

SPRING 2018

Whitemarsh
1704
PENNSYLVANIA



THE NEWSLETTER OF
WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP

Living



MINI SPRING FLING!

**TUESDAY, MAY 1ST
12:00-2:00 PM**

**@ THE PARKS & RECREATION BUILDING
4021 JOSHUA RD, LAFAYETTE HILL
AGES 5 & UNDER!**

**\$5.00 WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS
\$7.00 NON-RESIDENTS**

PAY AT THE DOOR!

**GAMES • CRAFTS •
PRIZES •**



**SNACKS • MUSIC •
& MORE!**

WWW.WHITEMARSHPARTS.ORG 610-828-7276



TOWNSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Administration Building

616 Germantown Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
610-825-3535 (TEL)
610-825-9416 (FAX)

Police Department

616 Germantown Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
610-825-6530 (Non-Emergency)
610-825-5078 (FAX)
911 (EMERGENCY)

Public Works Department

2015 Joshua Road
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
610-825-3424 (TEL)
610-825-3144 (FAX)

Parks & Recreation Department

(Koontz Park)
2391 Harts Lane
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
610-828-7276 (TEL)
610-828-7391 (FAX)

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Whitemarsh

Township Day

**SATURDAY
APRIL 28th**

**2018
12 - 5 PM**

Fun For all of the family, including!

New Location!

**Victory
Fields @
Colonial
School
District**

**Local
Businesses**

**Crafters
&
Vendors**

**Sponsorship
Opportunities
Available**

**Games,
Rides &
Prizes**

**Food
Court**

**Plus
Lots
More**



**HOLID'S
True Value**

610-828-7276 - WWW.WHITEMARSHPARKS.ORG



CURRENT SPONSORS:

Dear Whitemarsh Residents,

As we near warmer spring days, I am excited to share with you the 2018 Whitemarsh Living Annual Report, providing a comprehensive review of the Township's activities from the past calendar year along with a preview of things to come in 2018. The annual report will provide readers not only with updates on events and projects taking place throughout the Township, but also financial and administrative updates that manage the Township projects and events.

I am especially excited for the upcoming projects taking place in our parks system. The Miles Park construction project that is scheduled to start this spring will consist of drainage improvements at two ballfields for player safety and field availability for use, enhance ADA access to park features, implement green infrastructure to enhance park aesthetics, and add trails to improve the park's connections to the facilities both within and around Miles Park as part of the Township's pedestrian network. I am especially proud of the fact that a large portion of this project is being funded through the two state grants, in the amount of \$200K from the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and \$180K from the Commonwealth Financing Authority's Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program. Please note that due to the construction scheduled for Miles Park this spring into summer and possibly the fall, the annual Township Day will be held at Victory Fields this year. You can check out

the Township Day flyer on page 4 of the newsletter.

In addition, a small pocket park at Cold Point is also scheduled for some updates this summer, and you can read more about this exciting project on page 25.

You will also notice road work along Joshua Road, Flourtown Road, and Stenton Avenue for intersection improvements. This project will help widen the roads and add turning lanes to improve the traffic flow at these intersections. This intersection improvement project will also incorporate stormwater management methods to alleviate some of the flooding in these areas. This project was also partially funded through the PADEP Greenlight Go Grant in the amount of \$593,312.

I would also like to take this time to welcome Fran McCusker as the newest member of the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors. I look forward to working with Supervisor McCusker and the other sitting members of the Board to continue to do great things in 2018. And as I always remind you, be sure to sign up on the Township website for the latest news and updates and follow Whitemarsh Township on Facebook Twitter!

Sincerely,

Amy P. Grossman

Amy P. Grossman
Chair

FROM
THE
CHAIR



YOUR WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Amy P. Grossman
Chair



Melissa Sterling
Vice-Chair



Laura Boyle Nester



Michael Drossner



Fran McCusker



WELLS STREET OPEN SPACE CLEANUP

*Saturday
April 14th*
8AM - 11AM

Located On Wells St,
Across From
Cedar Grove Park

Volunteers Needed!
Come and join our team of
“Enviroteers” and help us restore this
area to a naturally beautiful space for
everyone in Whitemarsh Township to
enjoy!

Sponsored By

All “Enviroteers” will be provided with an “Enviroteer” shirt, tools, clean-up bags, and gloves. Please wear long pants and long sleeves.

For More Information: www.whitemarshparks.org - (610) 828-7276

2017
MANAGER'S
REPORT



The Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors once again adopted a balanced \$22.9 million dollar budget for 2018 and for the 17th consecutive year there was no tax increase. The millage remains 2.0379 and there is no change to the refuse, light and hydrant fees this year. The budget includes a three-year \$9.3 million dollar capital improvement plan.

One of the largest capital projects included in the capital improvement plan got underway last year. The Township will be improving 5 intersections to improve safety, stormwater and traffic flow. There are as follows:

- Stenton Avenue and Militia Hill Road - two new traffic lights at both intersections
- Stenton Avenue and Joshua Road - widening to install designated left hand turn lanes in all four directions
- Flourtown and Joshua Roads - widening to install designated left hand turn lanes in all four directions
- Stenton Avenue and Flourtown/ Cricket Roads - widening on for designated left hand turn lanes on Stenton Avenue and a designated right hand turn lane on Flourtown Road

This will be a \$5 million capital project that received a \$600,000 Green Light Go Grant to help offset some of the cost. Construction has already begun on the traffic signals and the first intersection

will start this spring. Please check the Township website for updates on these road projects.

Last year, I was pleased to hire Nathan Crittendon to the position of Assistant Finance Director in the Finance Department and Emily Labowitz to Recreation Services Associate in the Parks and Recreation Department. Also, in our Police Department due to the retirement of Sergeant Chuck Swan, Detective Craig Cubbin was promoted to the Sergeant position. In addition, Caleb MacMain was hired as a new officer. I welcome Nate, Emily and Caleb to the organization and congratulate Sgt. Cubbin on his promotion. I look forward to their contributions to the Whitemarsh community.

It has been an unsettling winter with extreme low temperatures sprinkled in with mild days! As we all look forward to the spring weather, please know that my staff and I are here to assist you with any Township concerns. To all the residents and businesses in Whitemarsh Township have an enjoyable and safe spring and summer seasons!

Sincerely,

Richard L. Mellor, Jr.

Township Manager

FINANCE

Whitemarsh Township ended the 2017 Budget Year with a General Fund balance of \$ 3,758,863. This balance exclusive of reserves exceeded the projected carryover amount provided for in the 2018 Budget of \$3,451,960 by \$ 306,903. The favorable variance resulted from new construction and related real estate transfer tax along with building permit activity as large residential and commercial sales transactions were concluded in during 2017.

The Township continues to maintain its real estate tax rate at a steady 2.0379 Mills with no increase since 2001. Local Enabling Tax Collections in 2017 increased by \$1,350,784 from the 2016 levels. The majority of the increase

was reflected in Real Estate Transfer Tax resulting from new construction as Creekside, Toll Brothers, and Paone. Earned Income Tax, Business Privilege taxes also increased from their 2016 levels.

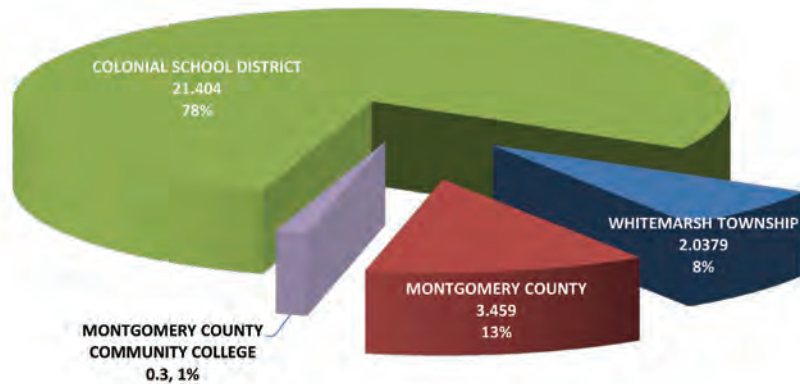
The Township Road Paving Program for 2017 expended \$926,283 in 2017. The Township utilized contributions from Aqua totaling \$300,130 plus an additional and \$527,600 from the State contributions from Aqua in lieu of milling along with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The use of these funding sources enabled the Township to reduce the financial impact upon the General Fund. Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisions has approved the appointment of E Collect to collect the 2018 Business Taxes for the Township.

Effective January 1, 2018, E-Collect will be responsible for administering and collecting Business Privilege/Mercantile tax for and on behalf of the Township. All business returns for the year ended December 31, 2017, are to be submitted to the new business tax administrator E-Collect.

In the event you need assistance with any matters relating to these taxes, please direct your inquiries to E-Collect at:

E-COLLECT
804 Fayette Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428
866-225-0033

2018 TOTAL REAL ESTATE TAXES MEDIAN ASSESSED VALUE \$172,260 - TOTAL AVERAGE R.E. TAX \$4,701

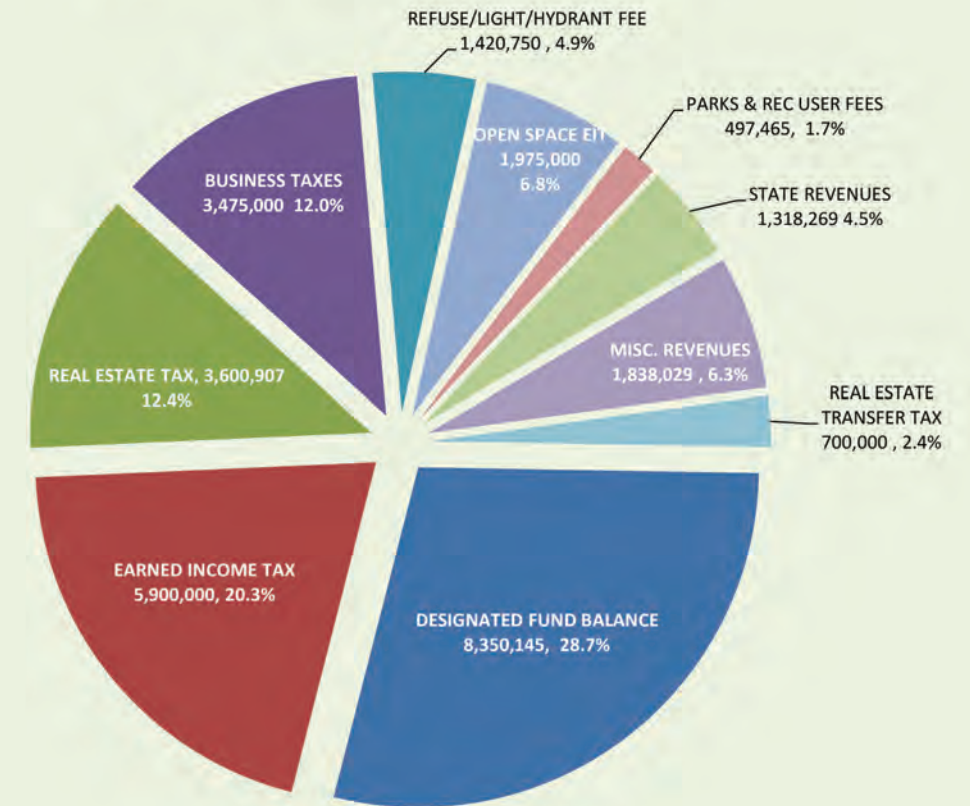


NEW ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR Nathan Crittendon, MSB

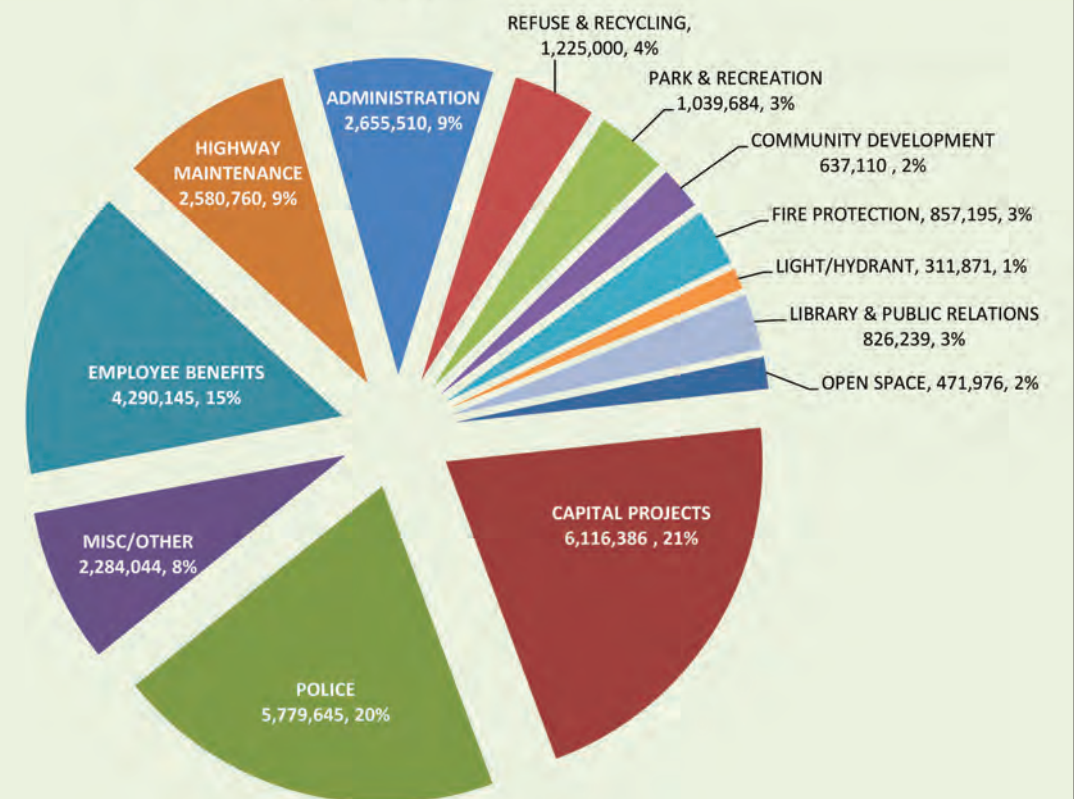
Nathan came to the Township with more than 12 years' experience in the field of Finance, with the last three years concentrating in the local government. Before working in local government, he spent 10 years working in Commercial & Local Bank Management. While holding a Master's Degree in business from Lincoln University, he has sought to continue his education through his efforts to obtain a second Master's in Public Administration from West Chester University. Nathan's interests include a passion for the art's, traveling, and spending time with his wife & children. He is a proud family man who was born and raised locally and hopes to serve the Township and its residents well.



2018 BUDGETED REVENUE - \$29,075,565



2018 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES \$29,075,565



2017 APPROVED SUBDIVISION & LAND DEV.

PLANNING & ZONING



Sunnybrook Golf Club, Militia Hill Rd & 350 Stenton Ave

Conditional preliminary/final minor subdivision plan approval to transfer a 0.431-acre to adjacent landowners. BOS granted conditional preliminary/final plan approval on 2/23/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 2/14/17. The site is zoned AA-Residential, with the Recreational Overlay District.

LuLu Temple/ECRI 5140/5160/5168 Butler Pk

Conditional preliminary/final minor subdivision plan approval to transfer ~8 acres from LuLu Temple to the Emergency Care Research Institute (ECRI). BOS granted conditional preliminary/final minor subdivision approval on 8/17/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 7/15/17. The site is zoned CLI-Campus Type Limited Industrial, with the Institutional Overlay District.

Argos Associates - 6120-6122 Butler Pk

Conditional waiver of land development approval for a barn addition/renovation. BOS granted conditional waiver of land development on 9/14/17, following the PC recommendation for approval 8/22/17. An Earth Disturbance (Grading) Permit was approved on 11/29/17. The site is in the AAA-Residential District.

Lee Park Commons (The Loft at Spring Mill image on p. 9) - 1032 E. Hector St

Conditional preliminary/final plan approval to tear the existing building down and replace it with a three-story building with a 6300 square-foot footprint, the first floor of which is proposed for offices and the second and third, for a total of 12 apartments. BOS granted conditional preliminary/final land development approval on 12/14/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 11/14/17; The applicant also obtained 3 variances on 11/8/17, required because of some existing conditions. This site is in the HVY-Heavy Industrial District, with the RDD-2 Riverfront Development Overlay District, Sub-district 2; it is being developed using the RDD-2 standards.

Pat Sparango, Inc. NW Corner of Bethlehem Pk. & Henry Ln.

Conditional preliminary/final plan approval to subdivide this almost 1.4-acre tract (gross area) into three lots, based upon the tract's existing residential zoning. As each lot is sold and a specific home and related improvements proposed, an Earth Disturbance (Grading) Permit will be required. BOS granted conditional preliminary/final subdivision approval on 2/23/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 1/24/17. This site is zoned A-Residential.

Colonial SD -201 E. Germantown Pk.

Conditional waiver of land development for an addition to the West Gymnasium at the Plymouth-Whitemarsh High School. A 19,000-square foot addition is proposed as part of a total reconstruction of the gym and associated spaces (locker rooms, etc.). BOS granted conditional waiver of land development approval on 2/9/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 1/24/17. Earth Disturbance (Grading) Permit was approved on 6/27/17. This site is zoned A-Residential, with the Institutional Overlay District.

Spring Mill Corporate Center 10th Ave & Spring Mill Ave

Conditional waiver of land development to demolish a portion of the warehouse/storage building on the site (nearest to 10th Avenue and Righter Street). Of the 162,638 square-foot building, 118,363 square feet will be removed, leaving a building of 44,275 square feet (to be used for a combination of warehouse and offices). BOS granted conditional waiver of land development approval on 2/9/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 1/24/17. This site is in the HVY-Heavy Industrial District, with the RDD-2 Riverfront Development Overlay District, Sub-district 2.

DJB Properties, LLC 903 Spring Mill Avenue, Conshohocken

Conditional final plan approval for an eight-unit townhouse development at the intersection of Spring Mill Avenue and Sandy Street. BOS granted conditional final land development approval on 3/23/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 3/22/17. This site is in the C-Residential District with the RDD-2 Riverfront Development Overlay District, Sub-district 2; it is being developed using the RDD-2 standards.

Westaway - 505/507 Germantown Pk

Conditional preliminary land development approval for 9 townhouses and 4 single-family homes. BOS granted conditional preliminary land development approval on 8/17/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 7/25/17.

60 Flourtown Road

Conditional preliminary land development for the construction of a one-story garage (8,000 sq. ft.) for the storage of commercial vehicles, as well as associated parking and a rain garden for stormwater management. BOS granted conditional preliminary land development approval on 1/26/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 4/12/16. The property is in the LIM Limited Industrial District.

Under a provision of the state planning code, the applicant has elected to undertake construction based on preliminary plan approval, with final plan approval pending satisfactory completion and acceptance of all required improvements.

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless - 5175 Campus Dr.

Conditional preliminary/final land development approval for the removal of all parking islands and the provision of expanded parking for Verizon Wireless' mobile assets. BOS granted conditional preliminary/final land development approval on 7/20/17, following a PC recommendation on 6/27/17. (During 2016, a land development was approved that included a 10,000-square foot building addition and two back-up generators; these improvements are no included.) The site is in the CLI-X, Modified Campus-Type Limited Industrial District.

Holman PA Automotive, LLC 432 Pennsylvania Ave.

Conditional preliminary and final land development approval for a multi-story Audi automotive dealership and service facility on Pennsylvania Avenue, to be located between the recently renovated Holiday Inn Express & Suites and the SEPTA parking lot

for the Fort Washington station. BOS granted conditional preliminary land development approval on 5/25/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 4/25/17. Conditional final land development approval was granted by the BOS on 7/20/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 7/11/17. The property is in the CR-L Commercial Retail Low District.

Phipps Station Group, LLC (Maple Hill) 3047 Spring Mill Rd.

Conditional final land development approval to subdivide two (2) existing lots into twenty-one (21) single-family lots. BOS granted conditional preliminary subdivision approval on 5/25/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 5/9/17. Conditional final subdivision approval was granted by the BOS on 9/28/17, following a PC recommendation for approval on 9/12/17. The property is in the A-Residential Zoning District, and is being developed using the Conservation Design Overlay District Standards; the property also lies in the Plymouth Meeting Historic District.

Residents can get the list of current year and past years' Subdivision and Land Development applications and plans from the Township website.



Residential	
PERMIT TYPE	2017
Alterations / Additions	130
Cell Tower Equipment	1
Covered Patios / Decks	12
Fences	62
Driveways/Walkway/Steps/Retaining Walls	11
Misc. Temp. Permits	3
New Dwellings	105
Pools	6
Roofing & Siding	135
Sheds/Acc. Building/Pergola/Gazebo	3
Sheds, Decks & Patios	26
Solar Panels	0
Temporary Dumpster / PSU / Trailer	25
Uncovered Patios / Decks	15
TOTAL	534

Non-Residential	
PERMIT TYPE	2017
Alterations / Additions	29
Cell Tower Equipment	6
Covered Patios / Decks	0
Demolition	3
Driveways/Walkway/Steps/Retaining Walls	2
Fences	1
Misc. Tem. Permits	14
New Construction	3
Pools	0
Sheds/Acc./ Building/Pergola/Gazebo	2
Roofing & Siding	6
Signs	16
Uncovered Patios/Decks	3
Temporary Dumpster / PSU / Trailer	1
Electrical	301
Solar Panels	0
Fire Protection	134
Mechanical	271
Plumbing	293
Rental Properties	0
Solar Panels	6
Use and Occupancy	147
Zoning	20
TOTAL	1,258

Prior to starting any new building project, residents are encouraged to make an appointment with the township to review the permitting process.

Any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by Code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required permit.

UPDATE OF THE RIDGE PIKE PROJECT

Whitemarsh Township worked with the Montgomery County Planning Commission, their consultants, and Springfield Township during 2017 in providing information and reviewing progress on plans for Phase 1 of the Ridge Pike Improvement Project, also known as 'Section D'. This section is located partially within Whitemarsh Township and partially within Springfield Township, and extends from approximately Crescent Avenue on the west, to the Philadelphia City Line on the east. (The Whitemarsh portion extends from Crescent Avenue to Manor Road, with the remainder in Springfield.)

The final project will provide two through lanes in both the east and westbound directions, new and coordinated traffic signals, better overall alignment of the roadway, stormwater management improvements, as well as a continuous sidewalk along the eastbound side of Ridge Pike. Preliminary design for Phase 1 was completed in 2017, including a Public Information session in June, numerous individual meetings with impacted property owners, as well as analyses for traffic signals, stormwater management and overall roadway design. Final design will continue through 2018 and 2019.



UPDATE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Township Comprehensive Plan (adopted in 2003 along with subsequently adopted plans) is a policy guide for future development of the Township. It is a crucial document to guide recommendations and decisions of the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, as well as for decisions made by private developers, Township businesses and residents.

After reviewing the current documents, the Board of Supervisors determined that the Land Use and Housing Elements (plans) within the 2003 Plan needed to be updated. Many decisions have been made, developments proposed and built, and zoning changes have taken place in the period since the Plan's adoption, making revisions necessary. Demographic changes have taken place and development preferences evolved, contributing to the need to update the Plan.

The Township issued a Request for Proposals in February 2017 and selected Bergmann Associates, PC to prepare the Land Use and Housing Element updates. A Steering Committee was established to work with Bergmann in developing the Plan Update. Members of the Steering Committee include representatives from the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Open Space Committee, Zoning Hearing Board, as well as business owners, developers, a golf course manager, a realtor, and Township Staff.

The work on the Update began in August and is expected to be completed within one year. Major tasks to be included in the Update, are the following:

- Review the 2003 Comprehensive Plan and other relevant plan documents.
- Review the Township's Zoning Ordinance and other relevant land use regulations.
- Supplement existing conditions information with the status of recent developments and land development proposals.
- Update demographic information.

- Establish a vision and associated goals and objectives in collaboration with the Steering Committee.
- Review recent land development trends in the Township.
- Recommend strategies for preservation of the Township's golf courses with contingency recommendations should any become nonviable in the future.
- Recommend options for accommodating any land uses not currently addressed in Township plans and land use regulations.
- Prepare a Housing Element that addresses housing types, diversity, affordability, and density.
- Prepare a Land Use Element that includes a future land use plan that addresses land use type, location, and intensity, in addition to addressing community character.
- Develop an 'Action Plan' which will prioritize the various recommendations throughout the Update document, indicating responsible parties for implementing them, as well as possible funding sources. The Action Plan will indicate which projects should be considered for upcoming operating budgets or for the Township's capital program.

During 2017, Bergmann Associates met with the Steering Committee on three occasions, conducted a Public Kick-off Workshop, and had over a dozen stakeholder meetings. They completed a review of prior plan documents and an assessment of existing conditions. As a result of this foundation work, the Steering Committee and consultant developed a draft vision statement and identified four key goal areas, to serve as the organizing elements of the Update. The goal areas include land use, housing, transportation, and quality of life.

Suggested policies, and draft recommendations/action items under each goal area, were being formulated at year's end. This process will continue during the first part of 2018. Finally, there was discussion with the Steering Committee on potential formats for the Plan Update document, and there was consensus on a chosen format.



Chief C. Ward

As a lifelong member of the Whitmarsh Township community, I completely agree with the Township's slogan that Whitmarsh Township is "a Great Place to Live and Work." Our community offers many great opportunities to enjoy the arts, sporting events, recreational areas, historical sites, opportunities to provide our children with a great education and many of the nicer things in life. As the Chief of Police, I am happy to report that our community is a safe place to live, with a low crime rate and safe roads. I can also attest to the fine job done by all of the men and women who work for Whitmarsh Township, not just the police department, to make Whitmarsh Township better every day.

Unfortunately, there are three areas of concern that I do have for our community from a law enforcement point of view; 1) Traffic Issues, 2) Thefts from Vehicles and Residences, and 3) the Effects of the Opioid Crisis on Whitmarsh Township.

Whitmarsh Township is a suburban community with suburban streets that run through residential neighborhoods. Our traffic volume continues to grow as our community and communities to our west continue to add housing units and these new residents need to travel between their homes and work, which often occurs in the City of Philadelphia, located to our immediate east. Our Traffic Safety Unit is constantly studying our roads and intersections to make sure that they are as safe as regulations will allow. Our patrol division is constantly monitoring traffic and conducting enforcement, especially in areas that have been identified as problematic. Unfortunately, the motoring public, which includes all of us, is not cooperating 100 % with the rules and regulations that exist on our highways. Regrettably, I have to include us, as a resident wrote to me, "I know that people don't obey the speed limit on that road because I don't either." This was in a letter requesting that the Police "fix" the speeding problem on the very road that the author deemed dangerous. If we all did our part to obey the traffic laws in our community we would be that much closer to safer roads.

Last year I wrote, "While we were fortunate to have a relatively low rate of serious criminal incidents within Whitmarsh Township in 2016, many of our residents did become victims of thefts from vehicles. In this past year Whitmarsh Police took nearly 100 reports of thefts from vehicles

within our Township's borders. In nearly all of these instances, the vehicles were left unlocked while parked and unattended. In addition, our residents experienced 19 motor vehicle thefts, including a motorcycle. Twelve of these nineteen stolen vehicles had been left, unattended or parked with the keys inside. Whitmarsh Police would greatly appreciate the residents' assistance in fighting this type of crime by simply locking their homes and vehicles, and not leaving items of value in plain view inside of their cars. The fraction of time it takes to secure your valuables may make the difference." We can do better.

Finally, Whitmarsh Township is not immune to the Opioid Crisis that is affecting America. In the last four years the Whitmarsh Police Department has handled 53 documented cases where Heroin was involved. These cases include ten (10) Driving Under the Influence arrests, 23 drug possession charges, 33 Heroin overdoses, eight (8) deaths caused by Heroin overdoses, 14 times that police officers administered Naloxone (Narcan) to revive overdose patients and 11 times that EMS administered Narcan to revive patients. These events have occurred in homes, in businesses and in vehicles in every sector of the Township. So, we are not immune from this Crisis and we need to be aware that this problem exists in our community and every community.

On a positive note, the Whitmarsh Township Police Department received our third re-accreditation from the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association in 2017. As one of only 107 law enforcement agencies to gain accreditation status in Pennsylvania, we strive to remain recognized as one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the state. Through the support of the Whitmarsh Township Board of Supervisors and the Township Manager Richard Mellor, we will maintain the credentials that prove that Whitmarsh Township is doing the right things in order to keep our community safe. I hope that everyone has a safe and healthy 2018.

-Chief Christopher P. Ward

Please be sure to find the Whitmarsh Township Police Department on Facebook (www.facebook.com/WhitmarshTownshipPD) and Nextdoor ([nextdoor.com-Whitmarsh Township Police](http://nextdoor.com-WhitmarshTownshipPolice)).

RETIREMENTS:



Sgt. Charles H. Swan

After 30 years of service to the Whitmarsh Township, Sgt. Charles H. Swan retired from the Police Department, working his last shift on Thanksgiving Day. Charles began his career in Whitmarsh as a dispatcher with the police department in 1988, then sworn in as a police officer in 1989, assigned to the patrol division. During his tenure at Whitmarsh Police, Charles also served with the Whitmarsh and Colonial SWAT Teams, as a firearms instructor and as a Field Training Officer. After spending time in our Detective Division, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Spring of 2007 and served as a patrol sergeant until his retirement.

K-9 Hugo

After eight years of service to Whitmarsh Township, K-9 Hugo retired from the Police Department, working his last shift on Halloween.

During his tenure with the department, K-9 Hugo was involved in numerous drug searches throughout the region that resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars of illegal narcotics being removed from the public domain. Hugo was also involved in the apprehension of numerous criminals and aided in the search for lost persons and discarded evidence.

In retirement, Hugo has been adopted by his partner, Ofc. James Sweeney and the Sweeney Family.



PROMOTION:

Sgt. Craig R. Cubbin



Craig Cubbin was promoted to Patrol Sergeant from Detective. As an 18 year veteran of Whitmarsh Police, Craig started his Law Enforcement career with the Montgomery County Adult Probation Department as an Adult Probation Officer. In 2005 Craig was assigned to the Detective Division, where he has served for the last 12 years. Craig is a member of the Montgomery County District Attorney's Drug Task Force and the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement. Craig has specialized in Narcotics Investigations while managing a full detective case load. Sgt. Cubbin has received seven Unit Citations, four Citations for Merit and one Lifesaving Citation during his career here in Whitmarsh Township.

NEW ASSIGNMENT:

Det. Stephen Kerns

As a 10 year veteran of the Police Department, Stephen Kerns has been assigned to the Detective Division to fill

the position that became available upon Sgt. Cubbin's promotion. Det. Kerns is a member of the Montgomery County Major Incident Response Team and the Whitmarsh Township's Bike Unit. Det. Kerns is a Field Training Officer, a member of the District Attorney's Drug Task Force, a contributor to the Citizens Police Academy and a lead instructor for our Cop Camp Program.



NEW HIRES:



K-9 Diesel

K-9 Diesel joined the Whitmarsh Township Police Department in September of 2017 to take the place of K-9 Hugo. Diesel is a one year-old German Shephard selected Diesel from a group of seven potential K-9's. Diesel and K-9 handler Ofc. James Sweeney trained together at the University of Pennsylvania Working Dog Center in Philadelphia and graduated from training in December of 2017 to report for duty the next week. Ofc. Sweeney and K-9 Diesel are assigned to the Patrol Division with "B" Squad.

Ofc. Caleb MacMain



Officer Caleb J. MacMain was hired by Whitmarsh Police on Sept. 1, 2017. Ofc. MacMain is a graduate of Christopher Dock Mennonite High School, and received his bachelor's degree from Eastern University, which including a semester studying abroad at Laidlaw Collage in Aukland, New Zealand and the Reading Police Academy, where

he compelled his police training. Caleb has successfully completed the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission certification examination for police officers in Pennsylvania, as well as the Field Training Program and is now assigned to our Patrol Division with "B" Squad.



2017 Citizens Police Academy

Congratulations to the Whitmarsh Township Police Department's 2017 Citizens Police Academy graduates. This was the Police Department's 13th graduating class!!!



Every year the volunteers of the Spring Mill Fire Company No. 1 continue to work hard and proactively train in order to provide fire and rescue services for our community that are second to none. In 2017, our volunteers spent over 5,525-man hours on training, responding to emergency calls for service as well as participating in several community events

Spring Mill Fire Company No. 1 is dedicated to the residents and businesses of Whitemarsh Township, and we rely heavily on our Annual Fund Drive from those same residents and businesses. Last year was our best Fund Drive in many years.

We raised \$9,900, and we appreciate every dollar. Our Annual operating costs are exponentially higher than \$9,900.

Your contributions help us as a non-profit organization, who rely on each and every dollar we receive to help defray the cost of life saving equipment and training. Your yearly donation will greatly assist us in providing the prompt and professional service you expect and deserve from your local volunteer fire company. Please take a moment to send in your tax-deductible contribution today.

YOU ARE NOT ONLY HELPING US, YOU ARE HELPING YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR COMMUNITY!

If every household could just donate \$25, less than a single tank of gas for most, you can make a tremendous difference.

We are 96% volunteer, which means most of our personnel are on call 24 hours a day 7 day a week. These men and women drop whatever they are doing at a moment's notice to respond to emergencies in Whitemarsh Township and to provide mutual aide to our surrounding communities. We have 1 full-time Driver/Firefighter who works daily Monday thru Friday as well as part-time staffing that provides evening and weekend coverage.

As a volunteer organization, we are always looking for new members. There are many duties that can be performed in addition to firefighting and responding to emergencies. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit www.springmillfire.com or stop by the station any Monday evening from 7pm-9pm.

FIREFIGHTING CERTIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

Firefighter certification and training for a new member requires approximately 190 hours of theory and practical evolutions before being able to actively participate in an emergency setting. Aside from firefighting, we also specialize in Swift Water Rescue and Underwater Search, Rescue and Recovery with our Dive Unit.

In 2017, our members continued an aggressive push for training and received certifications in the following areas; Strategy and Tactics Level 1, Structural Collapse Level 1, Pump Operations 1, New Vehicle Construction as well as completion of our annual Hazmat Operations level refresher. We also had 3 Firefighters achieve their Firefighter 1 State Certification and 6 Firefighters achieve their PA Fish and Boat Swift Water Certifications. The Company also successfully achieved Silver Level Certification through the Participating Department Recognition Program of the PA State Fire Commissioners office which will be valid through September 2020.

GO GREEN

Currently we are budgeting for Phase II of our Go Green Initiative to convert all our station lighting to LED in an attempt to lower our energy costs and to help protect the environment.

FUND DRIVE



The Whitemarsh Township Office of Emergency Management team consists of the Fire Marshal, Police Department, two local fire companies (Barren Hill and Spring Mill), Whitemarsh Community Ambulance Association, Public Works Department, and the Township Administration Department. Together, the various departments within the township have over 100 years of combined emergency management experience.

2017 WHITEMARSH FIRE MARSHAL CALLS DISPATCHED

Accident stand-by	5	Fire other	9
Appliance	3	Gas Leak-inside	20
Asst. Emerg. Medical Srvc.	1	Gas Leak-outside	27
Asst. Fire Marshal	3	Hazardous Materials Incident	1
Asst. other Twp.	46	Helicopter Landing	22
Asst. PD	1	Officer's Investigation	6
Automatic Fire Alarm	302	Rapid Intervention Team	31
Building Fire Commercial	19	Rescue (11 vehicle, 10 elevator, 1 water)	22
Building Fire Non-Commercial	14	Special Service	2
Building Investigation	14	Unknown	5
Carbon Monoxide Detector	19	Vehicle	11
Cover-up relocate	9	Vehicle leaking fuel	3
Dumpster	2	Water Flow Alarm	5
Electrical Fire-outside	32	Woods	10

TOTAL: 644



The Spring Mill Fire Company has been serving Whitemarsh Township and surrounding communities since 1923 with services that include Firefighting, Swift Water Rescue, Dive Rescue Operations and Fire Police. We are virtually all volunteer and are majority self-funded. We believe every skill fulfills a need at SMFC, from Firefighting and Rescue Operations to running our Administration.

www.springmillfire.com
1210 East Hector St. Conshohocken, PA 19428



BARREN HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY



In 2017, the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company completed 102 years of service to Whitmarsh Township and the surrounding communities. Our volunteers have an unwavering commitment to the safety of our Community; the Community in which we share with you; our neighbors. Our Volunteers spent more than 8,900 personnel hours volunteering their time to emergency responses, trainings and other special service events during 2017. Based on the 2016 average salary of a firefighter, (according to the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics) our 8,900+ hours of volunteer time equates to a savings of more than \$207,000 in personnel hourly wages. Since 1915, our volunteers have been committed to the mission, honorably serving the Community in which we live. Adjectives commonly used to describe our volunteers are HONOR, PRIDE, TRADITION & INTEGRITY. These words are the centerpiece for our commitment to service and also serve as reminders of the hard work and high professional standards that each Volunteer is held accountable for.

Our Volunteers are looking forward to a Fire Safe, 2018. President Renard Rose and Fire Chief Chris Schwartz are always available to answer your questions about the Fire Company. Feel free to give us a call at the Firehouse (610-825-2250), by email (RRose@barrenhill.com, CSchwartz@barrenhill.com) or stop in any Monday night during our training exercises.

The Volunteers of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company appreciate the continued support of the Whitmarsh Township Community.

EVER WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF OUR VOLUNTEERS.....DIDN'T??

Did you know that in the 1970's, according to the Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner's

Office, the number of volunteer firefighters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was estimated at 300,000. Today, Officials estimate that the volunteer rolls in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are a mere 50,000.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! In addition to firefighters, we need administrative volunteers as well to assist with fundraising and other tasks.

For more information, checkout www.barrenhill.com/volunteer or stop by on a Monday night during our training exercises to meet your local Volunteers and see how you can become a part of this first class Organization.

In addition to Firefighting, our Volunteers are doing more and are invested in other aspects of Community, our volunteers are involved in many Community Groups and Organizations. In 2017, BHVFC members participated in the following Community Events:

- **Laurel House's Walk-A-Mile in Her Shoes at Heebner Park, Worcester:** Men raising money and walking against Rape, Sexual Assault and Gender Violence. Team BHVFC was awarded as the highest fundraiser for the event.
- **CHOP Buddy Walk & Family Fun Day, Villanova Stadium:** Members walked during the Children's Hospital Buddy Walk raising money for life altering care, treatment and research that allows young people with Trisomy 21 (Down Syndrome) the opportunities to experience the joys of childhood.
- **Colonial Neighborhood Council Food Drive:** In response to a call for action to support the Colonial Neighborhood Council Food Pantry, our Community filled an entire fire truck with more than 2,100 pounds of food and personal care products that were delivered on December 2, 2018 to the Colonial Neighborhood Council Food Pantry for distribution to our neighbors.



647 Germantown Pk.
Lafayette Hill
PA 19444

610-825-2250

www.barrenhill.com



bariatric ambulance transports, and wheelchair van service. WCAA is committed to aiding the residents of the Township and their medical transport needs.

If you are interested in a tour of our facilities, have questions about the services we provide, or would like to volunteer, please contact Chief Rebecca Werner at WCAA318@whitmarshems.org or 610-828-0955. If you have specific questions regarding transports, please call the transport line, 610-828-3056. Finally, keep an eye out for our annual Fund Drive which will be mailed to all Township residents by June!

DID YOU KNOW.....

Local taxes that are collected by Whitmarsh Township do NOT fully fund the operations of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company. In fact, local tax revenues fund less than 50% of the annual budget of the Fire Company. The balance of the budget is supported through Local, State & Federal Grants, income from the rental of our old Firehouse building (On the Fire Company grounds), income from renting our Banquet Hall and our annual Fund Drive. Sadly, income from our annual fund drive has been steadily declining for the last ten to fifteen years. We need your help to change this trend. We are asking each household to consider supporting our annual Fund Drive request of \$50.00 to help fund the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company. Just think, our annual Fund Drive request of \$50.00, less than \$1.00 per week, is affording each household Fire Protection from highly trained and qualified firefighters 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

2017 Statistics

- 480 Calls for Service - Est. 5,064 Volunteer Hrs
- 1,019 Personnel Training Nights - Est. 3,057 Volunteer Hrs.
- 534 Personnel Special Service Participants - Est. 801 Volunteer Hrs.

TOTAL:

8,922 Volunteer Hours from the members of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company

Whitmarsh Community Ambulance Association (WCAA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a history of over 60 years of service to Whitmarsh Township and neighboring communities. WCAA's service lines include advanced life support (ALS) 911 ambulance service, non-emergency and emergency transports, bariatric ambulance transports, and wheelchair van service. WCAA is committed to aiding the residents of the Township and their medical transport needs.

WHITEMARSH COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION



THE COST OF FIREFIGHTING.....

- Personal Protective Equipment to Outfit one (1) Firefighter - \$3,085.00
- Class A Fire Engine for Fire Company Operations - \$450,000 - \$500,000
- Rescue Truck / Squad Rescue Pumper - \$650,000 - \$750,000
- Tower Ladder for Fire Company Operations - \$1,100,000 - \$1,300,000



501(c)(3) APPROVED

After many months of hard work, the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company was approved as a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization allowing matching gifts from employers and other charitable donations such as Amazon Smile.

HALL RENTAL

Our Hall is available for Rent. Call the Hall Rental Manager at 484-362-9123 or checkout the website www.barrenhill.com/hallrental for information on rates and availability.



Register
By Week!

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP

9-WEEK SUMMER CAMPS

JUNE 18TH - AUGUST 17TH

CEDAR GROVE

REGISTRATION
FOR 2018 IS
FULL!

AGES 3-6

MILES PARK

AGES 6-11

TEEN EXTREME

AGES 12-15

Outdoor games & activities, creative crafts, exciting special events, awesome trips, entertaining visitors, great friends, and so much more!

REGISTER NOW <https://register.communitypass.net/whitemarsh/>

For more info: (610) 828-7276 | Visit us: www.whitemarshparks.org

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP

1-WEEK SPECIALTY SUMMER CAMPS

COOKING CAMP
AGES 7 - 14



6/25 - 6/29

19 CHEERLEADING CAMP
AGES 3 - 10



6/25 - 6/29

DANCE CAMP
AGES 5 - 12



7/16 - 7/20

19 TRACK & FIELD CAMP
AGES 3 - 10



7/30 - 8/3

EFK: AMAZING MECHANISMS
& WILD ANIMALS



AGES 4 - 7
7/23 - 7/27

EFK: LEGO ROBOTICS
ROBO BATTLE



AGES 8 - 12
7/23 - 7/27

...AND
MANY
MORE!

ART & YOGA CAMP
AGES 6 - 9



8/20 - 8/24

REGISTER NOW <https://register.communitypass.net/whitemarsh/>

For more info: (610) 828-7276 | Visit us: www.whitemarshparks.org



PARKS & RECREATION



2017 was a great year of recreational fun for the residents of Whitemarsh Township. The Parks and Recreation Department saw the successful blending of new ideas with the community's signature traditional events and programs. 2017 saw the creation of new programs Purposeful Play, Engineering for Kids, and Indoor Little Kickers to name a few. It also saw the explosion of programs for people of all ages and abilities including Connecting Exceptional People (in coordination with the William Jeanes Memorial Library) and Sing, Sign, and Grow. We were also delighted with the rebirth of the aquatics program at the new PWHS pool after a year hiatus.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

A trademark of the department is the variety of special events throughout the year, and 2017 was no exception with Shredding Day, Township Day, the Mini-Spring Fling, Movies in the Parks, the 4th of July Parade, Touch-A-Truck, the History Tour, Teenie Halloweenie, the Haunted Barn (with an exceptional Family Night), and the Gingerbread House Decorating Party reaching over 10,000 participants. The annual department excursion to the Radio City Music Hall in NYC during the holidays was a delight for all who attended.

SUMMER CAMPS

The Township summer camp programs took place at Miles Park and Cedar Grove Barn with maximum allowed attendance all summer. Specialty camps were offered for tennis, baseball, basketball, soccer, cheerleading, flag football, theatre, cooking, and fitness. In addition, many programming

seasonal staples were on display including yoga, pilates, dance, swimming, kids in motion, afternoon fun club, and messy masters.

DISCOUNT TICKETS:

The discount ticket program flourished as residents took advantage of the discounted admission prices to Hersheypark, Dorney Park, Dutch Wonderland, Disney on Ice, Ski Excursion Destinations, and movie theaters including the Regal, AMC, and the Movie Tavern.

ECOLOGICAL PROGRAMS:

The Township's Greenhouse Program kept up their great annual volunteer efforts, serving as stewards of Koontz Park and maintaining environmentally sensitive areas. In recognition for all the hard work and efforts of the Greenhouse Program volunteers, the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors recognized them at their meeting in July and also dedicated a new bench to be set up next to the Greenhouse at Koontz Park.

Nature was awakened through a partnership with the Whitemarsh Foundation and the creation of the "Summer Family Education Nights at Dixon Meadow Preserve". Programs including birding, nature photography, the monarch butterfly, and nature walks enriched the community during the summer season.

Trees were the excitement of the day when the department joined the Whitemarsh Elementary students to celebrate Arbor Day in April. In the Arbor Day spirit, the Township planted several rows of new trees at Cedar Grove Park.

At the Wells Street Open Space, "Enviroteers" continued invasive management, the creation of trails, and the formation of a meadow area. The stewardship effort was lauded in a case study published in late fall by Natural Lands Trust.

SENIOR PROGRAMS:

Our senior programs showed increased attendance in 2017 with the growing popularity of the "Eat and Enjoy Social Series", comprised of an afternoon of lunch and spirited entertainment for our senior residents each month. The Township also held afternoon card games including bridge, pinochle, and mah jongg for our dedicated groups with coffee and light treats.

FACILITY UPDATES:

Cedar Grove Barn received a facelift on the second floor that included the hardwood floors sanded and refinished with poly, new wash sinks and countertops installed, additional mounting of wall cabinets, and painting. A new fire alarm system with pull stations and strobe lights were also installed at the barn.

At the Miles Park Building, the HVAC system received some necessary upgrades along with the installation of a new ADA ramp.

At the Miles Park playground, accessible swings and a new stand-up see-saw were installed. In addition, player benches were installed at Cedar Grove Park and the Lower Miles Park At the Miles Park Building, the HVAC system received some necessary upgrades along with the installation of a new ADA ramp.

At the Miles Park playground, accessible swings and a new stand-up



see-saw were installed. In addition, player benches were installed at Cedar Grove Park and the Lower Miles Park softball field along with a new storage shed.

As part of the larger Township effort of upgrading all the streetlights and exterior lights to LED's, all the lights at the Township parks system were upgraded to LED's, providing safer conditions and a cost savings to our community.

Lastly, 2017 saw the installation of the "Mini-Libraries" courtesy of the William Jeanes Memorial Library at Koontz Park and Leeland Park.

COMING UP IN 2018:

We are excited as we move ahead in 2018 with the scheduled construction at Miles Park to improve stormwater management, increase accessibility, and upgrade the ballfield areas for player safety (plans and details on page 24-25). In addition, we will be completing the beautification of Cold Point Park at the corner of Butler Pike and Flourtown Road. This pocket park will be a gateway passive park that has a meandering path, benches, and flowering trees (rendering and details on page 25). Finally, we look forward to the opening of our Cedar Grove Barn summer camp for the summer of 2018, which will be a Certified Child Care Center by the Department of Human Services.

As we look back and move forward, the department would like to thank our many great corporate and community partners in 2017 for serving as a foundation for our success throughout the year. We also appreciate the guidance of the Parks and Recreation Board and the support of the Board of Supervisors for their leadership in directing the department to carry out our mission and enhance the quality of life for the residents of Whitemarsh Township.

We are looking forward to a fantastic 2018!



NEW RECREATION SERVICES ASSOCIATE

Emily Labowitz



Hello all! I'm Emily Labowitz and I'm the Recreation Services Associate for Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation. April will mark my first year with the department. I come from a sports management and public administration education background with years of experience managing youth programs. I have a passion for helping others, especially our beloved township residents. I'm looking forward to another year filled with special events, programs, and summer camps!

UPDATE OF THE MILES PARK PROJECT

After several years of analysis and studies of flooding at Miles Park, feedback from residents and all park users, the Township included in the capital improvement plan for Miles Park to address the following issues: Drainage issues that create a challenge for safe conditions of play, incorrect alignment at one of the ballfields allowing for potentially dangerous playing conditions, stormwater improvement needs, and ADA accessibility. The plans put together by the Township Engineer proposed park improvements to the upper portion (adjacent to Joshua Road) of Miles Park and to one little league baseball field in the middle tier of the park adjacent to the surrounding neighborhood. The improvements to the park will address resident concerns for stormwater management and drainage at highest point in the park. In addition, the improvements will address ADA accessibility, pedestrian walkability, green infrastructure, and athlete safety. The project specifically includes: reconstruction and regrading of fields 1 and 2, realignment of field 3, stormwater management, enhanced access, community linkages, and ADA accessibility.

Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The Township was fortunate to be awarded both grants in the amounts of \$200,000 from DCNR and \$196,000 from DCED. The benefits of the project include the elimination of wet field conditions to improve field conditions, increased number of outdoor recreational opportunities, improved park aesthetic, and decreased park maintenance costs. In addition, the beautification with a rain gardens as part of the stormwater management methods will serve as both a stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) but also as part of the park beautification process. The ADA ramp and accessible pathway planned as part of the improvements will provide better connectivity to the Township's trail and sidewalk network. The new connection will link the park to pedestrian facilities along Joshua Road enhancing access to and from residential neighborhoods surrounding the park and community facilities including the high school and the William Jeanes Memorial Library.

After many public discussions at Board of Supervisors meetings and Parks & Recreation meetings, construction of this project is scheduled to begin in the late Spring, 2018. The project duration is expected to be 4-6 months depending on the weather and growing season for the turf. We anticipate this project being completed by the end of 2018 for public usage in the spring of 2019.

In planning for this project, the Township applied for two grants – one through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the other through the

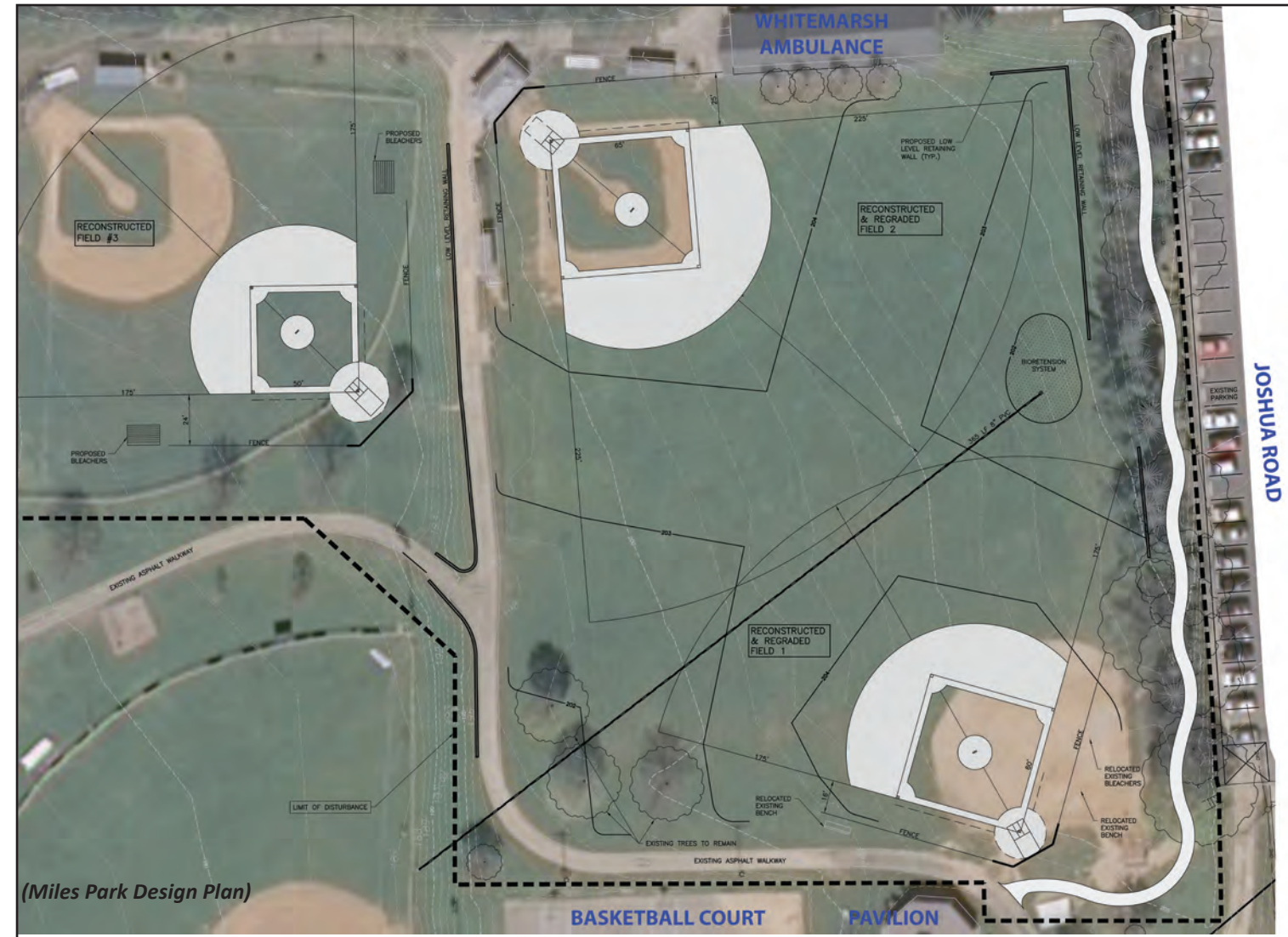
Miles Park is a 25-acre park located at the intersection of Joshua Road and Germantown Pike. Miles Park received a new playground in the summer of 2000 and a tot lot play area in the spring of 2001 with funding assistance from the Patrons of the Whitmarsh Parks.

This park features: Parks & Recreation Building, Playground, Preschool Playground, Swings, Restrooms, 2 softball fields, 5 baseball fields, 2 Basketball Courts, Soccer field, Picnic pavilion, 5/8 Mile exercise path.

The Parks & Recreation Building holds many of the township run programs within the many program rooms located there, including our dance program. Township Day takes place at Miles Park every spring. However, due to the construction scheduled for 2018, Township Day will take place at Victory Fields. You can read more about Township Day on page 4.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

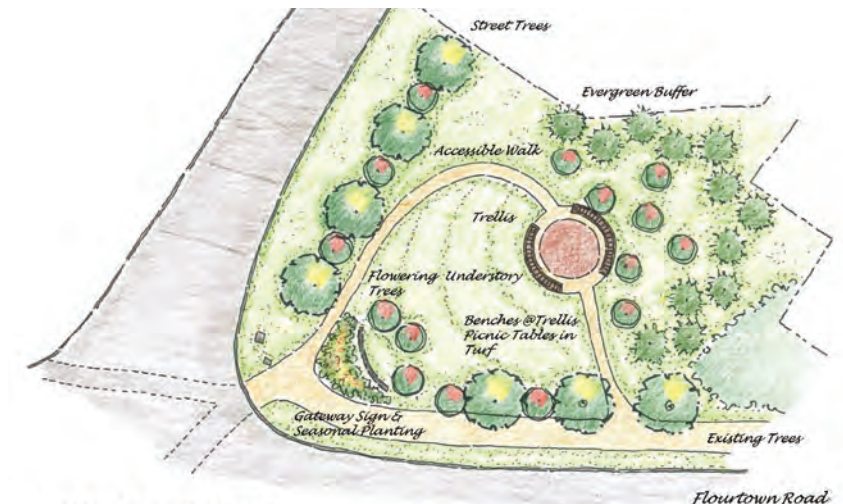
- **Drainage improvements for better stormwater Management**
- **Ball field updates and rearranging for improved safety and access**
- **Trails connection from the William Jeanes Memorial Library down Joshua Road to Miles Park**
- **ADA Accessibility**
- **Rain Garden**



(Miles Park Design Plan)

UPDATE OF THE COLD POINT PARK PROJECT

Whitmarsh Township is proud to announce the preservation and creation of a scenic gateway pocket park at the corner of Butler Pike and Flourtown Road which will be known as Cold Point Park. The parcel was purchased in 2012 with proceeds from the Whitmarsh Township Open Space Fund, and is named after the historic Village of Cold Point. Cold Point Park will be a scenic passive park with a welcoming sign, flowering trees, and seasonal plantings. A highlight of the area will be an internal meandering accessible walkway that leads to a center focal point with a trellis and benches. This beautification project is expected to be completed by the fall of 2018.



COLD POINT PARK Concept Plan

Preservation – both land and historic – plays a substantial role in our Township. From structures in Lafayette Hill that have been restored along Germantown Pike as new gathering places, to land and open space surrounding what were the individual villages throughout Whitmarsh, as a community we work hard to pay homage to our history. There are few organizations so deeply rooted in this cause than The Whitmarsh Foundation. Established in 2001 the Foundation is dedicated to the preservation, conservation and stewardship of the Whitmarsh Valley, and oversees nearly 180 acres of preserved land just beyond the Philadelphia City limits at Erdenheim Farm on what was and remains a gentleman's farm.

Following the successful fundraising and preservation efforts to save Erdenheim Farm from development, in 2014 the Foundation constructed the Dixon Meadow Preserve at the corner of Flourtown and Thomas Roads. Now four years later with its native species of trees and shrubs, and a boardwalk measuring nearly two-thirds of a mile, the Preserve is a mature living laboratory of best practices in meadow management. The efforts of the Foundation are appreciated by the larger community, with

The Dixon Meadow Preserve earning a 2015 Montgomery Award for successful community collaboration, sustainable site design, and habitat creation.

Never to leave a project half completed, the Foundation turned their sights and resources to an 19th century farmhouse overlooking the Preserve and in 2016, the Dixon Meadow House opened its doors as the Foundation headquarters and a hub of environmental education.

Since the summer of 2016, the Foundation has hosted a handful of activities throughout all seasons for those interested in birding, meadow management, flora and fauna and wildlife photography. Last summer, the Whitmarsh Foundation and Whitmarsh Township Parks and Recreation hosted a five-week series for families every [Tuesday] evening to further learn about this important gem in our community.

This summer, throughout July, the two will partner again to offer classes for small to medium sized groups on similar topics, as well as art and exercise.

For a full class offering or to register, visit www.whitmarshfoundation.org.



The current Whitmarsh Township Open Space Plan was formally adopted by the Board of Supervisors on December 21, 2006. The Plan noted that, unique among inner-ring Philadelphia suburbs, Whitmarsh enjoyed an unusually large amount of undeveloped open space, consisting of State, County and Township parkland; six golf courses; state owned historical properties; and privately owned farmland and large estates. These open space resources totaled about 4,000 acres, nearly a third of the Township's 15 square miles.

The Plan stated, "Looking ahead 20 years, Whitmarsh envisions itself as an oasis of green amid the predominant suburban development of southeastern Montgomery County. The Township will be appreciated for its high quality of life, the result of its large expanse of open space and comprehensive network of trails and greenways connecting the region's parks, recreational facilities, natural areas, and social and cultural resources." And one of the Plan's goals was "to establish a permanent substantial dedicated revenue stream to support the Township's open space vision."

So called "Act 153", originally adopted by the Pennsylvania legislature in 1968, authorizes municipalities to impose special real estate or income taxes to be used solely for acquiring "open space benefits" which includes, among other things, preservation of undeveloped land, provided that the tax is authorized in a referendum approved by the voters. In the November 2006 election, 62% of those voting approved a ¼ of 1% tax on earned income, and in December 2006 the Board of Supervisors enacted the tax effective January 1, 2007.

In the 11 year period between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2017, a total of nearly \$18 million in Act 153 taxes has been collected by the Township. During this same 11 year period, the Township has spent nearly \$20 million to acquire properties and/or easements protecting approximately 250 acres in multiple transactions. In addition, the Township's action has leveraged protection of approximately 200 additional acres funded from other sources. All of this has been accomplished without any impact on the Township's operating budget. Subsequent to the Open Space Plan,

the Board of Supervisors adopted the "2009 Township-wide Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan", a comprehensive blue print for a Township-wide plan which would provide bicycle and pedestrian connections between the Township's parks and open spaces. Then in 2013, Act 153 was amended to broaden the purposes for which the funds may be used, including payment of transaction fees and expenses, and, most importantly, to spend a portion "to develop, improve, design engineer and maintain property acquired pursuant to this act for an open space benefit or benefits", to permit the Township to fund the maintenance of properties preserved with Act 153 funds. In addition, through the Township's Flood Prone Property Acquisition Policy adopted in April of 2012, the Township is able to utilize Act 153 funds to preserve lands that can be used for stormwater management.

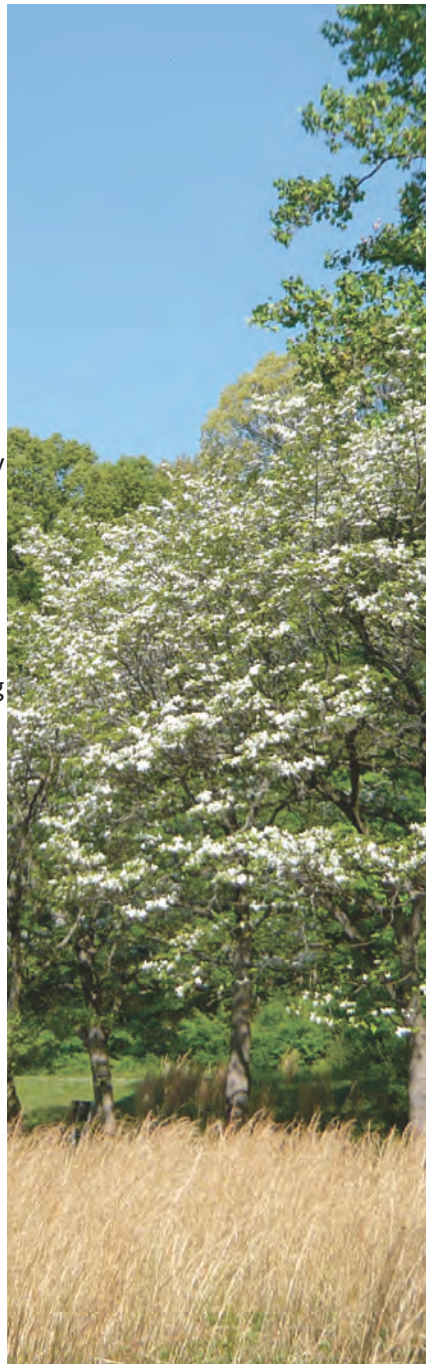
Funded primarily with Act 153 funds, during the last 11 years the Township has made substantial progress towards the Open Space Plan's goals, all accomplished without burdening the operating budget. The following are open space purchases made since the inception of the Act 153 funds:

- 2008-2009: Erdenheim Farm. 450 acre Erdenheim Farm, including the purchase by the Whitmarsh Foundation of the 98 acre "Angus Tract" and 90 acres of the "Sheep Tract".
- 2008: East 33 (31 acres)
- 2011: Wells & Cedar Grove Open Space (23 acres)
- 2012 – 2014: 4 FEMA Properties (totaling approximately 2 acres) – Act 153 funds were used to purchase these properties for open space preservation and secured reimbursement from FEMA for the costs.
- 2013: Christie Circle (.25 acre)
- 2016: Joshua Hill (12 acres)

Without the critical Township financial support afforded by Act 153, it is probable that the Farm and all the other open space purchases in the last ten years would not have been preserved and likely would have been lost to development.

The Open Space Committee appreciates and thanks the Board of Supervisors for its vision and leadership in preserving and protecting open space.

Whitmarsh Township Open Space Committee





WILLIAM JEANES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

4051 Joshua Road, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
610-828-0441 • jeaneslibrary.org • jeanesinfo@mclinc.org

See our website for more special programs for adult, teen & general audiences.

ADULT EVENTS

WEEKLY

Open Game Play, Tuesdays 4:00 - 7:30 PM
Drop in for mah jongg, canasta, bridge, or your game of choice. No registration required.

Dropped Stitches, Tuesdays 6:00 - 7:45 PM
Experienced crafters welcome at this self-guided group. No registration required.

Gentle Yoga, Tuesdays 2:30 - 3:30 PM
Postures, meditation, and more. See website for cost and schedule. Drop-ins welcome.

Qi Gong, Thursdays 10:00 - 11:30 AM
Slow moving form of meditation. See website for cost and schedule. Drop-ins welcome.

Tai Chi for Health, Fridays 10:00 - 11:30 AM
Gentle, flowing and challenging exercise. See website for cost and schedule. Drop-ins welcome.

Career Networking, Fridays 9:30 - 11:30 AM
Support and networking group for those who are unemployed or in transition. Registration required. See website for details and schedule.

MONTHLY

Book Clubs come together on the **3rd Wednesday at 3:00 PM**, and **3rd Thursday at 6:30 PM**. Visit the website for a schedule of books and discussion guides. No registration required.

Movie Matinees are held on the **2nd Monday** and **Last Wednesday at 1:30 PM** to screen a newly-released DVD.*

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Music and History of the African Kora Harp by Sean Gaskell, March 15 from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. Join musician and scholar Sean Gaskell as he demonstrates the beauty of this multi-stringed instrument.*

Armchair Traveler: the Trans-Siberian Experience—March 29 from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. Join resident Dinyar Chavda as he shows slides and shares tales from his trek on the Trans-Siberian railroad.

One Book, One MontCo, April 4: See Amor Towles, author of bestselling *A Gentleman in Moscow*, at 2:00 PM at Ursinus College's Bomberger Auditorium in Collegeville or at 7:00 PM at Keneseth Israel Synagogue in Elkins Park. Book sale and signing to follow both events.

Red Cross Blood Drive, April 23 from 2:00 - 7:00 PM. Give the gift of life by donating blood! Help fill a need in the Greater Philadelphia Area. Register at redcrossblood.org or call Adam at 610-828-0441 ext. 103.

For additional information please visit our website at jeaneslibrary.org or contact Adam Gilbert-Cole, Adult Services and Reference Librarian 610-828-0441 ext. 103 or acole@mclinc.org.

*Sponsored by the Friends of William Jeanes Memorial Library.

TEEN EVENTS

MONTHLY

Youth Advisory Board (YAB) meets on the **1st Friday from 4:30 - 6:00 PM**. Teens grades 6-12 help create, plan, and implement teen programs for the William Jeanes Memorial Library.

The Q-Crew meets on the **2nd Wednesday from 6:00 - 7:30 PM**. LGBTQ+ teens and allies are invited to join the Library's Q-Crew! Come discuss past and current topics, issues, and events in a safe space. Plus, snacks and a craft.

Middle School Book Club is held on the **3rd Monday from 6:30 - 7:30 PM**. Are you in grades 6-8 and love to read? Join us in the Teen Space to discuss great books! Snacks provided. Copies of the book are on display in library.

Anime Club happens on the **4th Monday from 6:00 - 7:30 PM**. Bring your friends (and make new ones!) as you discuss and watch some of your favorite anime.

For additional information, dates and times of monthly and special events, please visit our website at jeaneslibrary.org or contact Sara Huff, Teen Librarian 610-828-0441 ext. 113 or shuff@mclinc.org.

CONNECTING EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE

a social series for young adults with special needs and abilities

3rd Friday of Every Month from 6:00 - 9:00 PM

March 16th - Robotics

April 20th - Mad Science

May 18th - Murder Mystery Party

June 15th - Lawn Games and BBQ

For additional information, dates and times of monthly and special events, please visit our website at jeaneslibrary.org or contact Deborah Moore, Operations and Public Relations Manager 610-828-0441 ext. 107 or dmoore@mclinc.org.



LIBRARY HOURS & CLOSURES

Monday, 12:00 - 8:00 PM

Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday & Saturday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday, 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Closed 3/31-4/1 and 5/26-28.

CHILDRENS EVENTS

SPRING CHILDREN'S STORYTIMES*

April 10th through May 24th

Babes & Books (0-18 mos.)
Tuesdays, 11:00 or 11:30 AM

Mother Goose (18-36 mos.)
Wednesdays, 11:15 AM or Thursdays, 10:15 AM

Tales for Tots (3-4 yrs.)
Wednesdays, 10:15 AM or Thursdays, 11:15 AM

Sensory Storytime (3 yrs. & up)
Tuesdays, 10:00 AM. Registration required.

Leap Into Literature (1st-3rd grade)
Wednesdays, 4:15 PM. Check website for dates.

Pajama Storytime
Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:15 PM, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd, and June 13th

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS*

Enjoy a family-friendly screening of a recently released or favorite movie!

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:45 PM, April 11, May 9, and June 6

SPECIAL EVENTS

Paws and Read
Wednesdays, March 21 and April 18, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Kids practice reading with a certified therapy dog.

Tree Huggers
presented by the *Delaware Museum of Natural History***
Monday, March 26, 1:30 - 2:15 PM
A story time of *The Tree Lady* with follow-up live animals that help plant trees!

Joan Proctor, Dragon Doctor
presented by the *Delaware Nature Society***
Tuesday, March 27, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
The story of the woman who loved reptiles! Come for the story, stay for the live reptiles.

Wonder Woman (PG-13, Warner Home Video ©2017)*
Thursday, March 29, 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
A special screening for Women's History Month.

Big Kids' Music Class with Learn Listen Play*
Friday, March 30, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Elementary-age kids come play with musical instruments and songs of all types.

Kids' Music Classes with Learn Listen Play*
First Monday of every month, 4:00 - 5:00 PM
For kids 2-7. Have some fun and learn to love music!



Thank you to everyone who came to support the library on Star Wars Day, and to have some far, far away fun!

Adventures in Poetry by *Bright Star Touring Theatre*
Saturday, April 14, 2018, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
For children in 3rd - 8th grade. Lenny and Mabel share their love of poetry, from nursery rhymes to Shakespeare, with the audience. Sponsored by the William Jeanes Memorial Library Nancy Corson Creative Writing Fund.

Music, Bubble, and Comedy Show for Kids of All Abilities
presented by *Turtle Dance Music*
Wednesday, May 30th, 2018, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

SUMMER AT WJN

June 16th - August 11th, 2018

Stay tuned for some exciting summer plans for kids of all ages, including lots of reading, a dinosaur dig, music, live animals, theatre, art, comedy, magic, and more! Sponsored by Subaru of America, Inc. and the Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library.

**Sponsored by Longwood Gardens and the Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library

*Sponsored by the Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library

For additional information, dates and times of monthly and special events, please visit our website at jeaneslibrary.org or contact Rachel Fecho, Children's Librarian 610-828-0441 ext. 104 or rfecho@mclinc.org



SAVE THE DATES

WINE, CHOCOLATE AND CHEESE TASTING FUNDRAISER AT THE LIBRARY

April 7 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Contact the library for more info and to get your tickets.

FRIENDS OF THE WILLIAM JEANES MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOOK SALE

April 21 and 22

Annual book sale! Drop by and find some great deals on used books and more.

News & Events

Thank you for taking the time to see what's going on at the Whitemarsh Art Center. We have a lot to offer in the coming months. We hope you will make the time to join us for a class, workshop or event!

When my daughter was about 7 years old, she asked me what I did for work. I told her my job was to teach people how to draw. She stared at me, incredulous, and said, 'You mean they forget?'

~Howard Ikemoto

Register Now for Spring Term

This 10-week term begins the week of March 19th. Please register early to guarantee your spot.

Enter Our 5th Annual Plein Air Paint Out Day



"Apple Blossoms" by Valerie Craig

Win cash prizes! Saturday, May 5th, 8 AM - 4 PM

Painting drop-off at 5 PM

Reception and awards announced at 6:30 PM

Juror: Valerie Craig

We are honored to have Valerie Craig, a highly respected teacher and award winning plein air painter, as our juror. Valerie has a new show opening February 11th, "Shared Space," featuring new works with Martin Campos at the Wayne Art Center.

Paint anywhere in Whitemarsh, the Borough of Conshohocken, Maple Acres Farm, the Morris Arboretum and the newly added Dixon Meadow Preserve.

We are pleased to add the Dixon Meadow Preserve to our list of participating sites for our painters to use during our 5th Plein Air Paint Out Day. We thank Kim Sheppard and the Whitemarsh Foundation for preserving this beautiful open space and inviting us to enjoy its 14-acre meadow for this event.

Tickets are now available for our gala event:

A Hundred for One Hundred



Saturday, May 19th, 4-6PM

The Whitemarsh Art Center will be hosting our *A Hundred for One Hundred* raffle from 4 PM to 6 PM at the Historic Hope Lodge. The formal gardens will be in full bloom and we will augment the beauty of the site with music, light fare and an open bar.

Each \$100 raffle entry is a guaranteed winner!

For each \$100 ticket purchased, two guests are admitted and each ticket has a raffle number that will be randomly selected, entitling you to one work of fine art from our *A Hundred for One Hundred* exhibit.

Guest passes are also available for \$25. These passes do not include a raffle entry, but everyone can participate in silent auctions for select pieces of art from our collection.

Annual Fund Campaign Update



Our annual fund campaign has an ambitious but attainable goal of \$10,000. At this time, we are more than halfway there.

Your gift will be used carefully and with appreciation to close the gap between the tuition we receive and the actual costs of producing our high quality art classes and events. Please support our mission to enrich our community by fostering inspiration, appreciation and engagement in the arts for people of all ages and abilities. Make your tax deductible contribution today.

Calling all artists

Interested in participating in the next Montgomery County Open Studio Tour?

Our doors are open Saturday, June 9th and Sunday, June 10th.

For more information visit:

www.montgomerycountystudiotour.com

Volunteer your time

Do you have a few hours a week? A month? A year? We are currently accepting applications for both our Board of Directors and our Volunteer/Auxiliary Board. The Whitemarsh Art Center might be a great place for you to share your time.

For More Information on Classes and Events

Visit us online at whitemarsharts.org or contact us at (610) 825-0917 / office@whitemarsharts.org

2018 ROAD PAVING PROGRAM



Expected to start in early summer of 2018 to complete by the end of summer, 2018.

- Pear Tree Lane (Sugar Maple to the bridge at Andorra Creek)
- Spring Mill Road (Black Walnut to Butler)
- Spring Mill Road (Hunter to Black Walnut)
- Spring Mill Road (Ridge to Hunter)
- Spring Mill Road (2039 Spring Mill to Lisa)
- Lee Street (Spring Mill to Hector)
- Corson Road (Spring Mill to Taylor)
- Malan Drive (Spring Mill to Ridge)
- Laubert Road (Spring Mill to Corson)
- Taylor Road (Spring Mill to Cedar Grove)
- Rose Terrace (Thomas to the cul-de-sac)
- Fields Drive (Westaway to the dead end)
- Kottler Drive (Thomas to Pine Tree)
- Revere Road (Joshua to Lantern)
- Concord Road (Joshua to Lantern)
- Lantern Lane (Joshua to Revere)
- Westaway Drive (Germantown to MacNiff)
- Westaway Drive (MacNiff to Fields)
- Westaway Drive (Fields to the dead end)
- Fox Lane (Westaway to the dead end)
- MacNiff Drive (Westaway to Fields)
- Bradley Place (Westaway to the cul-de-sac)
- Hunter Road (Spring Mill to the dead end)
- Presidential & Hain Drive (Kottler to Thomas)
- Tracey Road (Spring Mill to Laurence)
- Laurence Place (Tracey to the cul-de-sac)
- Lisa Lane (Spring Mill to the cul de-sac)

STREETS & ROADS

There are 4 types of roads in Whitmarsh Township: state roads, county roads, township roads and private roads. Maintenance of the roads includes: line painting, signing, signaling, street sweeping, lighting, paving, plowing, drainage and other maintenance (potholes).

PennDot

The following roads are state roads, owned and maintained by PennDot:

- Germantown Pike
- Butler Pike (South of North Lane)
- Bethlehem Pike
- Skippack Pike
- Pennsylvania Avenue
- Morris Road
- Church Road
- PennDot can be reached at 610-205-6700.
- Joshua Road
- Flourtown Road
- Barren Hill Road
- Cedar Grove Road

- Stenton Avenue
- Militia Hill Road
- East Valley Green Road

Montgomery County (610-278-3613)

The following roads are County Roads, owned and maintained by Montgomery County:

- Ridge Pike
- Butler Pike (north of North Lane)
- W. Vally Green Road Bridge

Whitmarsh Township

All other roads (with the exception of private roads) within Whitmarsh Township are owned and maintained by the township. A comprehensive list of all township maintained roads can be found in the Township Code Book.

Private roads are owned and maintained by residents along these roads. Typically homeowners or civic associations collect fees to ensure these roads are maintained properly.

Montgomery County is now part of the newly revised county-wide spotted lanternfly quarantine. This insect is a potential threat to several important crops in our region.

This quarantine affects Whitmarsh Township, even though the spotted lanternfly hasn't shown up here yet. Although this is a bug that we're still learning more about, destroying egg masses is a proactive strategy to take, as this has the potential to hugely impact the regional agriculture and economy.

If you find a spotted lanternfly, you should try to capture it and put it into a vial filled with alcohol to kill and preserve it, or at least take a good picture of it. Report it to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) by emailing to: badbug@pa.gov or call the Invasive Species Hotline at 1-866-253-7189. In addition, any spotted lanternfly found should be destroyed. This insect is considered a threat to crops and many people are working to try to prevent it from spreading. Each female will lay up to 100 eggs or more in the fall, so by destroying even one female, you are reducing the potential population for the future.

In the late summer and fall, the spotted lanternfly prefers feeding on *Ailanthus altissima*, commonly known as the "Tree of Heaven." They can be found feeding on other plants and trees, but if you have *Ailanthus altissima*, you should start searching for spotted lanternfly on those trees. The spotted lanternfly is not known to bite humans. You can kill spotted lanternflies mechanically, by swatting or crushing them. However, when you threaten them, they are able to quickly jump far away from you, so mechanical control is not easy to achieve.



*Photos courtesy of Park et al. 2009. Biological Characteristics of *Lycorma delicatula* and the Control Effects of Some Insecticides.

(A) Spotted Lanternfly showing the fore and hind wings (B) Resting against bark (C) Lateral view (D) Early nymphs (E) Late nymphs (F) Feeding on wild *Vitis* sp. (G) Weeping sap trail on tree (H) Egg mass covered in waxy coating (I) Old hatched egg mass on a trunk.

Identification:

The Spotted Lanternfly adult is approximately 1" long and 1/2" wide at rest. The forewing is grey with black spots and the wings tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in grey (A, B, C). The hind wings have contrasting patches of red and black with a white band (A). The legs and head are black; the abdomen is yellow with broad black bands. Immature stages are black with white spots, and develop red patches as they grow (D,E).

Hosts:

In the fall, adults congregate on tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) (F), willows (*Salix* sp.), and other trees, in groups of up to 20. Egg masses will be laid on medium to large trees, on trunk, branches, and limb bases. After hatching in the spring, nymphs will move off the tree and search out new hosts, including several kinds of agricultural crops. In Korea, it has been reported to attack 65 different species, 25+ of which are known to grow in Pennsylvania.

Signs and Symptoms:

Trees, such as tree of heaven and willow, will develop weeping wounds. These wounds will leave a greyish or black trail along the trunk (G). This sap will attract other insects to feed, notably wasps and ants. In late fall, adults will lay egg masses on host trees and nearby smooth surfaces like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and structures. Newly laid egg masses have a grey mud-like covering which can take on a dry cracked appearance over time (H). Old egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed-like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk, roughly an inch long (I).

What to do:

If you see egg masses, scrape them off, double bag them and throw them away. You can also place the eggs into alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them. Please report all destroyed egg masses on our website listed below.

Collect a specimen: Specimens of any life stage can be turned in to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Entomology lab for verification. Directions for submission are on the reverse side of this alert.

Take a picture: A photograph of any life stage (including egg masses) can be submitted to Badbug@pa.gov.

Report a site: If you can't take a specimen or photograph, call the Automated Invasive Species Report Line at 1-866-253-7189 and leave a message detailing your sighting and contact information.

For up to date information, visit: www.pda.state.pa.us/spottedlanternfly

By: Lawrence Barringer, Entomologist
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture





HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

2018 MONTGOMERY COUNTY PA RESIDENTIAL EVENTS

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

DATES:

Saturday, April 21

Boyertown Jr. High East School
2020 Big Rd. • Gilbertsville

Saturday, May 5

Indian Valley Middle School
130 Maple Ave. • Harleysville

Saturday, May 19

Temple University–Ambler Campus
enter at 1431 E. Butler Pike • Ambler

Saturday, June 23

Abington Junior High School
enter at 2056 Susquehanna Rd. • Abington

Saturday, June 30

Norristown Area High School
1900 Eagle Dr. • Norristown
(enter at Whitehall Rd.)

Saturday, September 22

Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center
400 South Lewis Rd. • Royersford

SUNDAY, October 21

Lower Merion Transfer Station
1300 N. Woodbine Ave. • Penn Valley

Free residential collection events are held outdoors from 9am-3pm. Residents may attend any Household Hazardous Waste event held by Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia Counties.

For additional information and in case of severe weather:

Please visit MontcoPARecycles.org, email recycling@montcopa.org, or call the recycling line at 610.278.3618. Please do not contact the host sites, as they are not affiliated with the events.

In case of severe weather, call 610.278.3618, option 6 for event status.



Pennsylvania Department
of Environmental
Protection



MONTCO PA
RECYCLES



MontcoPARecycles.org



ONLINE SALE

COMPOST BINS & RAIN BARRELS

2018 MONTGOMERY COUNTY PA EVENT

Pickup date and location for PREORDERED items:

Saturday, June 2 Norristown Farm Park

9:00 am - Noon

2500 Upper Farm Road (Entrance at the intersection of
Germantown Pike and North Wales Road)
Norristown, PA

Purchase discounted backyard compost bins and rain barrels online. The Earth Machine Compost Bin is on sale for \$50 and the System Rain Barrel is on sale for \$65, see website for details. Additional items such as aerators and kitchen scrap buckets may also be purchased online.

Preorder by May 19 for pick up at Norristown Farm Park on Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 9:00 am to noon. All items must be preordered online, no same day sales.

Order through the sale website at www.montgomerycompostersale.ecwid.com.

Montgomery County has organized this event to encourage composting and rain barrel use; it is not a fundraiser.



MONTCO PA
RECYCLES



MontcoPARecycles.org

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH, Chair • Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr., Vice Chair • Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

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Whitemarsh Township
616 Germantown Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
whitemarshtwp.org

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LIONS CLUB OF WHITEMARSH
PRESENTS



Sponsored By:



Sponsored By:



4TH OF JULY
PARADE



Wednesday, July 4th

10:00am

Starts at Barren Hill Fire Company

Please Note: Due to staging locations, some groups may not enter the parade route until the Township Administration Building