



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP NEWS

Fall 2015
Vol. 29, No. 4

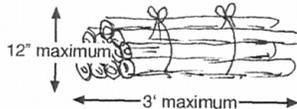
www.pennsbury.pa.us

IT'S FALL CLEAN-UP TIME!

Township Branch Collection November 9 - 13

Brush and limbs must be properly prepared or they will not be collected.

- ◆ Brush and limbs must be from your Pennsbury Township property.
- ◆ **Brush and limbs must be put out before start date as only one pass will be made through each neighborhood.**
- ◆ NO roots, stumps and limbs with wire and/or nails.
- ◆ All brush and limbs must be in the right of way .
- ◆ Fresh cut (green) limbs, 2" in diameter and larger, should be left full length, placed along roadside with large ends closest to road.
- ◆ Dry, dead brush must be tied in bundles no greater than 3' long and 12" in diameter. Dry, dead tree limbs are to be cut in 3' lengths and tied in bundles no more than 12" in diameter.
- ◆ A sample bundle is on display at the Township Building along with free bailing twine and instructions.
- ◆ Limit of 8 bundles of brush and/or tree limbs and 10 fresh cut (green) branches per property.



Township Leaf Collection October 19 - November 30

Bag your leaves and take them to the designated area at the Township Building.

Open Burning - Question: Can residents do it?

Answer on page 2

WHAT RESIDENTS NEED TO KNOW NOW ABOUT STORM WA- TER MANAGEMENT BASIN INSPECTIONS

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) is encouraging municipalities to perform periodic inspections of all storm water management facilities located within their respective townships.

Storm water facilities inspections are part of the MS-4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Program which is administered by PaDEP. In anticipation of more stringent mandates from PaDEP concerning storm water facilities inspections, Pennsbury Township is initiating a program for storm water basin inspections.

Existing basins are generally either located within open space or on privately owned lots. Maintenance of these basins often are the **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LOT OWNER.**

These basins need to be periodically cleaned out to keep the flow of water moving properly. Residents can expect Township inspectors to visit the sites to assess the condition of the storm water basins. The inspectors will be wearing orange vests with "Pennsbury Township" lettering on them.

The Township will provide additional information concerning the inspection program as the program evolves. An inspection report will be sent to the responsible party in order to initiate the required maintenance. Property owners will be notified ahead of time alerting them of the inspection.

If there are storm water facilities in new development, property owners will be required to sign an agreement and submit escrow (amount to be determined by the township engineer depending on the type of system installed) for these inspections.

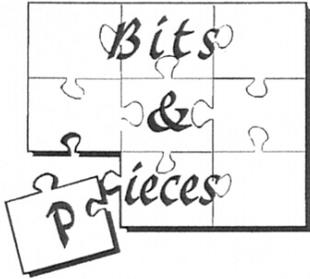
A Storm Water Management Ordinance was recently adopted by the Township addressing these new regulations. This ordinance was the result of State Act 167, which addresses storm water management. If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact the Township office at 610-388-7323.

PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP
OFFICE
702 Baltimore Pike
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

610-388-7323
Fax 610-388-6036
email:
khowley@pennsbury.pa.us

Office Hours:
8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Monday — Thursday
Kathleen Howley, Twp. Manager

SUPERVISORS
Scotty Scottoline, Chair
Aaron McIntyre, Vice Chair
Wendell Fenton



❖SCHOOL BUSES ARE ROLLING

Please make sure trees and shrubs are trimmed and not blocking sight distances especially at corners and driveways. The Township has the right to trim if residents do not.

DO NOT PLANT IN THE RIGHT OF WAY AND DO NOT PLANT BAMBOO.

Watch for children and never pass a stopped school bus with flashing red lights.

❖PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

For residents who like to walk our roads enjoying the beautiful scenery, walk AGAINST the traffic and do not wear headphones so as to hear traffic. Be safe!

❖YARD SALE IN JEOPARDY

The last newsletter included a call for volunteers to help with this popular event and also identify someone who is willing to head this event. SO FAR NO ONE HAS STEPPED FORWARD TO VOLUNTEER.

If no one comes forward by the end of the year the Yard Sale **WILL BE CANCELLED**. Please call the

Township office at 610-388-7323 if you can help with parking and/or chair the committee.

❖RECYCLE YOUR TV

South Eastern Chester County Refuse Authority (SECCRA) accepts televisions from Pennsbury Township residents, as the Township is within their service area. There is a minimum charge of \$5.00 for up to 140 lbs. of electronics. Electronics can be taken to their land fill at 219 Street Road in West Grove. More info at: <http://seccra.org>

❖2016 TAX BILLS

Chester County tax bills will be delivered in January, Township bills by March 1 and School Tax bills by July 1. If you do not receive these bills, it is your obligation to follow up with the proper tax authority to get a duplicate bill.

The EIT tax is either deducted from your pay by your employer or, if self employed, you should pay quarterly. Keystone Collections collects this tax. They can be reached at 610-269-4402 if you have questions. The taxpayer hotline is 888-328-0365. Information is also on the Pennsbury Township website.

❖55 ALIVE RE-FRESHER

Townwatch is again sponsoring this course on

Saturday, November 14 from 8am til noon in the Harris Room of the Township Building. This is for residents who have completed the original course and need to renew their certification.

The cost is \$10.00 for AARP members and \$15.00 for non-members. Pay at the door. Reserve a space by calling the Township at 610-388-7323.

❖ReadyChesCo

This is a new Chester County public notification system to notify County residents of a major crisis or emergency and deliver important messages such as weather, road closures, health and/ or community alerts.

Residents can register for this free service at

www.readychesco.org. You can choose to sign up by county, municipality or by topic. Notifications and updates will be sent to you on all your devices.

❖HELP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Medicare annual open enrollment time is coming up soon. APPRISE is a free health insurance counseling program offered by the Chester County Department of Aging.

If you are thinking about making a change to your Medicare Advantage or Part D Drug Plan, they can help you determine what program is best for you.

Call 610-344-6035 for an appointment.

Answer to the Question on page 1 as to whether residents can do open burning:

YES, if regulations are followed.

NO, if it will disturb your neighbors.

Residents are urged to take advantage of the Township leaf and branch collection programs to eliminate the need for open burning.

Pennsbury Township open burning regulations areas follows:

- Open Burning is NOT permitted on weekdays between 4 pm and 9am and all day Sat.and Sun.

- During permitted periods, prior to open burning, the local fire department shall be notified at 610-436-4700 and the property owner shall comply with all requirements of the fire department. This is a necessary, but not sufficient, requirement regulating open burning. The Township Ordinances must be adhered to first.

Violations will be subject to citing by the Township Zoning Officer and potential action by District Court.

A Pennsbury Historic Building — Webb Farmhouse

The 18th century stone farmhouse at the farthest point north on the Longwood Gardens' Meadow Walk is known as the William Webb Farmhouse. It is part of the 75 acre Longwood Gardens National Register Historic District, located in the northwest corner of Pennsbury Township. The William Webb Farm remained in the same family for over two hundred years, with only a brief interlude of ownership by Thomas Savery from 1860-1883.

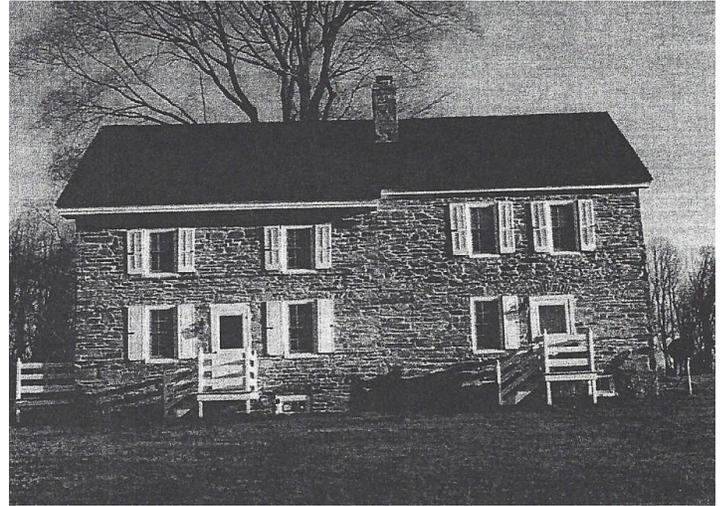
The son of an early Pennsylvania settler, William Webb was a Quaker, a founding member of the Kennett Meeting, a Justice of the Peace, and a member of the Assembly.

After Pierre duPont bought the Webb property in 1915, the old farmhouse was used as a tenant house for employees. When the Longwood Foundation commissioned a Historic Structures Report in 1990, the home was closed and vacant. The report recommended preserving the building and using it as part of a historic architectural tour.

Although a Victorian style front porch on the farmhouse's south side and a small 1917 one room addition have been removed, no major renovations occurred in the past 25 years. It was not until the creation of the Meadow Walk in 2014 that the Webb Farmhouse was reborn as a destination and exhibition space with a view overlooking the once tilled farmland.

Visitors now approach the two story house by a walking path that climbs a hillside filled with wildflowers and dotted by bluebird houses. The path to the old building leads from the Pierce/duPont home, passing near other historic houses and a large barn located in the Historic District. It can also be reached by a van, which operates during visitors' hours.

Without the porch and small west addition, the present building has much the same exterior design as the pre Revolutionary house. All the stonework has been cleaned, repaired, and repointed. The roof is of thick cedar shakes. The two original raised front entries remain, with simple wooden handrails and step accesses.



Initially, the older two story 'rubble' stone structure consisted of only one room on each floor. An exterior door on the north side has been closed with stonework, probably at the time of the first addition or in a 19th century remodeling. The windows' and doors' symmetric proximity allowed for a fireplace on the west wall and a long removed stairway in the northwest corner.

The larger western two floor addition construction occurred prior to 1763, according to public records. Three bays or openings were built in the first floors' front and rear walls, including central entry doors. Two second floor windows were duplicated in the front and rear as well. The addition's central staircase was relocated for easier visitor circulation in the 2014 renovation and the north door is now the main entry to the building.

This September, Longwood Gardens' renovation of the Webb Farmhouse has been recognized by Preservation Pennsylvania, a member of the National Trust Partners Network, with a Stewardship Initiative Award. John Milner Architects received a 2015 Grand Jury Award for Restoration from the Preservation Alliance for Greater Phila-

Recycling Reminder



Do NOT put plastic bags in the recycle bins. If they are used to carry recycling items, empty them out and take them with you. Plastic bags in the bins may cause the whole bin to be ineligible for recycling and it may have to be land filled. If you care enough to recycle, please do it right.

Township Permits

When does a Township resident need a permit?

The rule of thumb is to always check with the Township. However, the list below offers **some** examples of when you need a permit.

- Building a house
- Building or replacing a deck
- Hardscaping - patios and decks
- Erecting or replacing (more than 25%) a fence
- Installing a swimming pool, tennis court
- Replacing a driveway (putting macadam down)
- installing a generator
- Upgrading a kitchen/bathroom
- Finishing a basement
- Adding an addition
- Replacing/ repairing a septic system
- Disturbing ground - especially with steep slope and grade is changed

When are permits NOT required?

Replacing a roof if there is not change to the roof line. This is considered maintenance.

Sealing a driveway.

When in doubt ask!!

If work is done and no permit has been issued a \$1000 fine can be levied.

Planning Commission Update

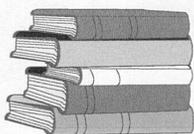
During recent months, the activities of the Planning Commission (PC) included meeting with the Board of Supervisors to discuss progress on our collective goals and objectives for this year; reviewing a Zoning Variance Application for the construction of a garage in a front yard; completing our review and recommended amendments to the Village Residential Area and Bulk Regulations and to the Accessory Structures portion of the Supplemental Use Regulations of our Zoning Ordinance.

We reviewed proposed changes to the plans for Windmill Hollow Subdivision, reviewed the Township's Open Space Design Ordinance and continued our activities on the Protection of Natural Resources.

Additionally, as reported in a previous update, the PC advanced our joint project with the Brandywine Conservancy and National Land Trust to strengthen the Township's Riparian Buffer Ordinance and we expect to conclude that work in September.

All Township residents are welcome at Planning Commission meetings which are scheduled for the second and fourth Tuesdays on each month at 5:00 PM at the Township Building.

Dennis Smith, Chair



Kennett Library News

The Bayard Taylor Library has a new name--the Kennett Library. When asked, most people referred to the library as the "Kennett Library" so now it is officially known as the KENNETT LIBRARY.

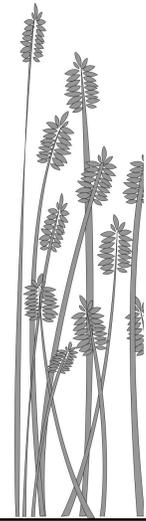
The upcoming fall months are packed with library events for residents of all ages.

- The popular Family Place Playgroup on Thursday mornings at 9 for families with children aged birth to 4 years old
- Fairy Tale Music Class Fridays at 9 am (Oct. 9 & 23 and Nov. 6 & 20) giving children aged 3 to 5 an opportunity to create and perform musical theater versions of classic fairy tales.
- Elementary school children can practice their reading skills with PAWS for Reading therapy dogs Tuesday evenings (Sept. 15, Oct. 6 & 20, Nov. 3 & 17) at 6:30 p.m. or take an art class Tuesdays at 6 p.m. through Oct. 27. For

more information on children's programs, email John at jhendrix@ccls.org.

- Teens and Tweens will have the opportunity to code and create their own video games with experts from Chatham Financial. Two after-school sessions will be offered in October and November, but space is limited and registration is required.
- Other activities for middle and high school students include Geek Gang, Graphic Novel Book Club, Table Top Gaming, Magic: The Gathering League and Video Game Club. For more information on teen programs, please email Ivy at iweir@ccls.org.
- A Graphic Novel Book Club for Adults, a monthly meet-up to explore this interesting storytelling medium while reading some of the very best in graphic novels.
- The more traditional book group that meets the last Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the library.

PLT Membership Drive Starts Soon



The Pennsbury Land Trust Membership Drive for 2016 will start near the end of October. A formal appeal will be mailed to each residence. The mission of the PLT is to serve the needs of Pennsbury Township in the preservation, conservation and stewardship of open space including important agriculturally productive lands and natural areas.

Key to its role is to provide assistance to landowners who wish to pursue conservation objectives in their long and short term plans for their properties and also to serve as a liaison with other conservation and historic preservation organizations.

The Pennsbury Land Trust also strives to foster community spirit through events and educational workshops throughout the year that are in keeping with the celebration of the uniqueness of the area.

Join us as a member this fall during the 2016 PLT Membership Drive. Your support does make a difference. Visit www.pennsburylandtrust.org for more information.

Pennsbury Needs You - As a Volunteer

The Township has several committees that are staffed by volunteers. To find new members, the Township maintains a file of people that would be willing to serve. If you are interested, please fill out the following and either: **Mail to Kathy Howley, Township Manager, 702 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Fords, PA 19317;** or **email to khowley@pennsbury.pa.us**, or use the volunteer form on Pennsbury's website at www.pennsbury.pa.us.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

email _____

Historical Commission - surveys historic structures in the Township, reviews renovation and subdivision plans containing historic structures, assists the Planning Commission in the review process and the Code Enforcement Officer in the issuance of building permits for historic structures.

Planning Commission - reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding development proposals and ordinances.

Open Space Selection Committee - works with Supervisors to identify key parcels for land for preservation.

Park Committee - oversees activities held in Pennsbury's park (i.e. yard sale, dog park.

Office help - assist with general filing, answering phone, typing, covering office when manager is out.

My present occupation is _____

Qualifications that may be of help to the Township _____

Please Note: this form will remain on file until notice from you or fore a period of two years (9/17)



Pennsbury Township Calendar

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Supervisors meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Harris Room of the Township Building. For accuracy, call the Township or check the website.

Planning Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 5 pm at the Township Bldg.

SCHOOL BOARD

Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board meetings begin at 7:30 pm on Mon., September 28 at the District Office; Mon. October 19 at Unionville Elementary, and Mon. November 16 at District Office. Info at: www.ucfsd.org

ALL FALL

Wed. - Sat., 10 am - 4:30 pm
Sun., 1 pm - 4:30 pm —
Come to the Faire: 50 years of Chadds Ford Days Exhibit celebrating the 50th anniversary of this annual event. The Barn Visitors Center of the Chadds Ford Historical Society, 1736 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. Free

SEPTEMBER

12 Sat., 9 am - 3 pm —
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION (no e-waste) Oxford School District Admin. Bldg., 125 Bell Tower Lane, Oxford

OCTOBER

2-4 Fri. - Sat., 9am - 9pm
Sun, 10am - 5:30 —
UNIONVILLE COMMUNITY FAIR Landhope Farms, Rts. 82 & 926. Info: www.ucfarinc.org

4 Sat., 10 am - 5 pm —
CHESTER COUNTY DAY Features homes in West Chester borough. Fee www.cchosp.org

5 Tues. — **LAST DAY TO REGISTER BEFORE THE NOVEMBER ELECTION**

10 Sat., 9 am - 3pm —
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (no e-waste) COLLECTION Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester.

19 Mon. — **LEAF COLLECTION BEGINS** Township Bldg. See page 1

22, 23, 24 Thurs - Sat., 5pm to 9 pm — **GREAT PUMPKIN CARVE** at the Chadds Ford Historical Society on Creek Road. Fee for non-members. www.chaddsfordhistory.org

27 Tues. — **LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER ELECTION**

NOVEMBER

3 Tues., 7am - 8 pm —
GENERAL ELECTION

9-13 Mon. - Fri. —
BRANCH COLLECTION See page 1.

14 Sat., 8 am - noon — **55 ALIVE REFRESHER COURSE** at Township Building. See page 2

30 Mon. — **LEAF COLLECTION ENDS**

DECEMBER

5 Sat., 1-6 pm — **CANDLE-LIGHT CHRISTMAS** Self-drive tour of homes and the historic sites. Fee www.chaddsfordhistory.org

26 Fri. — **CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING BEGINS** Drop off undecorated trees at the Township Bldg. through January

sara corbishley, editor

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