

Spring 2021

Whitemarsh
1704
PENNSYLVANIA



THE NEWSLETTER OF
WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP

Living



1704



A great place to live and work!

saveprotectvolunteer.com

WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

We do more than fight fires.

Our team members juggle productive and dynamic careers in all different fields, from accounting to teaching. In addition to their professional lives, members also manage households while still carrying out emergency services and protection of their community. If you're ready to enhance your community involvement and make volunteering apart of your life, consider becoming a member of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company or Spring Mill Fire Company No. 1.



BE COURAGEOUS & VOLUNTEER TODAY!



BARREN HILL
Volunteer Fire Company

610-825-2250

647 Germantown Pike • Lafayette Hill, PA

SPRING MILL
Fire Company No. 1

610-825-1164

1210 E Hector Street • Conshohocken, PA



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)

Living INSIDE

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Greetings Neighbors!

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Following a challenging year and a harsh winter, the arrival of spring is truly a welcome sight! Make sure your spring-cleaning to-do list includes dusting off your bike or running shoes. Whitemarsh Township was recently named one of Pennsylvania's Best Cities for Fit Lifestyles, by barbend.com! My sincere thanks go out to the Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments for their hard work keeping our Township Park System in great shape at a time when recreation is more important than ever.

In keeping with the Board's commitment to inclusivity and transparency, we have sought volunteers from our various advisory boards to participate in three separate steering committees: The Miracle Nature Trail, the Zoning Update, and the Multi-Modal connections study of Washington Street and the Riverfront at Spring Mill Station. We cannot thank these volunteers – who already give so much of their time toward important Township efforts- enough.

The Miracle Nature Trail is proposed to run under the existing power lines beginning at Butler Pike (across from Wawa) and ending around Spring Mill Fire Company. The Zoning Update Steering Committee will be working to implement tenants of the recently passed Selective Comprehensive Plan Update into the Chapter 105 Ordinance which regulates development standards. Finally, the Washington Street Steering Committee will research circulation issues in the Spring Mill area including river access, pedestrian access to the train station, and conflicts between vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic. Updates to these processes are available on the Township website in the Parks and Recreation Department's page.

The Board and I would also like to sincerely thank all members of our many advisory boards. Throughout the pandemic, you have all adapted to the numerous challenges we have faced, allowing important Township business to proceed

uninterrupted. In doing so, you have helped the board and township staff maintain a high level of services to residents. Well done!

The significance of mental health services and maintaining a state of well-being in these times cannot be overstated. While the end of the pandemic is ever-nearing, many of our neighbors continue to feel the effects of loss and isolation. The Board of Supervisors is humbled by the community's response and support of organizations like Colonial Neighborhood Council and Chestnut Hills Meals on Wheels who have played a lifesaving role to our most vulnerable residents. Please continue to do your part by donating goods and sharing resources with your neighbors and loved ones.

Those in need of assistance or know individuals in need of assistance can locate resources by contacting the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. The Community Connections Office assists residents in finding a variety of human services, including mental health services, housing assistance, and more.

Once again, thank you to all our residents, volunteers, and staff who have leaned into the challenges head on. The Board of Supervisors welcomes input from residents with concerns, ideas, and questions. We can be reached by e-mail through the website, by mail addressed to the township building, or during our Board Meetings. Be sure to check the website for agendas, meeting materials, and links to our Board Zoom meetings. We look forward to a time when we can once again meet with you in-person.

Be well, Whitemarsh!

Laura Boyle Nester

Laura Boyle Nester
Chair, Board of Supervisors



YOUR WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Laura Boyle Nester
Chair



Fran McCusker
Vice-Chair



Michael Drossner



Vincent Manuele



Jacy Toll

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Foster relationships. **L**ink to resources. **A**dvocate for you. **C**onnect with you.



DO YOU NEED HELP AND DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

WE CAN HELP YOU:

- Navigate the human services system
- Better understand services available to you
- Make referrals to organizations that will best address your needs

WE CAN HELP LINK YOU TO RESOURCES:

- Services for seniors
- Mental health services
- Drug & alcohol services
- Employment
- Child care
- Housing
- Food
- *And more!*

HOURS

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Monday through Friday



PHONE

610-278-3522
(FLAC)



LOCATIONS

Lansdale: 421 West Main Street

Norristown: 1430 DeKalb Street, 1st Floor

Pottstown: 364 King Street

Willow Grove: 102 N York Road, 1st Floor

www.montcopa.org/communityconnections

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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



Montgomery County
Office of Community Connections



@HSMontcoPA



TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S YEAR IN REVIEW | 2020



The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all this past year in many ways. The new norm has included mask wearing, social distancing, hand washing and virtual meetings. During the entire pandemic I am proud of the employees at Whitemarsh Township for continuing to provide all services to the public with limited to no interruptions. I especially want to thank our Police, Fire and EMS, and Public Works for keeping the community safe during this time.

We all had to find creative ways to adapt to the changes caused by the pandemic. The Township was no different. For example, our Parks and Recreation Department was able to connect to our residents through their weekly virtual e-blasts. Interactive games for the kids, visiting places across the globe with their 'Stay-cation' or participating in a virtual magic show were great diversions from the difficult circumstances we all faced. The popular 'Take Out Tuesday' highlighted restaurants in the community which have been challenged due to the pandemic restrictions.

The Board of Supervisors and other volunteer Boards and Commissions had to adapt to virtual meetings for the past year. We have all spent many more hours than we ever expected on Zoom meetings to conduct business, but it has allowed the operations of our government to continue working and moving forward.

Given the fiscal challenges created by the pandemic the Board of Supervisors worked hard to adopt a balanced \$25 million dollar budget for 2021 with no increase to Township real estate taxes. The budget includes a three-year \$5.4 million dollar capital improvement plan.

We have completed several capital projects in 2020 which included the Miles Park Improvement Grant Project. New ballfields, stormwater enhancements, ADA accessible walking paths are some of the park improvements afforded by this grant. Also, we completed two more intersection improvements at Stenton Avenue and Flourtown Road/Cricket Road and Stenton Avenue and Joshua Road which allow for safer travel through this area of the Township.

I am excited to announce the following new employees joined the Whitemarsh Township organization over the last year;

- Kevin Barron, Finance Director
- Kyle Mason, Police Officer
- Rob Vandegriff, P&R Dept.

We welcome Kevin, Kyle, & Rob to the organization and I look forward to their contributions to the Whitemarsh community.

I encourage you to sign up for the Township weekly e-newsletter by visiting the Township website homepage, scrolling to the bottom right and clicking on the 'Sign Up Here' link. Simply enter your

e-mail address and you will receive the news to keep up to date with Township information and meeting schedules.

With spring upon us comes warmer weather and we are getting outside to enjoy the many Township amenities. Please continue to follow appropriate CDC, State and local guidelines related to the pandemic. To all the residents and businesses in Whitemarsh Township, stay safe and have an enjoyable spring and summer seasons!

Sincerely,

Richard L. Mellor, Jr.

Richard L. Mellor, Jr.
Township Manager

Whitemarsh
PENNSYLVANIA 1704



Richard L. Mellor, Jr.
Township Manager



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

@WHITEMARSTOWNSHIP



WHITEMARSH WEEKLY



TOWNSHIP NEWS SENT STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX!

Stay up to date on everything that's happening in Whitemarsh Township, by signing up to receive the **Whitemarsh Weekly E-Newsletter** in your e-mail!

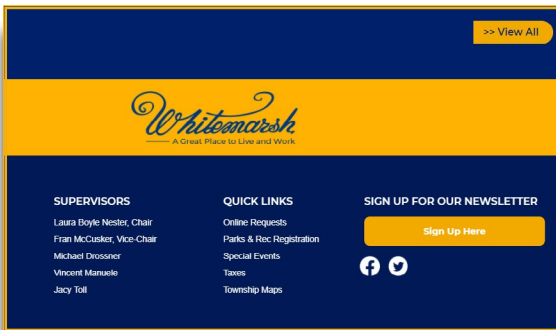
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Visit the Whitemarsh Township website at www.whitemarshstp.org



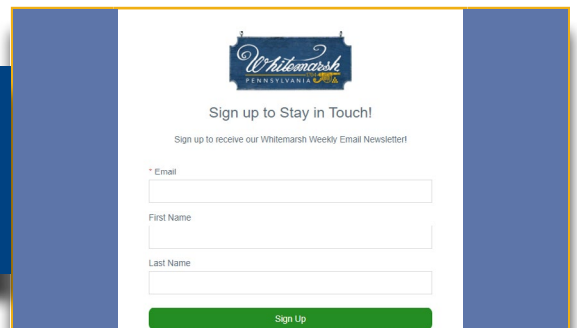
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Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the **Sign Up Here Button.**



3

Fill out the information requested on the form that pops up, and click **Sign Up** to finish!



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department is responsible for the administration of activities pertaining to the receipt, expenditure, accounting, investment, custody and control of municipal funds and assets. The Finance Department performs the following functions:

- Collects and receives all taxes and other moneys due or receivable by the township or authorizes other municipal or service units to do so under prescribed procedures
- Collects and receives all taxes and other moneys due or receivable by the township or authorizes other municipal or service units to do so under prescribed procedures
- Develop all tax rolls, which are not prepared by other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth
- Administer a system for the collection of municipal tax claims and liens in accordance with law
- Maintain a uniform accounting system in accordance with the Pennsylvania State chart of accounts and generally accepted principles of governmental accounting
- Prepare books and records in accordance with generally accepted principle of governmental accounting
- Prepare and disburse all payments for authorized expenditures and payrolls
- Deposit moneys in depositories authorized by the Board of Supervisors, consistent with generally accepted governmental financial practices
- Provide for the prudent investment of moneys in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- Assist in the preparation, maintenance and reporting of financial plans and budgets
- Assist in the administration of the purchasing system and Township contracts
- Advise the Township Manager and Board of Supervisors on Township fiscal matters

The department is headed by the Finance Director who also serves as the Tax Collector for the Township. Under contract with Montgomery County, the department also collects real estate taxes for Montgomery County.

CONTACT US

616 Germantown Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
(610) 825-3535
Mon-Fri
8:30am-4:30pm

REAL ESTATE TAXES

The Township now contracts with Berkheimer to collect property taxes.

PAYMENT METHODS

ONLINE



YOU MAY PAY ONLINE AT WWW.HAB-INC.COM OR BY PHONE (866)225-8451 WITH A CREDIT CARD, CHECKING OR SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS CAN BE REQUESTED ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://WWW.HAB-INC.COM/REAL-ESTATE-TAX-RECEIPT-REQUEST-FORM/](https://www.hab-inc.com/real-estate-tax-receipt-request-form/)

IN-PERSON



W. 4TH ST, BRIDGEPORT, PA 19405 - BERKHEIMER OFFICE

(THIS OFFICE IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DUE TO COVID-19)

BY-MAIL



BERKHEIMER, PO BOX 25144, LEHIGH VALLEY PA 18002-5144

TAXPAYERS WHO WANT A PAID RECEIPT MUST INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WITH THEIR PAYMENT

***CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED**

****TITLE COMPANIES:** If you need a tax certificate for 2021 taxes you can call Berkheimer at (610)599-3143 or you can request on the following website: <https://www.hab-inc.com/real-estate-tax-certification-request-form/>

TAX DISCOUNTS & PENALTIES

Residents who pay their current year's Township and County Real Estate Taxes by April 30 receive a 2% discount, while township and county taxes paid after June 30 are subject to a 10% penalty. If a Whitemarsh Township property owner does not pay their township and county taxes by December 31 of the year, these delinquent tax accounts are turned over to the Montgomery County Tax Claim Bureau and subject to lien. Taxes paid after December 31 of the year may be subject to an additional 5% fee, pursuant to County, Municipal, and School District Ordinances or Resolutions.

Keep in mind that the Colonial School District's Real Estate Taxes are due to the Colonial School District. For information on where to pay, call Northeast Revenue at 484-681-9231.

2021 REAL ESTATE TAX BILL DUE DATES

The last day for Discount Period payments for 2021 County and Township Real Estate Tax will be on Friday April 30, 2021. Payments not made on or before April 30, 2021 will not be eligible for the 2% discount.

Payments received or postmarked after April 30, 2021 will be applied to the face period and must satisfy the face period amount. Payments can be made one of three ways: By-mail, online, or in-person. Please note, in-person payments should be made at the Berkheimer office in Bridgeport. The Township Building can accept payments, but cannot provide a receipt.

If payments are made by mail, the payment must be post marked by midnight April 30, 2021 in order to receive the discount.



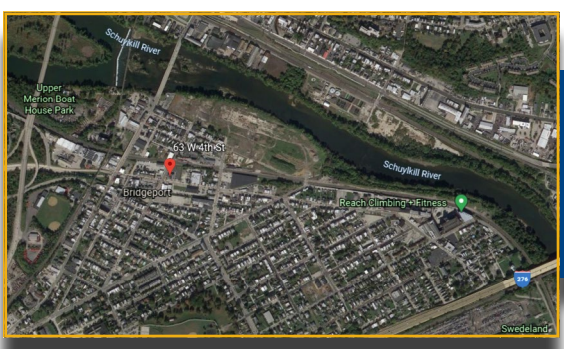
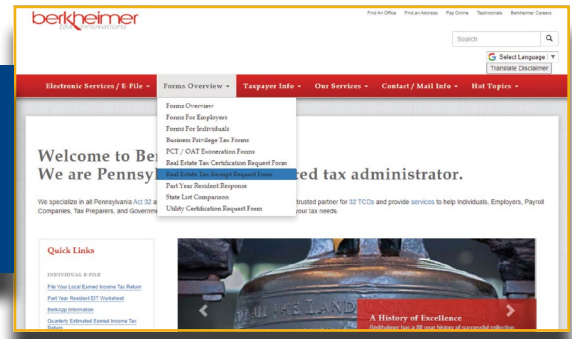
2021 REAL ESTATE TAX UPDATE



WHITEMARSH NOW CONTRACTED WITH BERKHEIMER

In-person payments are still accepted at the Whitemarsh Township Building, but we will no longer provide a receipt. Those who want a receipt should pay Berkheimer directly through any of these methods.

1 **PAY ONLINE (WWW.HAB-INC.COM) OR BY PHONE (866-225-8451)**
 Credit Card or Checking/Savings Account accepted.
 (a third-party fee will apply)
TO REQUEST A TAX RECEIPT:
 +Go To "FORMS OVERVIEW"
 +Click "REAL ESTATE TAX RECEIPT REQUEST FORM"



2 **PAY IN-PERSON AT THE BRIDGEPORT BERKHEIMER OFFICE**
 63 W. 4TH ST.
 BRIDGEPORT, PA 19403
 1-(866)-225-8451
OFFICE HOURS
 9:00AM - 12:30PM & 1:30PM - 4:00PM

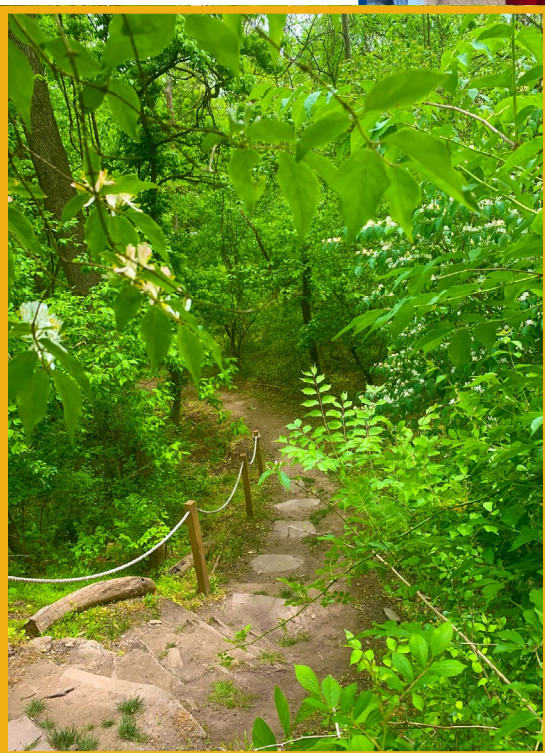
3 **MAIL PAYMENTS TO BERKHEIMER**
 BERKHEIMER, PO BOX 25144
 LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 18002-5144
TO RECEIVE A TAX RECEIPT:
 You **MUST** include a stamped, self-addressed, envelope with your payment. **NO CASH PAYMENTS ACCEPTED!**

How To Mail a Self-Addressed-Stamped Envelope

Step 1 Address an Envelope to THE COMPANY and put a stamp on it

Step 2 Address an Envelope to YOURSELF and put a stamp on it AND put it into Envelope #1

PARKS & RECREATION



2020.....What a year!

For the Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation Department it was a year filled with fear, hardship, uncertainty, passion, strength, creativity, and perseverance. The Parks and Recreation Team bonded with the community and together found outdoor parks and open spaces played a key component as we learned a safe way to offer programs, activities, and mini-special events for people of all ages and abilities to help address physical and mental health needs.

The year began swiftly with a season of giving back. The

Department held our 3rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Fundraising Clothing Drive in January and residents generously donated a new record 478 bags of clothing with the proceeds benefitting the non-profit charity Colonial Neighborhood Council and Township Day. Our award winning Connecting Exceptional People (CEP) program started on a high note with an activity called "Community Friends" where the special needs participants had visits from the Barren Hill Fire Company, Whitemarsh Ambulance, and Whitemarsh Police. In addition, a new Jr. CEP program was born for participants ages 12-17 and the program was out of the gates quickly with a fun-filled evening of Wii, games, Jenga, and coloring. Our Valentine's Day themed Parent's Night Out had a whopping 41 participants that saw heart-shaped cupcakes and cookies, a movie, and dancing while mom and dad got a romantic night out. Our 2nd Annual Valentine's Day Social for our Eat and Enjoy Program older adults was highly anticipated with a delicious lunch and musical performance by Elvis!

March saw the blossoming of flowers and trees, and the beginning of our new successful Environmental Education Series "Why Natives?" and "Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Yard" run in conjunction with the Greenhouse Program and the EAB. The annual Spring Shredding Day was held and through the recycling of shredded paper in the 4-hour event, the Township was able to save the equivalent of 273 trees, 64,200 kilowatts of energy, 48.15 cubic yards of landfill space, and 112,350 gallons of water. The Department also teamed up with the Shade Tree Commission and Township Arborist, the United States Department of Agriculture, and Redtail Restoration to hold a "Smash Mob" educational and working park event to combat the Spotted Lanternfly. The Township performed environmental maintenance at Koontz Park addressing dangerous trees, invasives, and vines and established a lovely natural path and nature play area in the rear corner of the park.

Then...came COVID-19...**AND** our Department pivoted hard quickly and have not looked back!

With the support of the Township Manager, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Board of Supervisors, the Parks and Recreation Team immediately began working diligently to create our virtual "In-Home Recreation Resources" to provide on-line recreational engagements in the following areas: Arts, Crafts, and Education, Charitable Actions, Environment and Nature, Health and Wellness, Movement and Exercise, The Performing Arts and Virtual Field Trips. The creation of our email outreach including the Daily Activity, "We Are Whitemarsh", Take-Out Tuesdays, Senior Scoop, Birthday Grams, Throwback Thursdays, Escape Virtual Field Trip, Celebratory Holidays Series, Nature's Touch, Health Hub, and Staycation all proved to be well ahead of the curve. The Department was honored to have these groundbreaking efforts be featured in Montco Today, recognized statewide by the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society, and lauded nationally by the National Recreation and Parks Association – and eventually were placed in an article in the NRPA Magazine October Issue. The Department was humbled to hear from near (Lower Salford, North Huntingdon, etc.) and far (Tennessee, Louisiana, New Zealand, etc.) with questions, thanks, and praise for the pioneering tasks.

While other towns were shutting down operations, the Department was heating up in the Summer weather and shifted to the outdoors and safety. The playgrounds were posted with PA Department of Health signage and sanitized daily. The PR Team worked to retool existing programs to fit within CDC parameters and create new opportunities for the residents of the community. An immediate need was to provide our popular summer day camps that give physical and mental outlets to the youth in the community. This was done by creating excellent communication

streams with parents, training, organizing a small number color pod system, and creativity with games, activities, and exercises. Our sports camps, exercise classes, dance, and more flourished in the outdoor venues using signage, masks, social distancing, and sanitization. We worked diligently with our community sports groups as they developed CDC COVID safety plans and buckled up for a long ride from practice to regular play. The many sports volunteers from our community should be applauded for their painstaking efforts to make this possible for our young athletes. We wish to give a loud cheer to our part-time seasonal Summer Staff for their courage, conviction, and care for our children in a dangerous time.

a wonderful spectrum of on-line offerings to our residents in a variety of formats. The Department held the mini-Spring Fling mini-event virtually complete with crafts, dancing, and a children's band! As the leaves began to change color, Fall signaled many outdoor CDC guideline programs and mini-special events for residents to enjoy. Our new programs Playground Buddies, Story Time with Cookie Monster, Not Your Grandmother's Bingo, Fall Day Camp for Students, and After-School Basketball Camps all proved positive. In addition, our partnerships with West Chester University School of Music, Wissahickon Trails, the Morris Arboretum, Upper Dublin Parks and Recreation, the Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, and



ZOOMING ALONG, HYBRID & MORE!

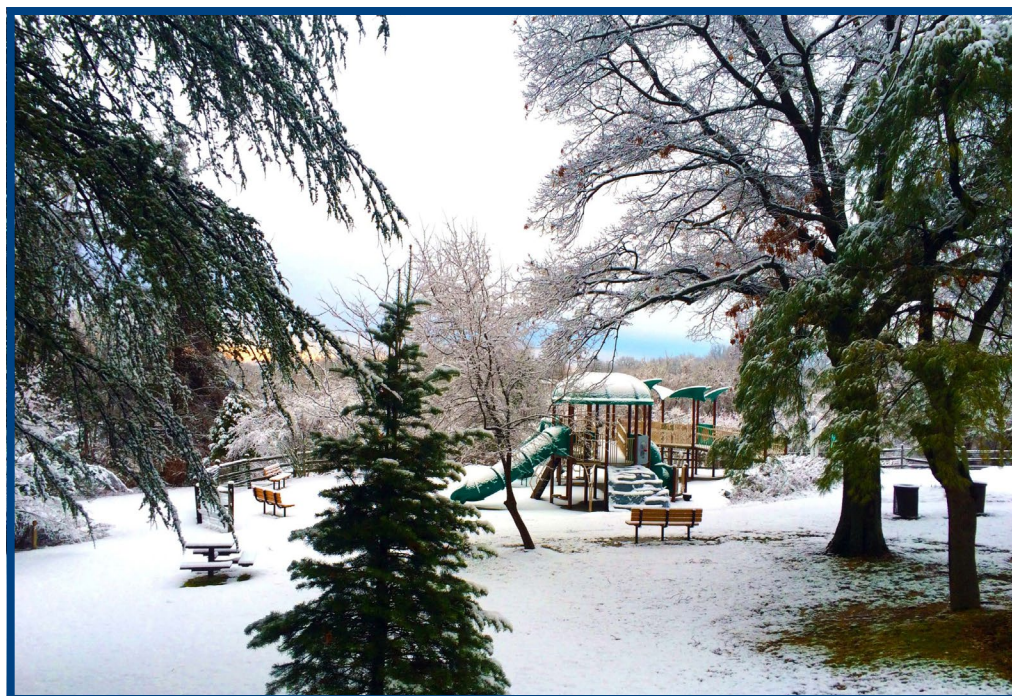
Our Parks and Recreation Team quickly mastered the ability to offer both Zoom and hybrid programming. From Meditation to Dog Training, Mixology to Yoga, Chess to Zumba, Magic Shows to Trivia Night, Dance to Karate, and CEP to Nature – we offered

more allowed us to continue fresh on-line virtual programs for people of all ages, interests, and abilities. The new Chalk-It-Up and Witches Hayride mini-events along with the staple Teenie Halloweenie provided wonderful family respites when the computer needed to rest. Lastly, the Boy Scouts of Troop 12 held their annual "Camp Out" at the Wells Street Open Space.

The Winter ushered in the continued warm seasonal greeting of the community Holiday Displays at Miles Park. The department extends our gratitude to Bill Koelewyn (Holiday Menorah) and Bob Puksta (Holiday Nativity Scene) for their efforts to continue this wonderful community tradition and helping us to make Whitemarsh Township a great place to live. The Gingerbread House Decorating Contest was made virtual and was a great success with record participation. The new "Light Up Whitemarsh" home decorating contest was a big hit and provided residents with a route of homes to safely drive-by and enjoy the lights.

All the while, we provided pick-up Craft Kits for the Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Holiday seasons for children and families. The Department completed the new dance floor in the Miles Park Building, the new dugouts at Miles Park, and painted the exterior of the Concession Stand. The stainless steel Miles Park – Whitemarsh Township and Township Logo installed on the back wall and will be a signature point in the parks system for many years. The DCNR/DCED Grant at Miles Park was completed with an expansive network of ADA accessible pathways and we embarked on a new community journey with the kick-off of the DCNR/DVRPS Miracle-Nature Trail Feasibility Study.

As the seasons change and the years move forward away from COVID, the Department would like to thank our many great corporate and community partners in 2020 for serving as a foundation for our success throughout the challenging year. In addition, we would like to thank the Police, Public Works, Finance, and Administration Departments at the Township as it takes a complete team to execute our Parks and Recreation year-round programs and events. We appreciate the guidance of the Parks and Recreation Board to achieve our



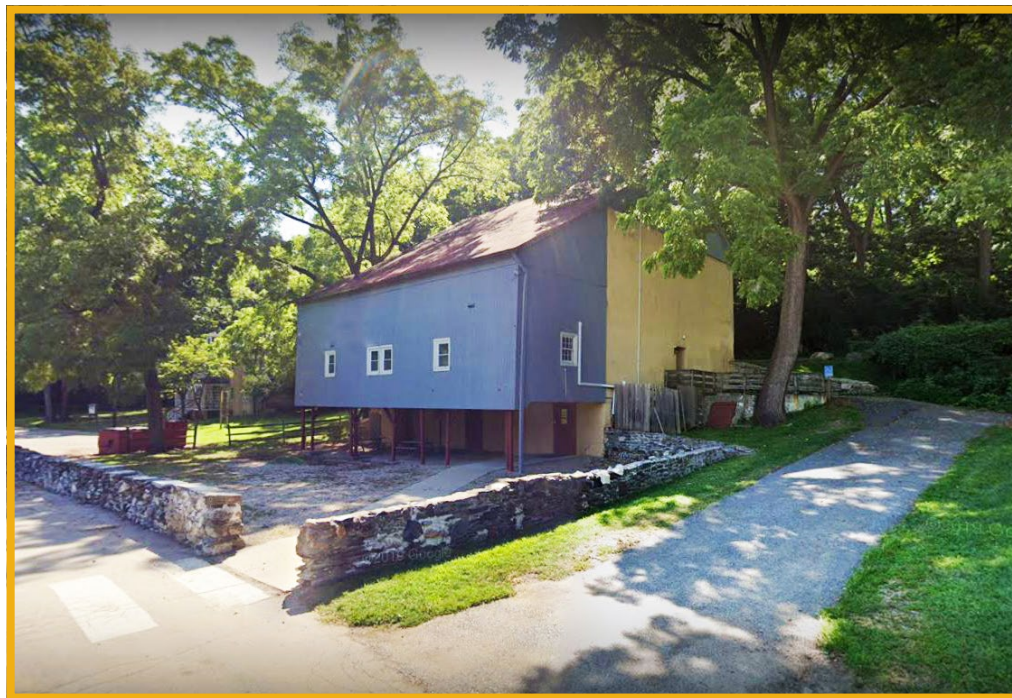
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@WHITEMARSHPARKS



FIND US ON TWITTER

@WHITEMARSH_REC



goals. Most importantly, we extend our gratitude to the Board of Supervisors for their leadership and support through this crisis and to allow our Department to carry out our mission safely and proactively and enhance the quality of life to our residents through Parks and Recreation.

We are looking forward to a fantastic 2021! Be sure to check out some of the upcoming recreation opportunities on the following pages!

Best always,

*The Whitemarsh Township
Parks & Recreation Team*



Whitemarsh 2021 TOWNSHIP DAY

SATURDAY, SEPT. 18TH • 12PM - 5PM

VICTORY FIELDS @ 201 E. GERMANTOWN PIKE, LAFAYETTE HILL, PA

FOOD • MUSIC • GAMES • CRAFTS • VENDORS • PRIZES

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(610) 828-7276

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Available!



Thank you to our sponsors...



PLANNING & ZONING

2020 SUBDIVISION & LAND APPROVALS

SLD #02-19: Argos Associates, Adelphi Land Associates, & Polergodom Group, Ltd., "Longfield Farm" *Skippack and Butler Pikes, Blue Bell*

As reported in last year's Spring edition, the Applicant filed a Conditional Use application in June 2019 to allow townhomes, as required at the time of the application in the VC-4 Village Commercial District Sub-district 4, in which the approximate 15-acre site is located. Conditional Use hearings were held over three evenings in September and October 2019; the Board of Supervisors approved the conditional use for 58 townhomes (with 11 conditions) on November 21, 2019. The applicant had submitted preliminary plans at the same time as the conditional use application but asked that they not be reviewed once conditional use approval was granted, in order to revise them to be consistent with the conditional use approval. Revised plans were submitted in April 2020 and were approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 8, 2020, following a recommendation by the Planning Commission on August 11, 2020. The project also includes the retention of one pre-1940 single-family home fronting on Butler Pike.

SLD #07-18: Whitemarsh Hotel Associates, LP *432 Pennsylvania Avenue, Fort Washington*

As reported in last year's Spring edition, the applicant had received a Waiver of Land Development in March 2019 for a 6,049-square foot restaurant adjacent to the Holiday Inn Express and Suites. Subsequent to that, the applicant finalized an arrangement instead to construct a 2,600-square foot Starbucks restaurant with drive-through and outdoor dining; in order to secure approval, the applicant filed a Minor Land Development Plan. As they had for the prior restaurant proposal (and one previous to that), they sought and received Zoning Hearing Board approval for the restaurant use, to construct improvements in the floodplain, for outdoor dining, for signage and for parking; that approval was granted on July 1, 2020. The Board of Supervisors approved the Minor Land Development Plan on December 10, 2020, following a Planning Commission recommendation on October 27, 2020. The site is in the CR-L Commercial Retail (Low) District.



SLD #03-19: Sunnybrook Golf Club *398 Stenton Avenue, Plymouth Meeting*

As reported in last year's Spring edition, the Applicant proposed a Minor Subdivision/Lot Line Change Plan to correct an encroachment with a neighboring lot and create two new single-family lots. Following Zoning Hearing Board approval needed for the two new lots due to their 'flag' lot configuration, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the plan on April 23, 2019. The plan was considered by the Board of Supervisors on May 9, 2019 but tabled the plan due to questions concerning the Golf Club's long-term plans. The applicant returned to the Board of Supervisors on January 23, 2020, responding to the Board's concerns and explained the measures they have in place to protect the Club's land from future development; the Board of Supervisors approved the Minor Subdivision at that meeting. The Golf Club is zoned AA-Residential with a Recreational District Overlay on the majority of the Club's land.

SLD #11-15 K Hovnanian PA Acquisitions, LLC/Corson Estate *4006 & 4046 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting*

As reported in last Spring's edition, revised Preliminary Land Development Plans for this project were recommended for denial by the Planning Commission in December 2019. The plans called for the construction of 67 townhomes on approximately 11.25 acres of this 13.7-acre combined tract. The historic Abolition Hall and Hovenden House were proposed to remain on a separate lot as would a small home on Marple Lane. The applicant requested that the plans not be scheduled for discussion by the Board of Supervisors until further revisions were made. Revised plans were not submitted; the applicant formally withdrew their application in July 2020. The site is zoned VC-2, Village Commercial Sub-district 2; it is also within the Plymouth Meeting Historic District.

PLANNING & ZONING

2020 SUBDIVISION & LAND APPROVALS

SLD #05-14 901 Washington Partners, LP **901 Washington Street, Conshohocken**

The applicant submitted Preliminary Land Development Plans for 62 townhomes (combination of back-to-back units and traditional townhomes) in the fall of 2019 after receiving Zoning Hearing Board approval earlier that year. This 4.8-acre site fronts on the Schuylkill River and is the former Fineran and Haley paint factory site, adjacent to the David's Bridal headquarters building. The Planning Commission reviewed this over the course of 7 meetings in 2020, including a special meeting on-site; the Commission recommended its approval on October 27, 2020. The site is zoned HVY Heavy Industrial District with a RDD-1 Riverfront Development District, Sub-district 1 Overlay; the RDD-1 Overlay governs this development.

[Ed. Note: Consideration of this development continued into early 2021, when it was discussed at the February 11, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting; it was referred back to the Planning Commission to review a new plan for open space dedication and additional waivers on February 23, 2021. With these recommended for approval, the Board approved the Preliminary Plans on March 11, 2021.]



SLD #01-20: Kevin and Donna McBurney **4013 Crescent Avenue, Lafayette Hill**

The Applicants submitted a Minor Subdivision Plan to transfer approximately 4,100 square feet from an adjacent property at 4009 Crescent Avenue to add onto their property to provide a larger rear yard. The Board of Supervisors approved the Plan on August 13, 2020, following a Planning Commission recommendation on July 14, 2020. The site is in the A – Residential District.

SLD #05-20: Emergency Care Research Institute (ECRI) **5200 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting**

The Applicant requested a Waiver of Land Development for removal of a major portion of the one-story portion of their facility; the space will no longer be needed due to anticipated continuation of remote working. The remaining building will be renovated to create a more open floor plan. Part of the project included improvements for drop-off and handicapped accessibility; the area not used for improvements were proposed to be converted back to green space. The Board of Supervisors approved the Waiver on December 10, 2020, following a Planning Commission recommendation on November 10, 2020. The site is zoned CLI Campus Type Limited Industrial District.

SLD #09-19 Conference Facilities, Inc. **800 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill**

The applicant submitted a Minor Subdivision Plan to divide the lands including the Ace Golf Club and Chubb Conference Center into two lots. One lot would include the Golf Club, clubhouse and associated facilities (approximately 270 acres) and the second lot would include the Conference Center and associated facilities (approximately 28.5 acres). The Planning Commission reviewed the plan and recommended its approval on September 22, 2020. It was scheduled to be considered by the Board of Supervisors on December 10, 2020 but the application was formally withdrawn by the applicant prior to that meeting. The Golf Club portion of the site is zoned AA, AAA and AAAA – Residential with a Recreation District Overlay; the Conference Center portion of the site is zoned AR Administration and Research District.

PLANNING & ZONING

2020 SUBDIVISION & LAND APPROVALS

SLD #04-20 Academy in Manayunk (AIM)

1200 River Road, Conshohocken

The applicant requested a Land Development Waiver for the erection of a bike repair shop on its campus to be used for educational purposes for its students; it will not be open to the public. It is being constructed as a memorial to a 2020 graduate, Samuel Ozer, who was a bicycle enthusiast who was killed Father's Day 2020 by a motor vehicle while he was riding his bicycle home. The Board of Supervisors approved the Waiver on November 12, 2020 following a Planning Commission recommendation on October 27, 2020. The site is zoned HVY Heavy Industrial District.

SLD #11-19 Mercedes of Fort Washington

404 Pennsylvania Avenue, Fort Washington

The applicant requested a Land Development Waiver for the erection of a 3-lane canopy over the service intake area, for weather protection while vehicles are being checked in for service. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Waiver request on January 28, 2020. This application did not move forward to the Board of Supervisors because the applicant put it on hold while market conditions during the pandemic are evaluated.



SLD #06-18 14 E. Germantown, LLC

14 E. Germantown Pike, Plymouth Meeting

The applicant presented a sketch plan for the two properties at 12 and 14 E. Germantown Pike. Two historic buildings are located on this site, both currently converted into apartment use. The sketch plan proposed 14 new townhouses, the conversion of one of the historic buildings (originally a barn) into a single-family home and construction of one additional single-family home, for a total of 16 dwelling units. The other existing building was proposed for use by the future homeowners' association. The Planning Commission made a number of suggestions for plan revisions to be considered by the applicant at its November 10, 2020 meeting; sketch plans are only reviewed by the Planning Commission and therefore no formal recommendation is made. The site is zoned VC-2, Village Commercial Sub-district 2; it is also located within the Plymouth Meeting Historic District.

SLD #03-20 608 Germantown Pike Associates, LLC

606, 608 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill

The applicant presented a sketch plan for the consolidation of 606 and 608 Germantown Pike. Each property has an existing pre-1940's building, both to remain. (A newer addition at 608 would be removed and replaced with a larger addition.) The existing chiropractor's office at 606 would not be changed; the building and new addition at 608 would contain 7 apartments. The uses would share access and parking facilities. The Planning Commission made a number of suggestions for plan revisions to be considered by the applicant at its December 8, 2020 meeting; sketch plans are only reviewed by the Planning Commission and therefore no formal recommendation is made. The site is zoned VC-1, Village Commercial Sub-district 1.

PLANNING & ZONING

SELECTIVE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE: ADOPTED

In our Fall 2020 issue, we reported that the Planning Commission completed its review of the **Selective Comprehensive Plan Update** (draft) and was getting geared up to have its 'Public Meeting' required by state law. That meeting was held on October 13, 2020 and at the conclusion, the Commission unanimously recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Update. The Board then held its legally required 'Public Hearing' on November 12, 2020 and at the conclusion of the hearing, unanimously adopted it.

As a reminder, the Update was for the Land Use and Housing sections of the 2003 Comprehensive Plan but goals, policies, and proposed implementation actions were actually developed in four areas of concern: Land Use; Housing; Circulation; and Quality of Life. A very important feature of the **Update** is its 'Action Plan' which lists all of the recommendations made throughout the document and sets a priority for each. The next step, then, is to begin to implement the Plan document by beginning with some of the highest priority recommendations. Many of these involve reviewing and updating various aspects of the Township's Zoning Ordinance.

Toward that end, at their February 2021 meeting, the Township Board of Supervisors approved a contract addendum with Bergmann Associates to assist the Township with the first phase of the work on the Zoning Ordinance. Bergmann was the consultant that assisted the Township in preparing the **Selective Comprehensive Plan Update**. Watch future issues for progress on that work.

The adopted version of the **Update** can be found on the Township's website at:

<http://www.whitemarshwp.org/CompPlanUpdate2020>

RIDGE PIKE PROJECT STATUS REPORT



Montgomery County's Ridge Pike Improvement Project continues to make progress toward construction that will begin in 2021 on the section between Crescent Avenue and Northwestern Avenue (Section D). Engineering is almost complete and right-of-way acquisition is wrapping up. The entire road will be fully rebuilt and a second travel lane will be added between Church Rd/Harts Ln and Northwestern Avenue as well as a left turn lane onto Barren Hill Road. A new sidewalk will be completed along the entire south side of Ridge Pike and some sections of sidewalk will be added along the north side where conditions permit. SEPTA bus stops will be upgraded as well.

Preliminary engineering continues on the section between Harmon Road in Plymouth and Crescent Avenue (Section C). Final design is anticipated to begin in late 2021 with construction anticipated in the mid-2020s.

More information and a sign up option for update notifications can be found on the County's website at:

<https://www.montcopa.org/2416/Ridge-Pike-Improvement-Project>



SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

Steps in the Review and Approval Process

SUBMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING TO PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT:

Plans, Application, Supporting Documents (*stormwater studies and calculations, traffic studies, etc.*), and Required Escrow Fee

PLANS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS REVIEWED BY:

Director of Planning & Zoning, Township Engineer, Fire Marshal, Township Arborist, Montgomery County Planning Commission & Any Other Required Technical Agencies

ZONING HEARING BOARD:

Application filed and hearing held for Zoning Ordinance relief, if needed.

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION:

Review of plans and all reviews, for recommendation on plan approval to the Board of Supervisors.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION:

When landscape plans are required for review or tree removal is required per Chapter 55 of the Township Code.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Plans, Supporting Documents, and all reviews submitted to the Board of Supervisors for discussion and review. If Board chooses to approve subdivision/land development, conditional approval is granted by resolution.

BUILDING, PERMITTING, & LICENSING 2020 SUMMARY REPORT

RESIDENTIAL

PERMIT TYPE	2020
Alterations / Additions	138
Cell Tower Equipment	0
Covered Patios / Decks	27
Driveways / Walkway / Steps / Retaining Walls	23
Fences	88
Misc. Temporary Permits	5
New Dwellings	72
Pools	11
Roofing & Siding	183
Sheds / Accessory Building / Pergola / Gazebo	11
Sheds, Decks & Patios	38
Solar Panels	0
Temporary Dumpster / PSU / Trailer	38
Uncovered Patios / Decks	36
TOTAL	670

PUBLIC WORKS LEAF COMPOST & WOOD MULCH

The Whitemarsh Township Public Works Department collects an average of 1,500 tons (or about 6,000 cubic yards) of leaves each year through the Curbside Leaf Pick-Up Program. Once the leaves are collected, the public works crew run the leaves through the tub grinder and then set them in windrows at the Township Public Works facility. In about a year's time, the ground up leaves become a viable product called leaf compost. Once the leaf compost has reached its completion stage, the compost is then delivered to the residents of the township for a nominal fee.

Over the years, the leaf composting program has grown popular with the Township residents. In response to the demand, the staff at the Public Works Department have worked to time the composting process just right so that by the time spring arrives, they can haul the finished product for the residents to use for their spring gardening, making room for the next season.

Over the years, the leaf composting program has grown popular with the Township residents. In response to the demand, the staff at the Public Works Department have worked to time the composting process just right so that by the time spring arrives, they can haul the finished product for the residents to use for their spring gardening, making room for the next season.

LEAF COMPOST AND WOOD MULCH IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The Township charges **\$36 per 3 yards of leaf compost and \$45 per 3 yards for wood mulch**. The Township Public Works Department delivers compost orders for 3 yards or 6 yards per order. Delivery is scheduled for Fridays. Orders for Friday delivery **MUST** be placed by 10 AM on Thursday. Leaf compost and wood mulch are available on a first come, first serve basis, while supplies last. This program is only available to Whitemarsh Township residents.

Delivery orders must be placed in person at the Township Building.

Payment is by cash, check or credit or debit card. Fees apply for credit and debit cards.

NON-RESIDENTIAL

PERMIT TYPE	2020
Alterations / Additions	33
Cell Tower Equipment	10
Covered Patios / Decks	0
Demolition	3
Driveways / Walkway / Steps / Retaining Walls	2
Electrical	352
Fences	4
Fire Protection	71
Mechanical	268
Misc. Temporary Permits	10
New Construction	3
Plumbing	251
Pools	0
Roofing & Siding	8
Sheds / Accessory Building / Pergola / Gazebo	1
Sheds / Accessory Structure / Windmills	3
Signs	12
Solar Panels	0
Temporary Dumpster / PSU / Trailer	3
Uncovered Patios / Decks	2
Use and Occupancy	130
TOTAL	1,186

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

SERVE - PROTECT - DEFEND



Suddenly, that was unacceptable and considered dangerous, so we had to change our policies and procedures to ensure everyone's safety during this pandemic. Despite the impersonal feel of the "new norm", we successfully transitioned and continued to serve the residents and visitors to Whitemarsh Township.

I also want to take the opportunity to thank other members of the "Whitemarsh Township Team" that have helped the Police Department navigate these uncharted waters;

Fire Marshal Nick Weaver- Nick took the lead on acquiring cleaning supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the entire township staff, including the police.

Chief Rebecca Werner and the Whitemarsh Community Ambulance- Chief Werner and her staff made sure we knew how to use our PPE and kept us educated on the disease and best practices for dealing with personal contact, especially with suspect COVID patients. Our community ambulance took responsibility for COVID patient care at all times and limited officer exposure to patients whenever possible. It should also be noted that Chief Werner has been very instrumental in making sure that the members of our agency have had the opportunity to be vaccinated through the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety, where she volunteers as a vaccinator.

While you would think that dealing with a Global Pandemic would be enough for everyone and the police, 2020 was not satisfied with having just one major issue. 2020 would add the Civil Unrest that was ignited (re-ignited) by the murder of George Floyd in May and the issues surrounding a very contentious Presidential Election that would occur in November of 2020 and last throughout the year.

Despite the national issues that arose across the country with both of these issues, I am happy to report that Whitemarsh Township navigated both of these major issues with very few problems. Please don't misinterpret what I have written. People have very strong opinions and ideas on both of these topics and many people chose to express those opinions and feelings very publicly. However, the majority of the people of Whitemarsh respected their neighbors' right to express themselves publicly, whether we agreed or not, and grant one another the right to express their 1st Amendment freedoms.

As I sit here preparing to write a letter to the residents of Whitemarsh Township I cannot believe that we have now spent over a year trying to navigate Coronavirus/COVID-19. While recently attending a meeting virtually, a concept that we have all had to learn and master in this past year, the presenter described how he stopped at his office to pick-up some materials and realized that the St. Patrick's Day decorations that were left in place when offices closed last year are still in place today. The presenter noted the irony of the decorations being appropriate, while noting the reality of a "lost" year.

In the police service, there is no such thing as lost time. Through this pandemic, the men and women of the Whitemarsh Township Police Department have continued to work 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. While this has not been easy, as we have also been affected by COVID-19 in all the same ways that you have, it is our job and our duty, so we have persevered. As the Chief of Police, I am so proud of our brave men and women who continue to come to work every day and continue to do their jobs every day despite the danger, both unknown and known, with this virus.

Police operations were changed to ensure the safety of not only our officers, but the citizens we serve. In the past, where personal contact was our desired way to interact with our residents and guests, we wanted to meet people and have that personal contact.

For the Police Department, all of these major items were opportunities for us to learn. While we trained and worked very hard to educate ourselves on these major issues, the best education we received came from our residents who were willing and able to share their thoughts and experiences with us to better educate us through personal interaction. While our local ambulance crew discouraged in-person contact because of COVID, they taught us how to do so safely when we needed to. While the Civil Unrest was definitely played out on a national level, there were local events and concerns that did occur and our local residents and groups stepped up and had conversations with us to make our events successful, while providing education to our entire community, including the Police Department. Finally, the political argument was real and, at times, quite loud, but our local residents were free to choose sides and support their candidates while respecting everyone else's freedom to do so also.

While 2020 was not the best year on record and I will be happy to see the bad things associated with 2020 leave, I look forward to continuing the improvements, education and new associations we established in 2020 as we move forward. I believe that Whitemarsh Township has once again proven that this is a "great place to live and work" and our residents have shown that they want to keep it that way.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a safe and healthy 2021! Please remember to lock your cars and houses, be aware that the opioid crisis does affect our township, please drive like you live and work here and hopefully others will follow your lead and please be patient with the traffic issues that we all face every day. The men and women of the Whitemarsh Township Police Department thank you for your support and we look forward to serving the citizens of Whitemarsh Township in 2021.

Sincerely,

Christopher P. Ward

Christopher P. Ward
Chief

WELCOME OFFICER KYLE MASON

On December 7, 2020, Officer Kyle Mason was hired by Whitemarsh Police. Kyle Mason is a graduate of Souderton Area High School. Stephen graduated from the Philadelphia Police Academy in 2018 and has successfully completed the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission certification examination for police officers in Pennsylvania.



Kyle Mason is a two-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department

Ofc. Mason has successfully completed our Field Training Program and is now assigned to our Patrol Division with "A" Squad.

COP CAMP

Our COP Camp Program is a one-week camp that we host at the Police Department for 10 and 11 year-old children for one of the last two weeks of June, depending on school schedules, for the last 21 years. During this week the campers have the opportunity to meet all of our police officers, our staff and our K9s. The children get to experience the various police functions that the Whitemarsh Township Police Department performs to include, crime scene processing, court testimony, mock traffic stops, a mock vehicle accident, a SWAT demonstration and more. We also expose the children to some of our working partners, to include the Montgomery County Bomb Squad, the Whitemarsh Community Ambulance, both Barren Hill and Spring Mill Fire Companies, our District Justice and District Court and PennStar's Medical Helicopter.

Unfortunately, our 22nd Annual COP Camp had to be cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Even more unfortunate is the fact that we will need to cancel this year's COP Camp for 2021 as the Pandemic lingers on. As a Police Department, we can manage our camp when there is not a Pandemic, but, as a Police Department, we are not equipped to properly insure the safety of approximately 30 children who need to be socially distanced in our facility. It is our intention to have a fully functioning COP Camp Program in 2022!



Christopher P. Ward
Chief

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Despite the struggles of the pandemic and the requirements for social distancing, we were able to pull off our 15th annual Citizens Police Academy in the Fall. We hosted a group of thirteen adults for the 2020 CPA. We were able to socially distance and follow all protocols and still deliver a top notch ten weeks with members of our community. We were able to accomplish our goal of improving communications with our community and partner with them to identify problems and solutions to issues in the community. The graduates were able to have a better understanding of how the police department works, build support between them and the officer, and take their knowledge back to their neighborhoods where they can enhance the quality of neighborhood life and understanding of the police to the stakeholders of the community.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please be sure to find the Whitemarsh Township Police Department on **Facebook** and **Nextdoor**.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

@WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP PD



FIND US ON nextdoor

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP POLICE

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT. AWARDS & RECOGNITION

LIFESAVING

On July 27, 2020 Officer Stephen Dunning was dispatched to a report of an overdose with CPR in progress in the Fort Washington section of Whitemarsh Township. Upon arrival, Ofc. Dunning found a female overdose patient in cardiac arrest. Ofc. Dunning was able to instruct the patient's boyfriend in how to perform CPR while Ofc. Dunning connected the Automated External Defibrillator (AED), provided oxygen with a bag valve mask and administered Narcan to counteract the overdose. By the time EMS was leaving the location the patient was semi-conscious and would recover fully in the hospital.

HEROISM

On August 4, 2020 Whitemarsh Township experienced extreme weather from tropical cyclone Isaias. In the late morning, Officer Richard Stemple responded to a report of a vehicle stranded in rising flood waters in the area of Stenton Avenue and Militia Hill Road in the Plymouth Meeting section of Whitemarsh Township. Ofc. Stemple monitored the situation and called for water rescue assistance, but, due to the high volume of calls and limited access into the area, Ofc. Stemple made the decision to enter the flood waters and remove the occupants from the vehicle when the vehicle started to float and was in danger of being washed from the roadway. Despite the obvious danger to himself, Ofc. Stemple successfully removed the occupants to higher ground and safety.

LIFESAVING

On August 7, 2020 Officer Christopher Hunsberger and Officer Vincent Mundy were dispatched to a report of an unknown medical emergency in the Lafayette Hill section of Whitemarsh Township. Upon arrival, the officers were directed to a male patient that unresponsive on the roof of his residence. Without hesitation, both officers climbed a ladder to the roof and began CPR, while connecting and utilizing an AED. Medical personnel from the Whitemarsh Community Ambulance and Fire personnel from Barren Hill Fire Company would arrive on location and a coordinated rescue was performed with the assistance of Ofc. Hunsberger and Ofc. Mundy. The quick action of these officers, combined with the expertise and assistance of our partners from EMS and Fire, resulted in lifesaving outcome.

YEARS OF SERVICE

The Whitemarsh Township Police would like to recognize the following personnel for milestone work anniversaries with Whitemarsh Township;

- Detective Sergeant James Cotter.....35 years
- Lieutenant Greg Keenan.....25 years
- Officer Eric Householder.....20 years
- Officer Todd Burton.....10 years
- Administrative Assistant Lori Fair.....10 years
- Officer Robert Bates.....5 years

READYMONTCo



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR **READYMONTCo**?

Be Alert • Be Informed
READYMONTCo

Powered By
Montgomery County
Department of Public Safety



ReadyMontCo is a mass notification system used by county and local Emergency Management organizations to provide immediate and real time info to residents during emergencies. As a participant of **ReadyMontCo**, you will receive alerts based on where your home is, as well as your current location! The alerts can be modified to fit your needs, such as: phone calls, e-mails, texts, or e-mails.

To SIGN UP, VISIT:

[HTTPS://WWW.MONTCOPA.ORG/3311/READYMONTCo](https://www.montcopa.org/3311/readymontco)

SMOKE ALARMS, *SAVE LIVES*

Smoke alarms are needed in your home! They should, at least, be in the following locations:

- One on each floor
- Outside of sleeping areas, like in a hallway
- One in each sleeping area, like each person's bedroom

If you don't have smoke alarm in these locations, or do not know, please call or e-mail the Whitemarsh Township Fire Marshal's Office.

Phone: (484) 594-2614 **E-mail:** NWeaver@whitemarshtwp.org

Whitemarsh Township, Barren Hill, and Spring Mill Fire Companies partner with **6ABC Operation Save a Life** to provide 10 year lithium Ion battery smoke alarms to residents at no cost.



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Whitemarsh
PENNSYLVANIA 1704



**MASKS ARE
MANDATORY
IN ALL PUBLIC SPACES**

Whitemarsh Township has ensured and continues to ensure that services have not been affecting during our health emergency. Our Office of Emergency Management has worked with township departments, our ambulance squad, both fire companies, the library, health care facilities, schools, and the sewer authority to coordinate the response and to make sure all of their staff and residents remain safe.

6abc OPERATION
SAVE A LIFE



FIREFIGHTERS UNDERSTAND THAT PETS ARE A PART OF YOUR FAMILY! IF YOUR PET DOES NOT MAKE IT OUT OF THE HOUSE WITH YOU, LET FIRST RESPONDERS KNOW RIGHT AWAY, SO THEY CAN SEARCH THEM OUT!

TURN AROUND, **DON'T DROWN**

Do You Really Know How Deep the Water is?

12 inches of fast-moving water can carry away a small car.

WHEN
FLOODED
TURN AROUND
DON'T
DROWN

6 inches of fast-moving water can knock over and carry away an adult.

18-24 inches of fast-moving water can carry away most large SUVs, vans and trucks.



Whitemarsh is prone to flooding. Never drive through water, it may be deeper than it appears. Flood gates and barricades are put in place to protect you. Do **NOT** go around them!

GRILLS, OPEN BURNING AND FIRE PIT SAFETY

Warmer weather brings back grilling and backyard fire pits. Remember to practice caution and follow these safety tips!

- Cooking Grills must be ten feet away from your house and is prohibited on balconies.
- If you are using a listed and approved open burning (fire pit) container, such as one purchased from a home improvement store, it must be fifteen feet away from the house and structures. If not using one, the open burning must be fifty feet away from the structure. This can be reduced to twenty-five feet if the burn pile is less than three feet in diameter and less than two feet high. The fire must be constantly attended and a fire extinguisher or garden hose must be readily available to extinguish the fire.

PLAN YOUR ESCAPE!



**IF A FIRE OCCURRED IN YOUR
HOUSE TONIGHT,
WOULD YOUR FAMILY
GET OUT SAFELY?**

**YOU MAY ONLY HAVE SECONDS TO
SAFELY ESCAPE YOUR OWN HOME.
DEVELOP AND PRACTICE AN ESCAPE
PLAN & MEETING PLACE WITH
EVERYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD!**



WHITEMARSH COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION (WCAA)

Whitemarsh Community Ambulance Association (WCAA) has been providing emergency care to Whitemarsh Township residents since 1956. We are committed to providing the highest quality ambulance service to all residents and visitors of our area.

We'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to two of our finest staff members.

WCAA Paramedic of the Year, Sevak Sahakyan, has been in emergency medical services (EMS) since becoming an emergency medical technician (EMT)



in 2011. After eight years as an EMT, he was compelled to further his education. He says, "I became a paramedic with an aspiration to be helpful to people around me and truly make a difference in their lives." He completed paramedic training in 2019 and joined WCAA

the same year. He considers his WCAA colleagues as a caring family. He has been impressed by the squad's commitment to excellence in patient care.

WCAA EMT of the Year, Alana McFarlane, graduated from Montgomery County's EMT program in 2016 and joined WCAA the following year. Alana praises WCAA for its extreme kindness. She says, "I like working for WCAA because of the diversity and their willingness



to teach and accept everyone." Alana is currently enrolled in paramedic school.

Like all of our paramedics and EMTs, Sevak and Alana understand that you may not be having your best day when you call for an ambulance. They will do their best to

reassure you, comfort you, and provide the necessary emergency medical care -- all with keen attention to safety.

WCAA is the designated 911 emergency ambulance provider for Whitemarsh Township. We are staffed around the clock with highly trained paramedics and EMTs who are ready to assist you. In an emergency, please dial 9-1-1 to request an ambulance.

Additionally, we offer basic (BLS) and advanced (ALS) non-emergency ambulance transport within our service area. We also provide paratransit services using wheelchair vans. To schedule a non-emergency (ambulance or wheelchair van) transport, please call our transport coordinator at 610-828-3056.

WCAA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization without dedicated tax-dollars for support. We rely on an annual subscription drive as well as other types of fundraising efforts throughout the year. Our subscription year runs from July 1 to June 30. A mailer with subscription details will be sent to all Whitemarsh addresses. Visit

<https://www.ambulancebillingoffice.com/subscriptions/wcaa> or use this QR code at the right to subscribe.



Did you know that we gratefully accept donations for specific projects, in honor of individuals, and in



memory of loved ones? Please call 610-828-0955 to discuss donation opportunities. You can also use the QR code at the left to visit our donation page at <https://whitemarshems.org/#donate>.

A full-time career Chief of Operations oversees the daily operation of Whitemarsh Community Ambulance Association. The chief is aided by appointed officers, who bring many years of experience and deep knowledge of EMS to the organization.

A board of fifteen directors with a variety of backgrounds oversees the administration of Whitemarsh Ambulance Community Association. The board consists of ten general members who have at least one year of EMS experience, plus four members with professional expertise in finance, law, and medicine/healthcare administration, and one spot reserved for a Whitemarsh Township resident.

Find out more about WCAA at

<https://whitemarshems.org/> and follow us on Facebook (@WhitemarshCommunityAmbulanceAssociation) by using the QR code, below.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

@WHITEMARSHCOMMUNITYAMBULANCEASSOCIATION



BARREN HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

647 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

(610)825-2250 • www.barrenhill.com

Proudly serving Whitemarsh Township and our Neighboring Communities since 1915

WE CANNOT SAY **THANK YOU** ENOUGH!

It goes without saying that 2020 was a year that will not soon be forgotten. Our Volunteers were forced to consider and make very personal decisions when the Pandemic began. Our Volunteers weighed their commitment to our Community as a firefighter versus the risk of bringing home this dreaded virus to their family members. The decision was astounding as most of our Volunteers opted to put Community first, assuring the safety of our neighbors and the Whitemarsh Township Community.

Throughout the year, the support from our friends and neighbors in our Whitemarsh Township Community has been remarkable. In a time when everyone had personal concerns to deal with, we recognized and saw first-hand just how strong this Community's support is for our Volunteers. **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!** **THANK YOU** for recognizing the efforts of our Volunteers! **THANK YOU** for not forgetting that our Volunteers remained committed to Service! **THANK YOU** for your continued financial support in a

time when many had questions about their own financial situation! Whitemarsh Community, you have gone above and beyond; We assure you that it did not go unnoticed by us. Our commitment to you has never been stronger and we look forward to exceeding your expectations in 2021!

Sincerely,

*The Barren Hill
Volunteer Fire Company*



VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL PARTICIPATION

Calls for Service Personnel Responses: 6,308
Company Training Personnel Participation: 647
Special Service Personnel Participation: 423
Fire Police / Officer Only Participation: 90
Company Business Meetings: 336

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

ESTIMATED VOLUNTEER HOURS

Calls for Service: 6,308 hours
Company Trainings: 2,264.5 hours
Special Services: 846 hours
Fire Police / Officer Investigations: 135 hours
Company Business Meetings: 840 hours



TOTAL ESTIMATED VOLUNTEER HOURS: 10,395.5 Hrs

This estimate does not include various committee meetings, training hours outside of Monday Night training activities, Fire Academy classes or regional Association meetings.



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647 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

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Proudly serving Whitemarsh Township and our Neighboring Communities since 1915



CONGRATULATIONS FIREFIGHTER BRETT FINEMAN

On November 11, 2020, Brett Fineman graduated in a virtual ceremony from the Montgomery County Fire Academy after completing his Firefighter I Certification. Brett began his certification early in 2020 and pre-COVID. The class was shut down for several months before continuing in the Fall. Brett and the other students completed more than 180 hours of training to achieve this certification. While completing this intense training, Brett was also balancing his freshman year of college at the University of Pittsburgh! Brett scored the highest academic score in the class overall and the highest final test score. Brett was awarded the Class 20-01, Interior Firefighter Award.



Brett came to our Fire Company, following in his father's foot steps, and joined at 16 years of age. We remember Brett as a kid, chasing after the fire trucks and recording videos of our responses along Germantown Pike. To say the least, Brett is a tremendous asset to the Fire Company and to our Whitemarsh Township Community.

Great Job, Brett! We look forward to many more years of your Volunteer Service at the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company!

DO NOT WAIT ANY LONGER..... COME JOIN OUR FIRE COMPANY, NOW!

Do you know that Fire Companies in Whitemarsh Township are operated nearly exclusively by Volunteers? While each Station does have two career firefighters during the daytime hours and part time coverage that assures apparatus drivers during the evening and weekend hours, the majority of our operations are supported by Volunteers.

Our Volunteers are just like you; We have families, work full time jobs, coach little league sports, help our kids with homework, do chores around the house, support other volunteer organizations, and the list goes on. Why not join our team? We can do it, so can you!

According to statistics from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the 1970's, the number of volunteer firefighters was estimated at more than 300,000. In the early 2000's, the number of volunteer firefighters diminished to an estimate 60,000. In 2018, number of volunteer firefighters has fallen to near critical levels estimated at just 38,000.

How can you help? Stop by and see us. Ask how you can become part of our family! Our family consists of people from all walks of life, from every neighborhood in Whitemarsh, from different economic, social and religious backgrounds. There is a job for everyone! We are accountants, businesspersons, doctors, retirees, IT specialists, college and high school students, schoolteachers, salespersons, police officers, career firefighters, business owners and many other. Do not wait, stop by and say Hello TODAY!! We have a spot for you!

Check out www.barrenhill.com/volunteer for more information!

2020 COVID CLEANOUT!

Throughout 2020, our day-to-day operational readiness remained unchanged by the COVID-19 Pandemic. While our operational readiness remained the same, our delivery was modified to keep our responders and our Community safe. The closure of our building to the public allowed us to spend some time cleaning out closets. During the end of 2020, we were able to evaluate our stored treasures throughout the building and move on from old equipment that no longer was serviceable. Since there was little to no value to most of this older firefighting equipment, we looked for partnerships that may be able to re-purpose or re-use items outside of the fire service. Welcome Go-Go Dog Toys!



We happily donated lengths of retired firefighting hose that Go-Go Dog Toys transformed into Dog Toys! As part of our donation of hose, Go-Go Dog Toys agreed to donate a portion of the manufactured toys to a dog rescue of our choice. On December 14, 2020, representatives of Main Line Animal Rescue and Go-Go Dog Toys met at the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company to pass along the donated dog toys! There are a lot of happy 4-legged friends at Main Line Animal Rescue with their new toys!



SPRING MILL FIRE COMPANY No. 1

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP - MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA - STATION 45

1210 EAST HECTOR STREET CONSHOHOCKEN, PA 19428

(610)825-1164 • www.springmillfire.com



Spring Mill Fire Company No. 1 has proudly protected and served the residents, businesses, and visitors of Whitemarsh Township and our surrounding communities, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week since 1923. We provide protection and peace of mind as it relates to firefighting, rescue operations, and fire police operations. In 2020 our volunteers spent over 4,500 man-hours, responding to emergencies, attending training sessions as well as participating in several community events. This does not include meetings or training that the members attend on an individual basis, and that is more than double this number.

Our members provided 4,563 man-hours which are equivalent to over (114) 40 hour work weeks!

CALLS FOR SERVICE

194

TRAINING SESSIONS

42

SPECIAL SESSIONS

107

2020 WAS A VERY DIFFERENT YEAR FOR EVERYONE...

Just like you, we had to adapt and adjust to the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presented. We were faced with unique adversity that most of us had never seen before. Not only was essential personal protective equipment in short supply and difficult to acquire for our first responders, but we also faced an unprecedented financial impact. The pandemic resulted in the total shutdown of our Ballroom, Social Room and Fundraising Events.

As we start to see some restrictions lifted, we are hoping to be able to start to return to some of our fundraising events later in the year.

Considering that most of the events in our Ballroom are booked months and years in advance, we are anticipating a long recovery effort from that perspective. Given our 501-C4 tax status, we are not eligible for most of the special COVID-19 government programs.

This forces us to rely on the grassroots fundraising efforts that we have always needed to rely on, and ***this year more than ever, we need your help.***



OUR ANNUAL FUND DRIVE RETURN IS EXTREMELY LOW, IN 2020 WE SENT OUT 2,510 MAILERS TO THE IN OUR FIRE DISTRICT. WE ONLY RECEIVED 181 DONATIONS!! THAT IS ONLY A 7% RETURN!!!

SPRING MILL FIRE COMPANY No. 1

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP - MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA - STATION 45

1210 EAST HECTOR STREET CONSHOHOCKEN, PA 19428

(610)825-1164 • www.springmillfire.com



We would also ask that you consider having your next event in our Ballroom facility. Almost everyone is surprised at how elegant our venue is, many consider it a hidden gem in the area. Come see for yourself.

Considering the many cancellations of events, we have many openings currently.

BOOK YOUR NEXT EVENT AT THE SPRING MILL BALLROOM

Nestled in the original Santa Maria Country Club formerly, Spring Mill Country Club constructed in the early 20th century, the Spring Mill Ballroom offers a beautiful space for celebrating your union. Located on a historic 32-acre property, this stunning venue offers breathtaking views of the scenic Schuylkill Valley that are difficult to find anywhere else. In addition to the beautiful ballroom and singular views, the property contains the Peter Legaux Mansion; a fully restored National Historic Site that offers a truly one-of-a-kind backdrop for wedding photos! Blending modern decor and amenities with historic detail, the expansive 3,800 square foot ballroom can seat up to 225 guests for your celebration. Vintage-style chandeliers and a neutral color palette blend to create timelessly elegant interiors that you can customize to suit your specific taste and style. Dance the night away on the dance floor with your new spouse, taking comfort in the fact that the Spring Mill Ballroom's expert staff is taking care of every detail on your big day!



BOOK YOUR EVENT TODAY!

WWW.SPRINGMILLBALLROOM.COM OR CALL 610-283-2371

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY PLANS TO OPEN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE THIS SUMMER

WTA



By summer, the Whitemarsh Township Authority will officially move into its own home. Construction of a 2,500-square-foot administrative office building is expected to be substantially complete later this spring.

While the Authority has been in operation for more than 50 years, it formally separated as a component unit of the Township in 2014. Since that time, the Authority has rented office space in Whitemarsh Township for its administrative office.

The goal has always been for the Authority to have its own space, according to Chairman Timothy Ferris.

“Our board wanted an office to call its own and not to continue to rent a space that was not beneficial to our operations,” Ferris said. “Our new standalone building enables us to provide a full-service customer experience without any space or parking limitations.”

The new office building improves synergy between the Authority’s plant management, operations team and administrative support as all staff will be at one location

and will not have to travel back and forth for meetings and to complete assignments.

The Authority began construction of the office building in July 2020. The space, which is located at 2015 Joshua Road in Lafayette Hill, is also home to the Authority’s wastewater treatment plant.

The state-of-the-art office building will feature a roof with solar panels

and a clearstory to allow for natural lighting. In addition, the site incorporates two electric car charging stations in the parking lot. Integrating green energy allows the Authority to take a more socially conscious and socially responsible approach to its administrative operations.

Whitemarsh Township Authority Director of Finance Kyle Detweiler said the Authority anticipates an immediate cost savings on its utility bills as a result of the renewable energy additions and energy efficiency measures.

The building project will cost \$2 million and will be funded exclusively from the Authority’s capital reserve. The Authority’s more than 6,000 residential and commercial customers in Whitemarsh Township, Springfield, Plymouth Township, Whitpain Township, Ambler and Conshohocken will not see a rate increase because of the new administrative office.

Whitemarsh Township Authority offers one of the most competitive sewer rates in the region and is committed to providing the best possible service at the lowest rate possible. That goal will continue

after the Authority transitions into its new administrative office building. Two full-time administrative employees will work out of the new location, which is expected to serve the Authority and its customers for the next 50 to 100 years.

Initially, the project was expected to conclude by the end of 2020. Social distancing requirements and working within the CDC guidelines for a safe workplace during the pandemic caused the construction to take a bit longer given limited crew availability and restrictions on the number of workers permitted in or around the building. Significant snowfall and other wet weather events caused the construction timeline to be pushed back even further. Despite the minor delays, the Authority looks forward to relocating to its new home.

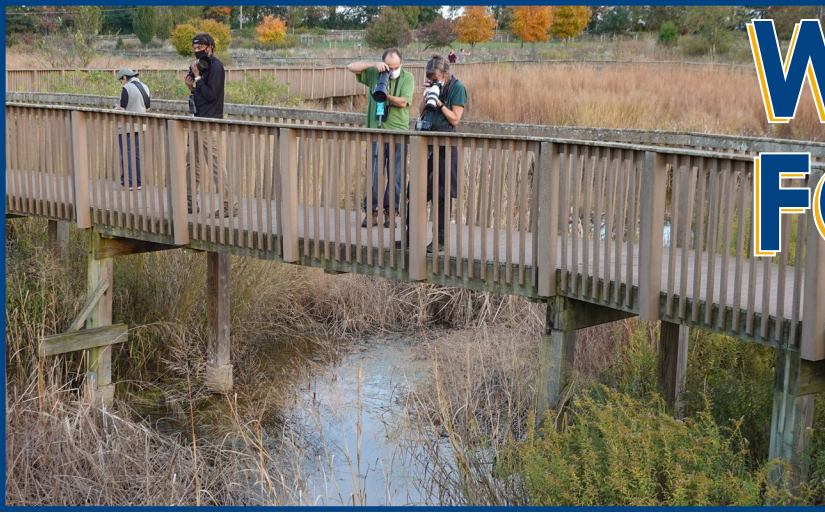
SEWER BILL PAYMENTS

The opening of a new administrative building will not change how the Authority bills its customers or how sewer bills are paid. The Authority can only accept check payments on-site at this time. Anyone wishing to pay electronically should visit the website, whitemarshauthority.org.

Customers can pay by cash by visiting the **Tompkins Vist Bank, 221 Ridge Pike, in Conshohocken**.

Customers wishing to mail payments are asked to use the **Authority’s post office box, (P.O. Box 447)** particularly as staff prepares for the move to ensure an accurate tracking of all mailed items and to prevent mail from becoming lost or undeliverable.

WHITEMARSH FOUNDATION



few years, and birders and nature enthusiasts alike come to the boardwalks to record sightings and share videos. In 2018 the Rock Wren was sighted for the first time West of the Rockies, drawing birders from as far away as Maryland and Ohio. Acting quickly, Sheppard and her team of loyal

Just a year ago in March of 2020, our community – and the country – was at the beginning of what would become a momentous chapter in our history. Montgomery County PA was the site of some of the very first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania. New and ever-changing guidance from local, state and federal government were appearing daily on how to address what was yet to be labeled a pandemic. Schools and workplaces were closing and the majority of the country was under stay at home orders.

In our corner of the world at Thomas and Flourtown Roads in Whitemarsh Township The Whitemarsh Foundation, which owns and manages 188 acres of preserved land was considering what their spring and summer educational programs may look like in this altered state.

For the past 20 years the movement that would become the Whitemarsh Foundation – preserving and maintaining open space in the Whitemarsh Valley – has worked towards its goals of not only preserving land but also serving as a place of education and advocating for others who are interested in meadow maintenance and creating natural habitats for wildlife.

Yet faced with the inability to gather in groups, and with such strong partnerships with the neighboring independent living facility the Hill at Whitemarsh which is home to residents at risk for complications from COVID-19 – how the Whitemarsh Foundation would pivot through the pandemic was the most important goal for Kimberly Sheppard, the Foundation President.

“Here we were coming into our spring season with a public health crisis and the weight of knowing that those who have loved walking our grounds and joining our birding discussions were most at risk of the virus. We had to ensure their safety first and also work to execute our mission” said Sheppard.

The Dixon Meadow Preserve has played host to over 200 species of birds and seasonal wildlife over the past

visitors assembled zoom sessions and videos that were distributed to those confined to their homes. “If they could not visit the Preserve, we would bring the season’s bird sightings to them” said Sheppard. In tandem, the maintenance and growth of the Preserve was kept on track to ensure the continued growth and evolution of the space for the wildlife who call it home. During 2020, 1700 wildflower “plugs” (new plantings) and 161 shrubs and trees were planted to further enhance and provide a diversity of plants and habitats for wildlife, as well as a rich educational experience for visitors.

As the summer grew and guidelines were reset, the small parking lot at the Dixon Meadow House had a waiting line. Those who were comfortable, came to the Preserve, and abiding by the pandemic signage and restrictions, walked the property to enjoy what was one of the most beautiful seasons for the native flora and fauna.

During the pandemic use of outdoor spaces has grown exponentially, further demonstrating the importance and need of outdoor access for our collective mental and physical well-being. Sheppard notes that as a free resource to the community, the Dixon Meadow Preserve has been proud to play a large role as an accessible and safe outlet.

With the spring of 2021 upon us, the Whitemarsh Foundation is again making plans to accommodate as many visitors – both virtually and in person – as is safe. Their current five- year strategic plan will bring to life interactive features for those who cannot visit in person, and will continue to strengthen the sights and sounds and beauty of the natural habitat found on the 14 acre preserve.

For more information please visit www.whitemarshfoundation.org.





WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP

The Board of Supervisors receives the assistance of various boards/commissions in the operations of the Township. The various boards/commissions are staffed by citizen volunteers who commit hours of their personal time and bring their talents and skills to the township government. The following is a list of the boards and commissions and the members. If you would like to serve on any of these boards or commissions, please visit the Township website and submit a volunteer application. **The "Board & Committee Members" list is current as of March 12, 2021.**

PUBLIC MEETING DATES & TIMES

At this time, all public meetings are being held via Zoom, in accordance with Public Health Guidance, and any changes will be announced via the Township's website, social media platforms, and Whitemarsh TV.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Township Building - Also televised LIVE on Comcast Ch. 965 and Verizon Ch. 46.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Third Wednesday of each alternating months starting with the month of February at 7 pm - locations vary

THE WHITEMARSH AUTHORITY

Third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at the Township Building

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

Third Monday of every other month starting January at 7 pm at the Township Building

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

First Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Township Building

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (joint with Plymouth Township)

Second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 am at the Township Building

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Fourth Wednesday of every third month starting with January at 7 pm at the Township Building

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Fourth Monday of every other month starting with January at 7 pm at the Township Building

LIBRARY BOARD

Fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Library

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

First Tuesday of every other month starting February at 7 pm at Koontz Park

PLANNING COMMISSION

Second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Township Building

ZONING HEARING BOARD

First Wednesday of each month at 7 pm, plus the second Wednesday following (if needed) at 7 pm at the Township Building.

Some meetings may be cancelled, rescheduled or relocated, so please check the Township website for the latest meeting schedule.



BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**ETHICAL STANDARDS
ADVISORY BOARD**

Nancy Langerfeld
Paul Stanish
Lester Weinraub

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Stephen J. Kaufman, *Chair*
Christopher L. Lane, *Vice-Chair*
Joan Biddle
Jim Mahoney
Hugh G. Moulton
Edmond Shinn

PLANNING COMMISSION

Pat Doran, *Chair*
J. David Shula, PLS, *Vice-Chair*
Robert Dambman
Sherri Glantz Patchen
Aaron Kostyk
Scott Quitel
Elizabeth Shaw-Fink

**HUMAN RELATIONS
COMMISSION**

Jennifer Etkin

VACANCY BOARD

Pat Doran
Sara Erlbaum
Ari Greis
Shari Petrakis
Chris Solecki

**MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD**

Ryan Hurley, *Chair*
Sharon Harvey, *Vice-Chair*
Mark Cratin
Crystal Taylor

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY
BOARD**

Deborah Sheero, *Chair*
Gordon Geasland
Debra Harris
Leia Heritage
Karen Kabnick
Lisa Litzinger-Drayton
James Tone

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Stephen J. Ziegler, *Chair*
Christian Fassbender, *Vice-Chair*
Natalie Borkowski
David D'Amore
Patrice Turenne

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
AUTHORITY**

Timothy Ferris, *Chair*
Jonathan Riesberg, *Vice-Chair*
Jori Broad
Jeanette Quirus
Gene Swider

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Joanne S. Crawford, *Chair*
Thomas J. Manley, *Vice-Chair*
James Convey
Terry Ferris
Kevin C. Kissling
Megan O'Rourke

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Robert A. Bacine, *Chair*
William E. Kramer, *Vice-Chair*
James F. Behr
Stanley Casacio
Randi Rubin Goldstein
Marc Weinstein

LIBRARY BOARD

Stan Finegold, *President*
Dara Nasatir, *Vice-President*
Carly Greis
Diane Smith-Hoban
Cathy Levin
Library Appointees:
David Segal
Sally D. Lane, MD, *President*
Linda Doll, *Friends President*

**HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL
REVIEW BOARD**

Gerald Rafter, *Chair*
Kenneth A. Parsons, AIA, *Vice-Chair*
Tom Higgins
(Plymouth Township also appoints 4 members.)

EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

John Lukens, *Chair*
Eileen Behr, *Vice-Chair*
Alex DiGiacomo, Jr.
Carol Proud
Chad Waters (*Alternate*)
Renard Rose (*BHVFC*)
Chris Schwartz (*BHVFC*)
Wayne Masters (*SMVFC*)
Bob Shoemaker (*SMVFC*)
Ken Brook (*WCAA*)
Nancy Langerfeld (*WCAA*)
Sandy Singrella (*WCAA*)
Becki Werner (*WCAA*)

PARTICIPATION

Service minded residents interested in participating on one of the township's volunteer boards or committees should submit a completed volunteer application to the Manager's Office. The application can be found at www.whitemarshwp.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD & LAND STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUP

EAB's PUBLIC MEETINGS: Meets 3rd Monday of every other month beginning in January @ 7:00 PM

There are many challenges facing the environment today. Our Township's Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) is charged with identifying challenges and making recommendations for actions the Township can take to protect and improve the Township's environment.

The Land Stewardship Working Group (LSWG) was formed to assist the EAB. It is a volunteer group composed of three EAB members and interested Township residents. The LSWG uses land stewardship - managing the land to benefit today's users, improving it for the future, and where possible, creating functioning habitats that support vibrant communities of native plants and animals - as the foundation of its work.

The 2020 Comprehensive Plan recognizes the importance of a healthy environment to residents' quality of life and includes many positive, environmentally focused actions the Township can take. The LSWG is working to help the Township realize the vision of its Comprehensive Plan. Members bring concerns from the community for discussion and contribute by researching the latest

information available for meeting specific challenges. Together, the LSWG crafts recommendations for the EAB to share with the Township. The goal is to support Township efforts to use land management best practices in the moment and to be alert for necessary corrections when new information comes to light or new challenges arise, such as invasive species and increasingly heavy storm events.

The LSWG selected three issues to concentrate on this year: improving the tree canopy, preventing litter and pet waste in the parks, and informing the community about how they can make their yards nature friendly. Improving the tree canopy involves both protecting existing trees and planting new ones. In addition to producing cooling shade, supporting native wildlife, and being beautiful, trees provide the benefits of improving human health, mitigating stormwater damage, and increasing property values. But the number of trees has decreased. The LSWG is seeking to reverse this trend. No one likes to see litter or pet waste. Pet waste is not only annoying; it is a hazard to human health and it causes water pollution. The LSWG is working with

the Township on an education campaign. Look for the new signs! A yard of only manicured grass can be virtual desert for wildlife. Replacing some lawn with native trees and plants not only looks great and reduces the need for mowing; it provides food for native birds, insects like butterflies and lightning bugs, and other wildlife. Layers of understory plants and ground covers around trees and shrubs provide a comfortable home for a wide variety of species.

Anyone interested in joining the LSWG can find us by contacting the Township. Interested volunteers can email Sean Halbom, EAB staff liaison at SHalbom@whitemarshwp.org.

All are welcome to attend EAB meetings to learn more about what is happening in our community, and to join the environmental conversation. Visit the Whitemarsh Township website to view the Community Calendar. <https://www.whitemarshwp.org>



HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (JOINT WITH PLYMOUTH TWP.)

HARB's PUBLIC MEETINGS: Meets 2nd Wednesday of month @ 8:30AM

The Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB) is the local government body that advises the Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to the preservation of historic land and buildings within the portion of Whitemarsh Township that is in the Plymouth Meeting Historic District (the District includes portions of Plymouth and Whitemarsh Townships). The HARB is made up of volunteers from our two communities. We meet on the second Wednesday morning of each month at 8:30 in the Whitemarsh Township building, although lately we have been conducting all of our meetings via Zoom at the same time. All concerned citizens are welcome to listen in. (The Zoom link can be found on the Township website in the agenda center.) We are happy to be able to guide the owners of our historic land and properties through the application phase for changes and or improvements they wish to make to their property. The HARB is currently working on a new application form to be used solely for applicants that are required to file with the HARB in order to make the process more streamlined for them.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

OSC's PUBLIC MEETINGS: Meets 4th Wednesday of every 3rd month, beginning in January @ 7:00 PM

The Whitemarsh Township Open Space Committee is constantly searching for opportunities to preserve and increase open space in the Township. The obvious candidates are large properties, but additional small open space areas would further enhance the quality of life in our community. Toward that end, we would like to encourage participation by residents of the Township.

If you see properties that are vacant, run-down, or otherwise have potential to be left as, or converted to, open space for public use and preservation, please let us know by e-mailing to the following address:

TBlomstrom@whitemarshtwp.org.

In the subject line of the e-mail, please include "Open Space Suggestion" to help us sort through those responses.

The Open Space Committee will review all suggestions, determine those that meet the proper criteria, prioritize them, and develop strategies to determine suitability for acquisition as open space.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this effort! To learn more about the work of the Committee, and the history and benefits of open space, please visit the Open Space Committee page on the Township's website.



MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

MCAB's PUBLIC MEETINGS: Meets 4th Monday every other month, beginning in January @ 7:00 PM

WAYS WE CONNECT WITH YOU

Whitemarsh Township uses various mediums to communicate with its residents. They include:



Whitemarsh Weekly

A weekly email with information about the week ahead (traffic updates, special events, holiday closures, and trash and recycling changes). Residents can sign up for the Weekly at the bottom of the Township website homepage by entering their email.



Township Website (www.whitemarshtwp.org)

The homepage includes news articles on upcoming events, traffic updates, and holiday closures. Our website and social media pages are usually used for last-minute information such as weather closures or emergency alerts. Scheduled public meetings are also advertised on the meeting calendar.



Whitemarsh TV (Comcast 965, Verizon 46)

Local Access Channel with Board of Supervisors Meetings shown daily at 9am & 7pm, as well as recurring slideshows and valuable PSAs with a variety of information.



YouTube

WTV now shares valuable PSAs and recent Board of Supervisors Meetings on our YouTube channel. You can access a link on the WTV page on the Township Website.



Facebook

Road work and closures, upcoming events, and last-minute updates and emergency alerts are shared on social media. Please follow and share to help spread the word quickly with your neighbors.



Whitemarsh Living & the Recreator

The print publications are also shared digitally on our website, and include information about seasonal events and activities. Be sure to check up on the website for any schedule changes required due to the pandemic or weather.



2021 Montgomery County, PA Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Events

By appointment only, preregistration required

DATES:

Saturday, April 24

Boyertown Middle School East

2020 Big Road, Gilbertsville

[Register Here](#)

Saturday, May 1

Indian Valley Middle School

130 Maple Avenue, Harleysville

[Register Here](#)

Saturday, May 8

Montgomery County Community College

Enter at 595 Cathcart Road, Blue Bell

[Register Here](#)

Saturday, June 12

Temple University–Ambler Campus

Enter at 1431 E. Butler Pike, Ambler

[Register Here](#)

Saturday, June 19

Abington Junior High School

Enter at 2056 Susquehanna Road, Abington

[Register Here](#)

Saturday, September 25

Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center

400 South Lewis Road, Royersford

[Register Here](#)

SUNDAY, October 24

Lower Merion Transfer Station

1300 N. Woodbine Avenue, Penn Valley

[Register Here](#)

Free residential collection events are held outdoors. Montco residents may also attend any Household Hazardous Waste event held by Bucks, Chester, Delaware, or Philadelphia Counties.

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.

Contact us at:

MontcoPARecycles.org

recycling@montcopa.org

610.278.3618



Pennsylvania Department
of Environmental
Protection



MONTCO PA
RECYCLES



MontcoPARecycles.org

Registration available at
MontcoPARecycles.org



Follow us at [MontgomeryCountyRecycling](https://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryCountyRecycling)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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



Painting With Purpose

6 Weeks | Live Zoom



Sculptural Functional Ceramics

8 Weeks | Live Zoom + Video Tutorials



Making Faces Hand Building

3 Weeks | Live Zoom + Video Tutorials



Teen Ceramics

5 Weeks | Live Zoom + Video Tutorials



Family Ceramics: Parent & Child

5 Weeks | Live Zoom + Video Tutorials



Abracadabra Magic Tricks

4 Weeks | Live Zoom



Design Your Own Chess Set

3 Weeks | Live Zoom + Video Tutorials



Corporate Group Art Classes

1 Night | Live Zoom | By Appointment



Call to Artists



BIG
tiny art show

Art Showcase & Fundraiser
May 22

WhitemarshArts.org

100 Cedar Grove Road | Conshohocken, PA 19428 | office@whitemarsharts.org

Active on Facebook and Instagram



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

The mission of the William Jeanes Memorial Library and Nicholas and Athena Karabots Center for learning is to be a resource center that serves the diverse and changing needs of the community by providing materials, programs, and services for education, enrichment, and enjoyment.

CHECK US OUT!

- New collections to browse, new devices to check out, and new programs, all FREE for YOU!
- Sign up for our monthly newsletter—ask our staff for information or visit our website.
- Sign up for Wowbrary, our weekly newsletter featuring all of the new items added to the Collection in the previous week. See our website for details.
- Our complete Calendar of Events is available on our website and at either Check-Out Desk
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram—for news, events, and fun!

All Library programs are virtual through August unless otherwise indicated. Virtual programs are courtesy of the Mary Knowles Technology Fund of the Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library

ADULT VIRTUAL EVENTS

MONTHLY

Book Club comes together on the **3rd Wednesday at 3:00 pm**. **Horror Book Club** meets the 4th Friday of the month at **7:00 pm**. Visit the website for a schedule of books and discussion guides.

Silver Screenings Movie Discussions meets on the 4th Thursday at **7:00 pm**. We're working our way through Roger Ebert's Great Films. Watch on your own, then come together to discuss!

SPECIAL EVENTS*

All summer long we'll host events to inspire your imagination, including a writing workshop, art classes, fun lectures, a Spice Club, and more! Check our website for details during the summer.

**Sponsored by Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library*

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

Join us for **Nights at the Round Table** on the **first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm** on Facebook Live and Zoom as our Librarians discuss books for Adults, Teens, and Children! Love the books or hate them, we still can't wait to talk to you about them!



Coming to MontCo Libraries
7pm | April 29
Conversation with
David Baldacci

Tickets on sale April 5 @ MontCoLibraries.org
Signed copies of A Gambling Man available with ticket purchase!

2021 MontCo One Book

LIBRARY HOURS

Please call the Library or check our website for our Open hours, as they are subject to change at this time.

****Closed April 3-4, May 29-31, July 3-4, Sept. 4-6**

VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S EVENTS ON FACEBOOK LIVE

STORYTIMES

Sensory Storytime (3 yrs. & up)
Most Tuesdays, 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Babes & Books (0-18 mos.)
Most Tuesdays, 11:00 - 11:20 a.m.



MUSIC & MOVEMENT

For preschoolers, but all ages welcome!
Most Fridays, 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.

MONTHLY EVENTS

CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR DATES

Pajama Storytime (through about age 7)

One Wednesday per month @ 6:30 pm

Rainbow Reads with Ms. Rachel (4 yrs. & up)

One Wednesday per month @ 6:30 pm

For additional information, specific dates, and additional special programs for children, including outdoor storytimes, please visit jeaneslibrary.org or contact Rachel Fecho, Children's Librarian, at 610-828-0441 ext. 104 or rfecho@mclinc.org.

VIRTUAL GRADE-SCHOOL EVENTS VIA ZOOM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MAKER MONDAYS (3RD-5TH GRADERS)
MONDAYS 4:00 PM

GAME ON! (3RD-5TH GRADERS)
THURSDAYS 4:00 PM

LOOK FOR HAND SEWING CLASSES, BAKING CLASSES, WRITING WORKSHOPS, UKULELE CLASSES, AND MORE!

PROGRAMS COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE WILLIAM JEANES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

SUMMER READING



TAILS AND TALES

June 19 - August 14

Join us for a summer-long program of reading, prizes, events, classes, free books, storytimes, and more! All ages will find plenty of ways to fire up their imagination at the Library this summer! Check the Library's website and Calendar of Events for details.

VIRTUAL TEEN EVENTS

(GRADES 6 - 12)

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 Library.

The Q-Crew meets on the **2nd Wednesday from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.** LGBTQ+ teens and allies are invited to discuss current topics, issues, and events in a safe space.

Anime Club happens on the **4th Monday from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.** Do you enjoy anime and manga? If so, join our Anime Club! Bring your friends (and make new ones) as you watch and discuss your favorite anime.

Take and Makes Free monthly kits you pick-up at the Library!

Read, Watch, and Chat Share what you're reading and watching! **Third Mondays at 7:00 pm**

**Programs courtesy of the Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library.*

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

ALL AGES

VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHTS

Compete against players from around the world in our famous trivia night! Check the website for dates and themes!



CONNECTING EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE

An award-winning monthly social series for young adults ages 18+ with special needs and abilities

3rd Fridays 6:30 - 8 pm

Virtual Programs: April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, Aug. 20, and Sept. 17
Zoom Hangouts every other Monday 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Registration in the program is required.

CEP is held in partnership with Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation, and is partially funded by a grant from CCRES.



SAVE THE DATES

Various dates: "Dine Around Whitemarsh" Nights
June - September: New and gently-used jewelry collection for our fall sale

Second Saturday of the Month from April through September: Friends of the William Jeanes Memorial Library Outdoor Book Sales! (weather permitting)



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

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www.whitemarshtwp.org/opt-out



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