their own driveways, mailboxes and sidewalks if applicable. Do not shovel or plow snow back on the streets. The Public Works Department Road Crew plow the Township streets only.



WE'RE READY FOR WINTER...ARE YOU?

With any luck this winter season will not be as nasty as the ones many of us have endured in previous years. Mother Nature, though, is not known for her predictability.

With that in mind, here are some tips from www.ready.gov, a Federal Emergency Management Agency preparedness campaign, to help you and your family be prepared for when the snow, ice, winds, and frigid temps come our way. To prepare for a winter storm, www.ready.gov recommends the following:

Stock up on the following supplies:

- ◇ Rock salt or an alternative, environmentally safe product to melt ice on walkways.
- ◇ Sand or other antiskid materials to improve traction on sidewalks and driveways.
- ◇ Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.
- ◇ Heating fuel, you may become isolated in your home and regular fuel sources may be cut off. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- ◇ Adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm and dry.

◇ Create a family communication plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency. To learn more about developing a plan, go to www.ready.gov/familycommunications

◇ Consider purchasing a NOAA weather radio, which broadcasts alerts and warnings directly from the National Weather Service for all hazards.

◇ Download FEMA's Be Smart, Know Your Alerts and Warnings for a summary of notifications at www.ready.gov/prepare.

◇ Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supply kit in your vehicle.

◇ Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to shelter areas with non-frozen drinking water.



WINTER PREPARATION CHECKLIST



In the Car:

Check your vehicle to ensure road safety.

- ◇ Check antifreeze
- ◇ Check and replace older batteries
- ◇ Remember to keep the gas tank near full to avoid freezing water in the fuel line
- ◇ Check tires and spare tire for proper inflation
- ◇ Do NOT park cars on the street
- ◇ Bag of sand, road salt or non-clumping cat litter. The bag's extra weight means

better traction, and the contents can be spread under slipping tires

- ◇ Ice scraper
- ◇ Jumper cables
- ◇ Small shovel (to dig snow away from wheels, or scatter sand on roadway)
- ◇ Tire chains (every driver should practice putting them on)
- ◇ Flares or reflective triangle to warn other motorists if you break down
- ◇ Blanket
- ◇ Flashlight and batteries
- ◇ Gallon jug of drinking water
- ◇ First aid kit





Congratulations

Justin Lytle!

Justin is a Boy Scout with Troop 18. He presented, planned and illustrated leadership qualities when giving direction and guidance to fellow troop members that assisted with his Eagle project, of two bat houses at Goddard Park. Thank you for choosing Goddard Park for your project to attain your Eagle Scout Award.

Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Township Building unless otherwise stated:

Board of Supervisors Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Municipal Authority Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Board Meetings are held on the Third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board meets on an as needed basis.

Open Space Committee Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Environmental Advisory Committee meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Goddard Park has been a space of transformation. The land that had once been used for crops and pastureland to nourish livestock, it is now still nourishing a growing community with its tranquility and gentleness. Residents and area visitors alike have been enjoying peaceful walks through the open fields, woodlots, and riparian areas. Their children and four legged companions revel in the time allotted to romp in the play areas. The foresight of envisioning, and planning this open space allows families to embrace the land's beauty.

As a resident of London Grove Township, I have watched countless acres in the Northeast be developed, or left feral. Goddard Park and the planning of the growing residential areas of London Grove is not by chance, but by design to preserve open space, and to create access to a place of recreation, a sort of "sanctuary", for residents to relax, reflect, and to rejuvenate. The planned [and installed] trails that weave their ways through our residential areas are meant to serve as arteries to this lively piece of land that beckons to your family, "Come outside to play."

The outings that your family plans, every peaceful step in the fall leaves that lay upon the trails, that playful frolic that your dog takes while carrying a tennis ball back to you, even that squeal

of laughter from children's lungs as they scamper through the play set, all breathe life back into the minds of visitors, the land at Goddard Park, and our community.

Many who have lived in the area for years may pass the park land see how it has transformed from years past. I see how it connects a community through its current and potential use. As a resident of London Grove, I have enjoyed the park so much that I made a point of not only attending the Parks and Recreation planning meetings, but also became a part of that citizens group to ensure that this piece of land continues to serve our residents and visitors. Goddard Park will continue to connect a community, but it also needs your input and commitment as it evolves. Your voice is needed to share the community's needs and concerns about the land's use. Your volunteerism is necessary to maintain the land's beauty, by picking up litter, or reporting vandalism. Your involvement as an advisor on the Parks and Recreation Board, as a gardener in the community gardens, or as extra hands on a clean-up day (first Saturday of every month) is important. Your commitment to Goddard Park is greatly needed and appreciated.

If you have interest in offering your assistance in any capacity, please contact the Township Office by calling 610-345-0100.

Article by: Audrey Reith

GODDARD PARK NEWS

**Park Hours:
Dawn to Dusk**

London Grove Township partnered with the Chester County Food Bank for their 2015 fall planting season. The purpose was to grow fresh produce for donations to the Bridge Food Pantry. Boy Scout Troup 191, Cub Pack 54 and the Garage Youth Center volunteered their time and labor to tend to these beds, which supplied fresh produce to community members. The first donation harvested was basil, cilantro, dill, lettuce, kale and swish chard. This yielded enough fresh produce for 25 families. Thank you to everyone for your hard work, dedication and commitment in making this fall planting season a success. Let's see if we can expand this program in 2016. If you are interested in tending garden beds, strictly for donating purposes in 2016, please contact the Township building, 610-345-0100.



Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (PRPS) and the Department of Conservation and Natural

Recourses (DCNR) have developed a site <http://goodforpa.com> which provides a list of the parks in the State. This was designed to help residents, organizations and travelers to learn more about parks near where they live and in areas they are traveling to. There are around 5,600 parks in the State of Pennsylvania and each of these parks has something for everyone to enjoy.



**good for you.
good for all.**
PENNSYLVANIA PARKS & RECREATION

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY NEWS

Protect Your Property

Residents can help protect their home and family by taking steps to lock criminals out.

Take the time to lock doors to your vehicles and homes. Criminals look for easy access to property and unlocked garages or car doors, can be the perfect opportunity.



Volunteers Needed

LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Periodically the Township invites residents to volunteer their time on the various boards and commissions that service the community. Please see below the available opportunities to volunteer. This is your time to give back to your community. The Township appreciates your service!

Environmental Advisory Committee - Three vacancies

Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals - Three vacancies, 2 alternates

Contact the Township at (610) 345-0100 for more information.



Cold Weather is Approaching! Here are some cold weather tips for the fall/winter season:

- ◇ Before leaving your property for any length of time, turn off the water by closing the main shut-off valve on your property. The valve is located in your basement or utility room before the water meter. ***London Grove Township Municipal Authority suggests this procedure for all seasons.***
- ◇ Make sure all outside hoses are disconnected from faucets.
- ◇ Close garage doors and windows near water pipes.
- ◇ Close foundation vents. By closing the vents it keep the cold air out and can help prevent pipes from freezing.
- ◇ Insulate all pipes and faucets in unheated areas.
- ◇ London Grove Township Municipal Authority is not responsible for water problems from the curb stop into your home, with the exception of the water meter. The curb stop is at the Township Right-of-Way by the street. Make sure you have the telephone number of a reliable plumber on hand in case there is a problem on your property.

◇ If your water meter freezes, please call London Grove Township Municipal Authority at 610-345-0300.

◇ If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please make every effort during the winter to shovel around the hydrants to assist the



fire departments' ease in locating the hydrant. Precious minutes during fires may make a difference between life and death. The London Grove Township Municipal Authority has installed fire hydrant markers on all of their fire hydrants to assist in locating the fire hydrants in times of emergency.

The Municipal Authority meets the 1st Monday of the month and **welcome** the public. For any other information please feel free to contact the Municipal Authority Office at 610-345-0300. Please feel free to visit our website at www.londongrove.org and view the Municipal Authority menu for more information.



WOODSTOVE AND FIREPLACE SAFETY

Have a certified chimney sweep clean and inspect your chimney and fireplace for creosote build-up, cracks, crumbling bricks and obstructions.

Place fireplace or wood stove ashes outdoors in a covered metal container at least three feet away from anything that burns.



A flue fire can ruin your chim-

ney or stovepipe. To prevent flue fires, burn dry, well-seasoned wood. Burn small, hot fires. Don't burn trash.

Always use a fireplace screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass to prevent sparks from escaping. If children are present, use a special child-guard screen as a barrier for your woodstove.

Avon Grove Library

Would your children like to hear holiday stories and have a delicious breakfast? How would your tween or teen enjoy attending a party and making some homemade gifts and ornaments? Would your family want to sing along with our best-known Christmas carols and learn how they were written? Avon Grove Library has several free events in December to celebrate the holidays – along with many more classes and programs throughout the winter months.

“We have a lot of great opportunities for individuals and families, both at the holidays and throughout the year,” said Lori Schwabenbauer, director of Avon Grove Library. “My staff and I are excited to host these events. As a public library, Avon Grove is committed to providing programs like these to enhance the lives of our customers.”

Falling Tree Debris

When debris falls from a tree onto your property you are responsible for it's clean up. If debris from a tree falls into the street, the Township will remove the tree from the street back onto the property that it has fallen from.



AVON GROVE LIBRARY

For programs requiring registration, interested residents can call 610-869-2004 during the library's open hours, visit the library front desk, or go to the contact page at www.avongrovelibrary.org/about-us/contact-us/. Registrants should give a phone number as well as email address, along with the name of the event and how many people will be participating.

One-Time Winter Events:

- **Party at the Park** (Grades 6-12; registration required; \$2 fee) – Fri., Jan. 22, 6-8 pm – Chinese New Year celebration with Chinese food, games, origami, and crafts. Location: Penn Township Park Municipal Building.
- **Bingo Night** (Families and individuals; free) – Tues., Jan. 26, 6:30-7:30 pm – Family-fun bingo games with prizes and snacks. Bring a nonperishable food item for the local food pantry.
- **Spelling Bee for Adults: Southern Chester County Spell-Off** (Individuals or teams of up to five, 18 years or older; registration required; free) – Thurs., Jan. 28, 7 pm – Lincoln University Professor of Creative Writing David Amadio will moderate a fun event for adults of all ages. The five teams/individuals left standing will win a prize and go on to compete against the top five winners of the Kennett Library and Oxford Library spelling bees at a future date.
- **Happy Heart Day Celebration** (Grades 6-12; registration required free) – Sat., Feb. 13, 2 pm – Homemade chocolate making and Valentine crafting

Recurring Winter Events:

Note: The library will be closed Dec. 24-25, after 3 pm Dec. 31, and all day Jan. 1; activities will not be held on these days, and possibly not on other nearby days as well. Check the library website for updates. Story times (which are too numerous to list here; check tour website for days and times) are held daily Monday through Saturday, except during the holiday break, December 21 through January 1.

- **Super Science** (Pre-K through 3rd grade; registration required, limited to 12; free) – schedule to be determined – STEM programs teach children scientific and technical principles through fun activities.

- **Super Science** (Pre-K through 3rd grade; registration required, limited to 12; free)- schedule to be determined; check the website for dates and times– STEM programs teach children scientific and technical principals through fun activities.

- **Family Game Day** (All ages; free) – 3rd Monday starting in January, 3-5 pm – Board games, snacks provided. Game Day is scheduled for school holidays, and will not continue regularly past March.

- **Teen Service Club** (Grades 6-12; registration required free) – Tuesdays, 3:30-5 pm – Work on projects for storytime and other library events, meet new people, and earn service hours.

- **Knit One, Crochet Two!** (Grade 6 to adult; free; all skill levels welcome) – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 6:30-8 pm – Learn new knitting and/or crocheting skills; stitch your current project with other yarn craft enthusiasts. Please bring your own materials.

- **Paper Crafting** (Adults 18 and over, all skill levels welcome; registration required; small materials fee) 1st Thursday starting in January, 6:30 – Learn a new skill and make something beautiful to use at home or give as a gift.

- **Lego Club** (1st and 3rd Thursday, 4:30-5:30 pm) and **Lego Block Party** (4th Saturday, 1:30-2:30 pm) – Build a Lego project and have fun with other Lego enthusiasts of all ages. Free; blocks provided.

- **Healthy Eating** (Grades 6-12; registration required; free) – 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 pm – Explore healthy eating, practice label reading, look at cookbooks, and make treats to enjoy.

- **Craft and Create** (Adults 18 and over, all skill levels welcome; free) – 2nd Thursday – Gather up your craft projects and join others for some open crafting time. Please bring your own materials.

- **GeoTrax Build and Play** (Ages 3 and up; free) – 1st Saturday starting in January, 1-3 pm – Use GeoTrax train tracks, buildings, and other accessories to create setups, then enjoy open playtime with your creations. All components provided.

- **Crafternoon** (Families and individuals; free) – Wed., Dec. 9, 4 p.m.; moving to 2nd Saturday at 12:30 pm starting in January–Create ornaments (Dec.), snow globes (Jan.), Valentine's pillows(Feb.), and beaded necklaces (Mar.). All materials provided.

- **Souper Saturdays** (Children and families; free) – Jan. 16, Feb. 13, Mar. 19 at 11 am – Enjoy stories, crafts, and a tasty soup lunch. Have Snow Day Adventures (Jan.), Valentine's Day Fun (Feb.), and a Dr. Seuss-a-bration (Mar.).



LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP BLOOD DRIVE

**Monday, February 15, 2016
10:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.**

**London Grove Township Building
372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 100
West Grove, PA 19390**

**Log on for helpful tips and to
reserve your appointment time
www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation**

Search by sponsor code: **londongrove to schedule an appointment.**

For Donor Eligibility Guideline: call **1-800-RED CROSS**

***** Please contact tedra.farrell@redcross.org if you experience issues scheduling donor appointments.**

Christmas Tree Collection Dates



Not sure what to do with the Christmas Tree when the time has come to take it down? Your trash haulers are here to help!

Please contact your trash hauler directly to confirm pick-up at your residents in advance.

The following dates your trash haulers will be collecting Christmas Trees:

January 2- Penn Container

January 16- AJ Blosenski

January 16- Republic Services



RECYCLING CORNER

London Grove Township Ordinance 89 states all waste storage containers/recycling bins may not be placed at the curbside prior to 6:00 p.m. the night before the day of collection. Empty containers must be retrieved from the curbside within 12 hours of the collection time. No person other than a registered hauler shall collect or remove municipal waste from any other person's property. All agreements for collection, transportation, and disposition of municipal waste other than the collection services provided by Township shall be by private contract between the owner or occupant of the property where the waste is generated and the registered hauler who is to collect such waste. Did you know that all junk mail, news print, magazines and advertisements are recyclable material. Please dispose of them in your recycling bins.

Do you know how to properly dispose of E-waste such as TV's and computer monitors? Well, SECCRA accepts these items. \$5.00 up to 140 pounds with weights above prorated at \$68.00 per ton. Tom's TV Sales and Service, located at 250 E. Evergreen Street, West Grove, will take your old panel and flat screen TV's. You must call ahead 610-869-8375.

Fun Fact: It takes 5 recycled two-liter bottles (PET) to make enough fiberfill for a ski jacket.

HOLIDAY RECIPE

Cranberry-Orange Sauce

Ingredients

- 2 (8-ounce) packages of cranberries, fresh or frozen
- 1 Orange, zest cut into strips and juiced
- 1/2 cup of sugar
- 1 Cinnamon Stick

Directions

Put all the ingredients into a saucepan over medium heat and simmer until the cranberries burst and the sauce thickens, about 15 to 20 minutes. Serve at room temperature or cool and refrigerate. Remove the cinnamon stick before serving.



TOWNSHIP INFORMATION EMAILED TO YOUR INBOX

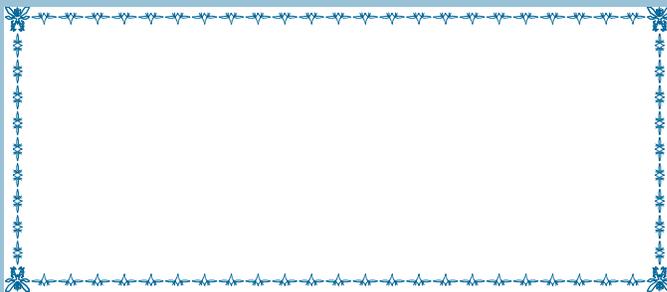
Log on to www.londongrove.org and click on the "Notify Me" tab to sign up and receive text or email notifications for the latest Township Documents and publications.

Information Available (Click any or all):

- * Calendar of events
- * Goddard Park
- * Agendas and Minutes
- * Newsletters
- * Recycling
- * And many more

The Township is doing their part to reduce and recycle. We are offering the newsletter electronically now. 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 the newsletters mailed to you, please call the Township at (610)-345-0100.

Sincerely,
Dawn Maciejczyk
Editor



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