

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

A PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

VOLUME 40 - FALL 2012

NEWSLETTER

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Meeting Dates

Board of Supervisors Meeting
1st Tues. of each month 7:30 p.m.

Twp. Planning Commission
3rd Thurs. of each month 7:00 p.m.

Twp. Zoning Board
2nd Tues. of each month 7:30 p.m.

Phone Numbers

Office 285-5554
Police..... 285-5191
Emergencies..... 911
Police - Fire - Ambulance
TDD (800) 654-5984
FAX 285-2879
www.twp.west-hempfield.pa.us

Board of Supervisors

David M. Dumeyer
Chairman

Edward C. Fisher
Vice Chairman

Frank R. Burkhardt
Township Supervisor

Kent B. Gardner
Township Supervisor

Naomi G. Martin
Township Supervisor

Ron L. Youtz
Township Manager



West Hempfield Township Police Department
202 likes 50 talking about this

Like us on **facebook**

The West Hempfield Township Police Department recently created its own Facebook page. With today's technology, it is believed that the general public is using electronic and social media far more than traditional media, especially with the younger generations. This does not mean that the police department will stop doing press releases for both the print and broadcasting media. This will continue as always, but we feel it is time for us to enter the social media world as well.

By creating our own Facebook page, we will be able to post general information about events happening within West Hempfield Township and Mountville Borough, such as National Night Out, Crime Watch and Citizens Police Academies. We will be able to warn you of road closures due to ongoing highway projects and give you the approved detour routes. When we develop suspects in a criminal investigation and are unable to locate them, we can post their name and photo asking you to help locate them, as well as photos and videos of subjects committing criminal acts, so that you can help us identify them. And let's not forget about those poor lost dogs that we

find or are turned over to us. We can now post photos of them so that we can find their owners or, if nobody claims them, let you know that these dogs are available for adoption at no cost to you. Wouldn't you like to know if there has been a rash of thefts from vehicles in your area? Well, this is where we will post it so that you can make sure your vehicles are locked and no valuables are left in them at night.

The items that we can post on our Facebook site are endless and we will continue think of new items as time goes on, so take the time and "Like" us on Facebook.



One important note, this page is not monitored 24-hours a day, so it is NOT the place to request police assistance or report emergencies. For non-emergency assistance, please contact our office at 285-5191. For emergency assistance, call 911 or 1-800-957-2677 to reach our dispatch center.



New Finance / Personnel Director

BRENDA SHUEY



In March of this year, the Board of Supervisors appointed Brenda Shuey as the Township's new Finance and Personnel Director. Brenda brings to us

over 30 years of Municipal Finance experience.

In this position, she is responsible for the accounting of a majority of the Township accounts, payroll administration and processing, along with managing employee benefits.

Brenda and the entire Township staff look forward to serving all the residents of West Hempfield Township.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

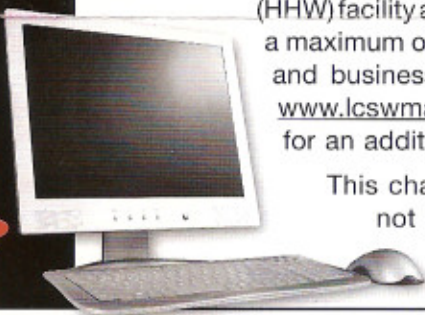
The West Hempfield Township Police Department will be hosting its second Citizens Police Academy in late winter or early spring of 2013 at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center. A total of 10 classes will be held in the evenings over a 2 to 3 week period. The purpose of the academy is to provide a "Partnership through Education," through which the citizens of West Hempfield Township and Mountville Borough can learn more about the basic operations and legal issues by which the department functions. Any West Hempfield Township or Mountville Borough resident, business owner or individual actively involved in the community may apply. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age and attendance will be limited to the first 30 eligible applicants. If you are interested in attending and wish to be notified when the dates and times have been established, please contact the West Hempfield Township Police Department at 285-5191.

TELEVISION & COMPUTER DISPOSAL NO LONGER PERMITTED WITH TRASH

Effective January 24, 2013 all trash haulers will be prohibited by State law from collecting the following items as trash: televisions of any size, desktop computers, laptops, monitors, computer accessories, including keyboards, mouse, printers, speakers, and e-readers that browse the internet.

These items **MUST** be recycled by taking them to the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility at 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster. They will accept a maximum of 10 units per visit, per day from County residents and businesses at no charge. Please visit their website at: www.lcswma.org for more information or www.Earth911.com for an additional list of locations that recycle these devices.

This change applies to **ALL** residents of the Township, not just those participating in the Township trash program.



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

A reminder of the importance to support your local Fire Companies. These dedicated men and women are committed to providing necessary services when tragedy strikes. Only a portion of their operating expenses and equipment costs are paid through tax generated funds. Their ability to continue with the necessary level of service depends on the financial support from our entire community.

Please consider making a donation or assisting them by supporting one of their many fundraisers held throughout the year. Remember, all Fire Company personnel are volunteers who make a huge commitment to all of us with the number of hours of mandatory training, emergency response, and behind the scenes duties they perform. Please contact the Fire Department if you have a desire to volunteer. There are many tasks beyond responding to fire calls that the Fire Company could benefit from your time.

The final Chicken Bar-B-Q for 2012 of the West Hempfield Township Fire and Rescue will be held on Saturday, October 13th.



COLLECTIONS & RECYCLING

(Note: Clip and save as a reminder)

YARD WASTE COLLECTION STOPS IN OCTOBER

Please remember that after October 18th of this year, yard waste will not be picked up as a special collection. After October 18, 2012 and through March 2013, small amounts of yard waste can be placed out as regular trash. If you have more than the totter or the three containers allowed, a yellow tag must be attached to each extra container. Kraft bags do not have to be used during this time. As usual, no loose brush or woody material will be taken; it must be contained in some manner or tied into bundles no more than 30 pounds.

Please do not bag leaves for trash disposal at this time of year since the Twp. Highway Department will collect those curbside. Please refer to the collection schedule (to the right) for those pickup dates.

Please mark your calendars as a reminder that collection of yard waste as a special, separate pick-up will resume in April, 2013, and does require that you purchase biodegradable bags from the Township. The final date for drop-off this year will be Saturday, September 22nd.

LEAF COLLECTION

The Township provides leaf collection to residential properties each fall. Please rake leaves to the front of the curb or along the edge of the road. Leaves need to be within five feet of the curb or the edge of the road for our equipment and crews to efficiently collect them. Our crews attempt to follow the schedule, but may vary due to volume and/or weather conditions. During dry weather conditions dust is always an issue, and we will do our best to keep it to a minimum. The dates listed are when we will start your area and it may take us a full week to complete the route. We ask for your patience during this season as this can be a difficult task for our crews. We will continue our work until each route has been collected 4 times. Below is the schedule:

Residents East of Prospect Road: October 15th, October 29th, and November 12th. Final Collection will start the week of November 26th.

Residents West of Prospect Road: October 18th, November 5th, and November 19th. Final Collection will start the week of December 3rd.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Township residents are again invited to drop off their Christmas trees for recycling during the month of January at the parking lot of the Fairview Park on Fairview Road. Trees can be dropped off at any time, weekends or weekdays. Please be sure to remove all bags and decorations before leaving it on the pile. The trees will be ground into mulch for the township parks.

Trees disposed of with your trash will not be recycled and must have a red \$4.00 tag attached. Please be sure the tag is clearly visible from the street. There is no set date for collection, but none will be taken after April 1st and all must be less than 6 feet in length. Please consider recycling your tree this year.



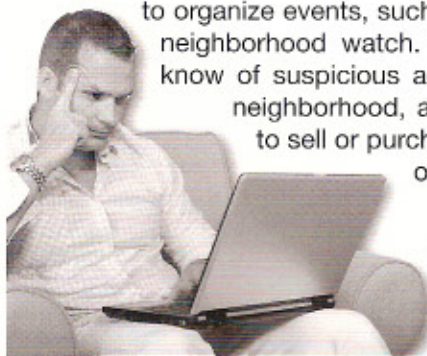
COMMERCIAL RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS

Reminder to all commercial establishments, we will be mailing the annual recycling report requests for 2012 soon. Please be sure you are compiling your disposal weights needed to complete this report. Corrugated cardboard, high grade office paper, glass bottles and jars, steel and bimetal cans, and plastic items with a #1(PET) or #2(HDPE) MUST be recycled. In addition, automotive repair shops must recycle used motor oil, other vehicle fluids, tires and batteries. All items reported must include copies of weight tickets or a signature of the recycling center if not collected by a licensed hauler. This includes paper recycled with Shred-It. If you have any questions, once you receive this request, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Nextdoor.com

Are you looking for a way to communicate with your neighbors, others living on your street or maybe even your entire neighborhood? Nextdoor.com provides a free, private social network just for your neighborhood. It's a great way to stay connected and keep your neighborhood safe. National Night Out is partnering with Nextdoor to offer the best way to organize your neighborhood events and keep your neighborhood safe throughout the year. Nextdoor.com is also supported by the National Association of Town Watch.

Neighborhoods across the country are using Nextdoor as a way to organize events, such as yard sales, block parties and neighborhood watch. They are using it to let others know of suspicious activity that is happening in their neighborhood, as well as items they are looking to sell or purchase. They are also sharing advice of all kinds.



Go to Nextdoor.com and click on "See a Nextdoor Neighborhood in Action." Maybe Nextdoor is right for your neighborhood.

UPDATE ON TOTOER USAGE

The distribution of 96 gallon trash toters to Township trash customers has been completed. If you have not received a toter and would like one, please contact our office and we will have the hauler deliver one to you. If you still have a toter that you do not want to use, place it curbside and call our office so that we can have it picked up.

For those using this toter, please remember that it will hold the three 32 gallon containers you are permitted on our program. Any trash placed outside the toter must have a yellow extra service tag attached. We remind you that all trash must be bagged within the toter. Do not stack any bags above the rim or on top of the closed lid.

We also remind you that the toter should be positioned so that the metal bar on the can is facing the street to make it accessible by the hauler for lifting. Be sure there is a clear area of at least 3 feet on all sides, including around mailboxes and shrubbery.



Historic Properties

West Hempfield Township has been fortunate to have a group volunteer their time and efforts in creating an inventory of our Historic Properties. The last time that any such survey had been completed was in the mid to late 1980s. We believe it is important to document these properties as they all share in capturing a part of our rich cultural and historical heritage, and prove to be a great tool in public awareness of the important role that many of these sites have played in local history before our lifetime. This assessment should also confirm that we may have many structures with some level of historic significance not previously recognized. Please contact the Township office if you have any questions or a desire to volunteer your time.



Trick-or-Treat



Trick-or-Treat night will be held on October 31st of each year, unless this date falls on a Saturday or Sunday. When this occurs, it will be held on the Friday prior to October 31st. This year, Trick-or-Treat night will be held Wednesday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SAFETY TIPS

Trick-or-Treat in groups and always with a responsible adult.

Look both ways before you cross the street.

Never cross the street from between parked cars.

When available, walk on the sidewalk, not on the street.

Only go to houses with their outside lights on.

Have parents check treats before you eat them.

Never enter a stranger's house (even if you're invited).

Use brightly colored, flame retardant costumes that fit and carry a flashlight so you are seen.

Wear make-up instead of a mask for better visibility.

Make sure your trick-or-treat bags are sturdy and easy to handle (not too big).

Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather.

NEVER take a ride from or enter a stranger's car.

Be Safe & Have Fun!

TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT

**Wednesday, October 31st
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

for West Hempfield Township

WINTER WEATHER

Tips & Information

In a few short months we will once again be entering the winter weather season. Although last winter proved to be a mild one we all remember the challenges with snowfall events. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as the Public Works Crew works continuously to keep our roadways safe and passable.

West Hempfield Township has approximately 80 miles of roads to maintain during winter weather events. Our first objective is to make each road passable. Each weather event is different and our plan and approach changes accordingly based on the forecast and size of the storm.

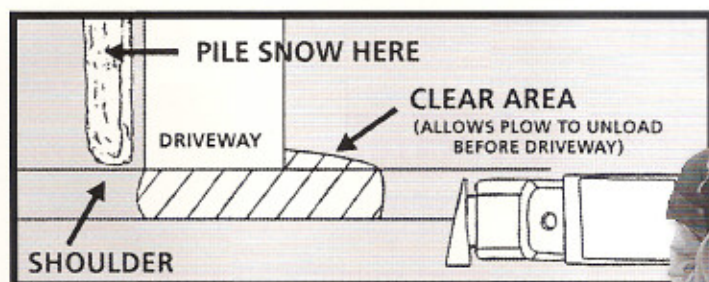
Below is a list of suggestions for residents to assist us and themselves in the snow removal process:

Vehicle Parking: When possible, we strongly recommend that all vehicles are parked off the roadway in your driveway. Plowing operations can be carried out much more efficiently when crews do not need to navigate around parked vehicles. This policy is even more important in cul-de-sacs where parking creates a huge challenge in our efforts to clear those areas.

Mailboxes: Our crew makes every effort to avoid causing damage to mailboxes. Mailboxes are in the Township right-of-way, but are the property owner's responsibility to maintain. Please take the time before winter starts to make sure your mailbox and post are in good condition and secure. The Township is not responsible for damage to mailboxes from snow that comes off the snowplow, only if the plow or truck actually strikes your mailbox.

Fire Hydrants: For you and your neighbor's protection, please remember to clear the snow away from fire hydrants located on or near your property.

Driveways: Shown below is a diagram of the Township's driveway clearing recommendations. Abiding by the following guidelines will help make the snow removal process easier, safer, and more effective for all:



Driveway Shoveling Tips

- Plow or shovel snow to the RIGHT of the driveway as you are facing the roadway. This will prevent the bulk of the snow from being pushed back into the driveway by oncoming plows.
- Eliminate snow piles at the driveway entrance, whenever possible. High accumulations of snow obstruct the vision of motorists exiting the driveway and oncoming motorists ability to see you pulling out.
- DO NOT push snow out onto roads at anytime. This creates hazardous driving conditions for all vehicles.



SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL REGULATIONS

In 2001, West Hempfield Township adopted an amendment to the Township Code concerning the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks throughout the Township. The Ordinance places the responsibility for this removal on the owner and/or occupant of each property that fronts a street with a sidewalk.

Chapter 12, Article III requires:

- Within 24 hours after snow has ceased to fall or ice has ceased to form, there shall be a clear walk along the entire length of sidewalk of at least three (3) feet in width.
- In the event the snow or ice on a sidewalk becomes so hard that it cannot be removed without the likelihood of damage to the sidewalk, the responsible party shall cause enough sand or other abrasive to be placed on the sidewalk to make travel reasonably safe, and shall, as soon thereafter as weather permits, cause to be cleared a path in the sidewalk of at least three feet in width.
- Every responsible party shall remove and clear away any accumulation of snow and ice on a building or other structure which is liable to fall on any sidewalk, roadway, or public way within 24-hours after the cessation of any snow, sleet, or freezing rain.
- Every responsible party shall remove and clear away, or cause to be removed and cleared away, any accumulation of snow or ice surrounding a fire hydrant located along the frontage of the property of the responsible party within 24-hours after cessation of any snow, sleet, or freezing rain.
- Depositing of snow or ice on a fire hydrant, sidewalk, travel lanes of a street or loading/unloading area of a public transportation system by property owners/occupants is prohibited.

West Hempfield Township

3401 Marietta Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601



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This publication utilizes bulk mailing rates and is delivered according to mail carrier routes. Delivery to homes outside of the boundaries of West Hempfield Township may occur where carrier routes continue into bordering municipalities.

APPLIANCE AND TIRE PICKUP

Tires and large appliances (washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, water heaters, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and freezers) will be collected for Township trash customers during special pickups scheduled as follows:

- For customers who have their trash collected on Wednesday, the special pickup will be on **Saturday, October 13, 2012.**
- For customers who have their trash collected on Thursday, the special pickup will be on **Saturday, October 20, 2012.**

Items should be placed curbside Friday evening before the scheduled pickup. Each appliance must be marked with a BLUE extra service tag (\$12.00 each); rimless tires must have one YELLOW tag attached, and tires with rims must have two YELLOW tags attached. If you have the necessary tags and are disposing of an appliance, tires and/or rims, register your name and address with the Township office **BEFORE** the above dates to ensure pick up. If you need to purchase tags, please do so **BEFORE NOON** on Friday, October 12th for Wednesday residents or Friday, October 19th for Thursday residents.

If, for any reason, your appliance and/or tires are not picked up on the scheduled Saturday, leave the items curbside and call the Township office after 8:00 a.m. on Monday morning following the scheduled pickup.



Holiday TRASH SCHEDULE

*(Note: Clip and save
as a reminder)*

The Thanksgiving holiday will not affect trash collection for Wednesday customers, but trash collection for Thursday customers will be delayed by one day to Friday, November 23rd. Christmas & New Year's holidays will each delay trash pickup by one day. Wednesday customers will be picked up on Thursday and Thursday customers will be picked up on Friday following these two holidays. No other holidays affect trash pickup during the fall of 2012. Additional holidays for 2013 will be listed in our Spring newsletter.

Make sure your trash and recycling are placed curbside the evening before. No return trips will be made for items not put out in time. Holidays not listed will not affect trash pickup.