



# PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER • FALL 2020 • VOL. 22 Nº 4

## Road Department

**YOU CANNOT PLANT TREES/SHRUBS/ STRUCTURES IN TOWNSHIP RIGHT OF WAY.** The right of way extends beyond the paved portion of the road. Although the width of the ROW varies by road, a general rule is 12 ft from the edge of the pavement. Vegetation at your driveway entrance can block sight distance and is unsafe. Trees and shrubs must be trimmed back and out of the sight line.

*BAMBOO is prohibited along a public road.* Bamboo can bend, break and fall into a road and creates a danger for the traveling public.

**THE TOWNSHIP DOES NOT OWN ANY TREES.** When one comes down onto a public road, our job is to clear the road for traveling. The debris from the tree is the responsibility of the property owner.

**PARKING ON PUBLIC ROADS—WITHIN A DEVELOPMENT.** Cars should not be parked across from each other which impedes the flow of traffic and can be dangerous trying to pass parked cars. If you must park in the road, cars must be staggered to insure safe passing.

## Tree Clearing

Before you hire that tree company to take down trees around your house, please check with the township to make sure you do not need a permit. Clearing a lot and any type of land disturbance may cause erosion and storm water issues. Any questions about tree removal and permits, call Township Engineer Matt Houtmann, 610-565-6363.

## Move Over. It's the Law.

*Press Release from July 20, 2020*

**T**roop J: Lancaster, Embreeville, Avondale, and York—The Pennsylvania State Police along with the other members of the 6-State Trooper Project are focusing on education and enforcement of the Move Over Law. This initiative began Sunday, July 19, 2020 and will continue until Saturday, July 25, 2020. The agencies involved with this initiative are the Indiana State Police, Kentucky State Police, Michigan State Police, Pennsylvania State Police, West Virginia State Police, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Every day, first responders take to the streets to help keep everyone safe. Every day, they put their lives at risk to do so. One of the most dangerous parts of a first responders' job is stepping out on the side of the road, whether it is for a traffic stop, to assist a motorist, or to investigate a crash.

In order to protect those who protect us, every state has "Move Over" laws, requiring drivers to move over and/or slow down when approaching stopped emergency vehicles with emergency lights activated.

Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, Title 75, Section 3327 Duty of driver in emergency response areas states: When approaching or passing an emergency response area, a person, unless otherwise directed by an emergency service responder, shall: pass in a lane not adjacent to that of the



emergency response area, if possible; or if passing in a nonadjacent lane is impossible, illegal or unsafe, pass the emergency response area at a careful and prudent reduced speed reasonable for safely passing the emergency response area.

The mission of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is to save lives, prevent injuries, and reduce the economic cost of crashes on our nation's highways. This mission extends to law enforcement and emergency personnel as well. We have a responsibility to protect those who protect us.

For more information on the Pennsylvania State Police, visit [www.psp.pa.gov](http://www.psp.pa.gov).

## Become a Volunteer at the Longwood Fire Station!

Fire stations across Chester County are in need of volunteers like you who are ready to help save lives and protect property right in their own backyard.



By joining our team, you'll help make us stronger and your community safer. So what are you waiting for? Go to [HelpFightFire.com](http://HelpFightFire.com) or call 610-388-6880. Volunteer today. Chester County lives depend on it.



## Calendar of Events

### TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Supervisors usually meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Harris Room of the Township Building, however dates may change. For accuracy, call the Township or check the website.

**PLANNING COMMISSION** meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm via virtual meeting.

### UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL BOARD

**MEETINGS** begin at 7:30 pm on the 3rd Monday. Locations vary. More info at [www.ucfsd.org](http://www.ucfsd.org)

**9/22/2020 - 5:30 pm - Planning Commission Meeting**

**9/26/2020 - 9:00 am - St. Rep Stephen Barrar Free Shredding Event & Drug Take Back Program**

Elam Methodist Church in Glen Mills, PA

(This is a "drive through" event. No need to get out of your car. Any questions, please call his office at 610-358-5925.)

**10/10/2020 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm - Hazardous Household Waste Event, Government Services Bldg, West Chester**  
No Electronics, No Freon Appliances. Preregistration is required for this event. Contact Chester Co. Solid Waste Mgmt Dept.

**10/21/2020 - 7:00 pm - Supervisor Meeting**

**10/27/2020 - 5:30 pm - Planning Commission Meeting**

**11/3/2020 - Election Day - Township Office Closed**

**11/18/2020 - 7:00 pm - Supervisor Meeting**

**12/10/2020 - 7:00 pm - Supervisor Meeting**

## Sign Proliferation

A vendor/contractor sign is allowed on a property during the course of the project. When the project is completed, the sign must be taken down. If not taken down in a timely fashion, the township will remove it and the property owner can be cited.

## Spotted Lanternfly

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) is an invasive insect that has spread throughout Pennsylvania since 2014. SLF feeds on the plant sap of many different plants including grapevines, maples, black walnut, and other important plants in PA. If you see SLF, help us stop it in its tracks!



For more information: [www.chesco.org/3361/Lantern-Fly](http://www.chesco.org/3361/Lantern-Fly).

## Stormwater Management

*8 great things you can do to show your love for our lakes & rivers.*

- 1 Mulch Your Leaves** into your lawn with your mower, rake them around your trees or use them as garden mulch. The leaves will provide nutrients to the soil as they break down.
- 2 Keep Storm Drains Clean:** Keep all debris & litter out of the street. Clean storm drains prevent flooding and keep unwanted nutrients & trash out of our lakes & rivers.
- 3 Care for Your Car:** Get leaks fixed & recycle batteries. Take used oil to a collection site. Wash your car on the lawn, not the driveway. Remember: anything that goes down a storm drain ends up in our lakes.
- 4 Get Salt Smart:** Shovel first. Use salt sparingly. Read label for application rates and environmental impacts.
- 5 Test Your Soil:** Most established lawns don't need phosphorus fertilizers.
- 6 Pick-Up After Pets:** Bury or double-bag pet waste. Don't put it in gardens or compost bins.
- 7 Prevent Erosion:** Soil easily washes into the storm sewer. Seed and mulch the bare spots in your yard as soon as possible. Cover piles of soil with a tarp until ready to use.
- 8 Direct Your Downspouts:** Build a rain garden in your yard or install a rain barrel to capture stormwater before it leaves your property. Rain gardens infiltrate water and rain barrels hold it for later use in your gardens.

## Planning Commission Update

*The following is an update of the Planning Commission's main activities since the last edition of The Pennsbury Township News.*

**P**lanning Commission (PC) meetings in June and July were held in-person, utilizing mask and distancing precautions in the larger Harris Room of the township building with some members participating by telephone. Beginning with our August meeting, sessions will continue to be in-person but members not in the room will be able to join using GoToMeeting which is expected to improve the meeting quality.

The PC reviewed the Marshall's application for a solar panel system to be located on their residence at 2779 Brintons Bridge Road. Following our discussion, the PC determined we did not have enough information available to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the application.

The PC continued our review of the Hall's preliminary subdivision plan at 1451 Fairville Road. Following our discussion, the PC voted to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the plan

subject to the successful completion of the items contained in the review letter completed by Matt Houtmann, Pennsbury Township's Engineer dated July 21, 2020.

We also reviewed the Hall's application, pertaining to the same property, for a Conditional Use Hearing regarding their plan for crossing the stream and riparian buffer. Following discussion, the PC voted to recommend that the Board approve the conditional use with three conditions.

The PC briefly reviewed and discussed a sketch plan for the Lunger property located 102 S. Fairville Road. Under a sketch plan, the owner or their agent initiates an informal discussion with the PC regarding potential plans for changes to their property.

All township residents are welcome to attend Planning Commission meetings which are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM at the Township Building. •



## Kennett Library Update

The Kennett Library continues to make progress on the plans for the new Library. At its July meeting Kennett Square Borough Council unanimously approved the design of the new building and at its August meeting, again with an unanimous vote, council approved a proposed text amendment to its parking ordinance that allows the Library and other property owners to use the Municipal Garage to meet its parking requirement if the property is within 1,500 feet of the garage.

In other news, a committee led by Library Trustee President Jeff Yetter worked on creating a new website for the Library. We are encouraging everyone to check out the new site at [www.KennettLibrary.org](http://www.KennettLibrary.org). This site is more user friendly and allows Library staff to update the site as needed.

The Library continues with its virtual programming and the summer reading



program, where students read 15 minutes a day and then get to pick a weekly prize out of a fully stocked “goodie” closet. For details on all of the programs visit the website.

Curbside pick-up is still available at the Library, but you can now visit the library for browsing the stacks.

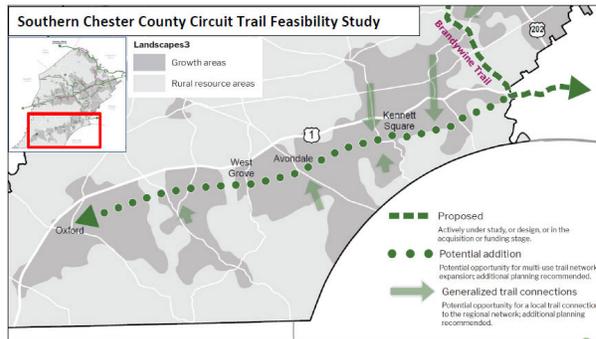
### Library Hours:

Monday & Thursday: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. •

## Southern Chester County Circuit Trail

Do you enjoy walking, hiking, biking, or running? Would you like to be able to commute or run local errands on a bicycle in a safe manner? Chester County is developing a plan to build a continuous, off-road, multi-use trail that would run from Oxford to Chadds Ford. It would connect townships and commercial centers, existing trails, and the over 800 miles of existing and planned circuit trails in the Greater Philadelphia area.

The Chester County Planning Commission held a public meeting about the Southern Chester County Circuit Trail Feasibility Study on July 14 via Zoom. If you were unable to attend the meeting, there is a video recording available to watch. For more information about this project and to see the map, visit [www.chescoplanning.org/transportation/SouthernChesco.cfm](http://www.chescoplanning.org/transportation/SouthernChesco.cfm).



Please consider sending your feedback on where the trail would be most useful or attractive to you, or on issues regarding route feasibility. We have created a survey for Pennsbury residents at: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Pennsbury](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Pennsbury).

Your input would be most valuable. In Pennsbury, the routes under consideration would be along Route 1, along Hillendale Road, or parallel to the rail line south of Hillendale. It would then join the planned upgraded route up Kennett Pike to Route 1 near Longwood. •

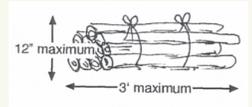
## Fall Township Clean-Up

### BRANCH COLLECTION:

**November 16- 20**

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 and tree limbs must be tied in bundles no greater than 3’ long and 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.



### LEAF COLLECTION

**October 19 - November 30**

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

### OPEN BURNING DISCOURAGED

- Residents are urged to take advantage of the Township leaf and branch collection programs to eliminate the need for open burning.
- Open burning is NOT permitted on weekdays between 4 pm and 9 am and all day Saturday and Sunday.
- It is not permitted if it will disturb your neighbors.
- Property owners shall comply with all requirements of the local fire department.
- Violations will be subject to citing by the Township Zoning Officer.



# PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP

EST. 1770

702 Baltimore Pike  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

**Phone:** 610-388-7323

**Fax:** 610-388-6036

**Web:** [www.pennsbury.pa.us](http://www.pennsbury.pa.us)

**Office Hours:**

Monday through Thursday:  
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Staff:**

Kathleen Howley, *Township Manager*

email: [khowley@pennsbury.pa.us](mailto:khowley@pennsbury.pa.us)

Barbara Biedekapp, *Financial Assistant*

**Supervisors:**

Wendell Fenton, *Chair*

Aaron McIntyre, *Vice Chair*

Dan Boyle

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## School Board Update

**A**s I write this update on August 18th, much has changed with our school reopening plans in the last two weeks! I imagine there will be many developments before this is published. Nonetheless, the support of the community has been and will continue to be of the utmost importance to our students, so keeping all of our Pennsbury residents informed is critical.

The district administration and Board sought much input from students, staff, and the medical community (including a parent volunteer group of 14 physicians) to develop an opening plan that achieved all of the rigorous Department of Education, CDC, and Chester County Health Department guidelines including a minimum of six-feet of social distancing, increased hygiene protocols, reduced bus capacity, and mask-wearing by all when indoors. A key hallmark of the plan was the ability to move seamlessly between fully open, partially open, and fully

remote modes of learning. This flexibility is already serving us well as the Chester County Health Department recently recommended an all virtual opening through at least October 9th.

The focus is now on establishing strong student/teacher relationships, making plans for our special education students, continuing to implement teacher training on remote teaching, modifying curricula for an online classroom, ensuring every student has the necessary technology, supporting families and staff as they address work/childcare challenges, and considering the best way to have athletics and other student activities return to play while supporting safeguards in place to protect the community.

We have received guiding metrics from the Chester County Health Department that will be used in concert with the Pennsylvania COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard, and a

decision making panel to regularly monitor our COVID-19 status in the community as well as make decisions regarding moving to other modes of instruction. This should provide some predictability in an unpredictable situation.

Thank you to the community for pulling together to model responsible public health behaviors and to express care and concern for our citizens of all ages. It is clear that our students are certainly being impacted



but with our collective steadfast commitment to their well-being, their education and character development will certainly continue. •

- Erin Talbert