



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP NEWS

Spring 2020
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www.pennsbury.pa.us

Managing Pennsbury's Streamside Lands

Clear babbling streams flowing through wooded lands provide healthy wildlife habitat, flood control, good drinking water supply and control nutrient runoff. Trees and shrubs (preferably native) lining the bank protect the waterway by anchoring the banks, retarding erosion, filtering pollution, decreasing floodwater velocity, and improving habitats. When streams flow through lawns or grassy fields without protective plants, they are more likely to have damage to their banks such as gulches or bare soil. This damage leads to frequently muddy water, loss of fish and other aquatic life, and/or heavy algae growth.

We can keep Pennsbury's streams healthy and beautiful by practicing the following techniques:

- Do not mow or cut vegetation to the water's edge. Maintaining a wooded buffer of at least 75 feet is ideal and a minimum would 50 ft depending on your buffer zone. Uncut native perennials can also help but are less effective than wooded buffers.
- Leave native vegetation on the bank and in the floodplain. Control invasive alien species such as Japanese honeysuckle or multiflora rose.
- Never dump any materials into the stream or on the

floodplain including chemicals, yard waste, or trash.

- Plant native trees and shrubs adjacent to streams that run through lawns and fields to greatly reduce stream stress and provide a more attractive landscape.
- Avoid livestock grazing or farm cultivation along streams.

PONDS

Most of the above management suggestions apply to ponds as well. Many people with ponds have trouble with excess algae growth and sometimes flocks of Canada geese fouling the surrounding land. This is especially true if grass is mowed to the edge of the pond damaging water quality and reducing visual appeal. Native trees, shrubs and perennials surrounding ponds shade and cool the water reducing algae growth, protect soil, provide optimal wildlife habitat and discourage excess geese.

Another attractive way to soften the edge of ponds is by establishing a small bog or wetland along one side of the pond. Cardinal Flower, Asters, Joe Pye Weed, and Sweetpepper Bush thrive here while acting as magnets for hummingbirds and butterflies.

Check out the Pennsbury Land Trust website at www.pennsburylandtrust.org for more information.

There are many desirable native trees and shrubs available for stream or pond side suitable for planting in Pennsbury including:

Trees: Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*), Sweet Birch (*Betula lenta*), River Birch (*Betula nigra*), Ironwood (*Carpinus caroliniana*), Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), Black Gun (*Nissa sylvatica*), and Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

Shrubs: Common Alder (*Alnus serrulata*), Serviceberry (*Amelancier canadensis*), Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*), Red osier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*), and Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)



TOWNSHIP SPRING CLEANUP EVENTS DATES AND INFORMATION ON PAGES 4 AND 5

Branch Pickup • Dumpster • Roadside Cleanup • Shredding Event
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal • Open Burning • Electronics Recycling

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
Wendell Fenton, Chair
Aaron McIntyre, Vice Chair
Dan Boyle



❖ UPDATE ON TRAFFIC LIGHT MODIFICATION

In case you have not noticed, the traffic lights on Route 1 are being changed by PennDot to incorporate a system that will give them control over traffic flow. The system, which was highlighted in our newsletter last year, should be up and running by this summer.

In the course of installing new computers they changed the timing and traffic, at times, has backed up. We are working to get this corrected.

They have done some adjustments and as a result this has helped. We will continue to work with PennDot to monitor the project.

❖ DRIVEWAY PERMITS

These are a must for resurfacing your drive. It is the responsibility of the home owner to obtain the permit from the Township. The fee is \$75.00 and can be obtained on-line under "forms and applications" or by calling the Township Office.

Sealcoating a driveway does NOT require a permit.

❖ MORE ABOUT PERMITS

You need a permit if:

- You are building a deck, patio, or any hard-scaping.
- You are adding an addition to your home.
- You are finishing a basement, kitchen or bath where the plumbing changes.
- You are installing a fence or wall.
- You are adding a swimming pool, either inground or above ground.
- You are putting in a new HVAC system.
- You are demolishing any structure.
- You are digging a well.
- You are changing a septic system.
- You are grading land (erosion and sediment control).

When in doubt, check with the Code Enforcement Officer, Rusty Drumheller at 610-388-1790.

❖ MOW WISELY TO REDUCE STORMWATER RUNOFF

Cut grass 2 1/2 to 3 inches tall. Mow often enough so that clippings are not longer than one-third of the grass blade, so they can decompose easily into the soil.

Leave grass clippings on the lawn. They supply between 25% and 50% of nitrogen and phosphorus needs, which will lessen the need for these chemicals in fertilization.

Keep the mower height to 3 inches for the summer. Taller grass grows deeper roots, shades and protects the soil is less prone to disease, pests and weeds and captures more excess rainwater. Leave an unmowed edge (three feet or more) along streams, ponds and drainage channels to prevent erosion.

❖ A DUMPSTER TALE

There has been illegal dumping in the bins at the Township building which causes the recyclable loads to be contaminated and thus relegated to the land fill.

Recently a stove as well as full size house door were deposited into the dumpsters. The road

crew had to get these out before driver could pick up the dumpster.

Most people recycle properly but there are always the few who either come in the night when no one is around or boldly in broad daylight to dump illegally.

After having a meeting with SECCRA, it was decided to put locks on the overhead bins. This will prevent large items being illegally dumped. The slot at top is to be used for broken down cardboard and sliding doors on the side are used for proper disposal of recyclables.

Please **DO NOT put plastic bags** (grocery store bags) or any other plastic bag in the dumpster. They can be properly recycled at your grocery store.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY



FROM FRUIT TO NUTS

Dale Hendricks introduces us to a local Quaker farmer, John Hershey, who developed in Downingtown a collection of fruit and nut trees.

**April 24, 7:15 PM
Kendal at Longwood Auditorium
1109 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA**

Sponsored by the Kendal Crosslands Arboretum Committee.

Pennsbury Land Trust Annual Meeting Presentation
Get Ahead of Onsite Sewer System Problems

Thursday, April 16 7:00 pm
Pennsbury Township Building 702 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford

Most Pennsbury Township homeowners have onsite sewer systems. Don't wait until your system fails to find out what you could have done to keep your septic working efficiently.

Andrew McGovern, of McGovern Septic & Waste Removal, will share his knowledge about septic system maintenance, on-site evaluation, installation, code requirements, as well as system repairs, modifications and enhancements. The McGovern family business has been providing residential septic systems services in Chester County since 1974.

It may not be a glamorous topic, but it should not be one of those things you take for

granted until it creates a devastating disaster—like a back-up into your house. Come hear what Andrew can teach us. Bring your questions or send them in advance to Drew@mcgovernseptic.com.

This presentation is for you if you recently bought a house in Pennsbury, are thinking of selling your house, going to build a new addition that may necessitate a change to your septic system, or would just like to learn how your system works.

Admission is free. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

HOT TOPIC



Planning Commission Update

The following is an update of the Planning Commission's (PC) activities since the last issue of the *Pennsbury Township News*.

The PC held a review of the Hall's Preliminary Subdivision Plan for their property located at 1451 Fairville Road. Township Engineer, Matt Houtman discussed his review letter on the Hall's submitted plan with the applicant and the PC. During the meeting, it was determined that the applicants should discuss needed items with the Supervisors at their meeting before continuing with the PC's review of the proposed plan.

The PC held its 2020 organizational meeting and elected the following officers: Chair - Dennis Smith, Vice-Chair - Corinne Murphy, Secretary - Jeff Streitl. The following appointments were also made: Historical Commission Representative and Brandywine Battlefield Task Force - Lynn Luft, Kennett Area Planning Commission Representative - Jim Ware and Battlefield Heritage Interpretation Plan Representative - Judi Wilson.

After reviewing the PC meeting schedules for several nearby townships and considering the needs of our Township, the PC set its 2020 meeting schedule with regular meetings to be scheduled on the fourth Tuesday of the month and work sessions to be scheduled on the second Tuesday during the months of January, March and September.

The review meeting for a ground mounted solar panel array conditional use application made by the Popes for their property located at 9 Evergreen Court, West Chester was held. Following a site visit, notification to neighbors and discussion, the PC voted to recommend support of the Pope's project with conditions.

Jeff Streitl completed the PC's 2019 Annual Report and after review and vote, it was sent to the Supervisors.

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

Dennis Smith, Chair

TOWNSHIP SPRING

Electronics Recycling

Current Pennsylvania law bans certain types of electronics (laptops, desktops, monitors, televisions, et al.) from being placed in a landfill with municipal waste. Instead, all such electronics must be recycled in an approved recycling facility.

Municipal trash haulers are banned from mixing these electronic devices with any trash going to a landfill.

Pennsbury consumers may bring electronics to the SECCRA (Southeastern Chester County Refuse Authority) landfill and dispose of them in the designated electronics collection area, at no charge. Please note that this is only for individuals that reside in the SECCRA service area and is not permitted to take electronics from non-individual sources.

You will need to notify the attendant at the "drive-thru window" in the scale house that you have electronics.

The landfill is located at 219 Street Rd. West Grove and is open Mon-Fri 7:00 am - 4:00 pm and Sat 8:00 am - noon.

Roadside Cleanup

Saturday, April 25

This is a good project for neighborhood groups to clean up the roadside around their homes. It also is a great way for high school students to acquire community service hours.

Vests, gloves and bags will be provided by the Township. Filled trash bags, if left on the roadside, will be picked up by the road crew. Call the Maintenance Garage at 610-388-9180 to leave your location and request supplies.

Restrictions on Open Burning

Pennsbury Township discourages open burning, but if you must the following restrictions apply.

Zoning Ordinance 162-1911, sets strict limitations on open burning.

- Open burning of anything other than leaves and small branches is strictly prohibited at all times. There shall be no emission of smoke, ash, dust, fumes, vapors, gases, or other matter toxic or noxious to air which violates the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Laws.

- Open burning of leaves and small branches is prohibited during the following intervals:

On weekends and Holidays at any time

On weekdays between 4:00 PM and 9:00 AM

- Therefore, open burning of leaves and small branches may only be legally conducted during weekdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at which time the fire shall be fully extinguished.

- Before any legal open burning is conducted, the Longwood Fire Company must be informed in advance and the fire comply with all fire department requirements. It should be noted that approval by Longwood Fire Co is necessary, but not sufficient. The Township regulations must be adhered to regardless of Longwood Fire Co approval.

- Also, Township notices regarding leaf and branch pickup carry the underlying ordinance restriction regarding open burning.

Please be good neighbors and comply with the Township open burning regulations.

Dumpster

Thursday, April 23 (6:30 am - 2:30 pm)

Friday, April 24 (6:30 am - 2:30 pm)

Saturday, April 25 (9 am - 1 pm)

Large item disposal for Pennsbury Township residents **ONLY**, proof of residency may be required. The dumpster will be located near the maintenance garage and will be manned by Township personnel.

NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OR ELECTRONICS

The following charges will apply: (cash or check made out to Pennsbury Twp.)

\$4.00 for each car tire

\$8.00 for each car tire with

CLEANUP EVENTS

2020 Chester County Household Hazardous Waste Event Schedule

NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE ACCEPTED

**ALL EVENTS START AT 9AM
AND CLOSE AT 3 PM SHARP**

Saturday, April 4

CENTER FOR ARTS & TECHNOLOGY PICKERING
CAMPUS (Technical College High School)
1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Saturday, April 18

(proof of residency may be required)
OCTORARA HIGH SCHOOL
226 Highland Road, Atglen, PA 19310

Saturday May 9

Owen J. Roberts Middle School
981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19456

Friday, June 19

COATESVILLE LEARNING CENTER
1635 East Lincoln Highway, Coatesville, PA 19320
(Stone wall entrance - Veteran's Dr., Same entrance as CAT
Brandywine- Route 30 across from Dairy Queen)

Saturday, August 29

(proof of residency may be required)
OXFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BLDG
125 Bell Tower Lane, Oxford, PA 19363

Saturday, October 10

GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER
601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19380

FOR A LIST OF ACCEPTED AND NOT ACCEPTED
ITEMS GO TO: www.chestercountyswa.org/Document-Center/View/1475

PLEASE TAKE CARDBOARD BOXES HOME TO
RECYCLE AT THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING

Branch Pickup

Monday - Friday, April 6-10

The road crew will come by only ONCE during the week so have your branches out on Monday. They will not be collected unless they are properly prepared. If you have questions call Roadmaster, Dave Allen, at 610-388-9180.

This program is for residents to get rid of fallen limbs or small trees. IT IS NOT TO BE USED AS A COMMERCIAL TREE SERVICE OR FOR LOT CLEARING.

The Township mulch pile is available for residents' use. Contact Dave Allen to coordinate pickup or with questions.

Preparation of brush and limbs:

- Brush and limbs must be from your Pennsbury Township property.
- Roots stumps and limbs with wire and/or nails will NOT be picked up.
- All brush and limbs must be in the right of way.
- Dry, dead brush and tree limbs must be tied in bundles 3' long or less. Each bundle should be not greater than 12" in diameter.
- Fresh-cut (green) limbs, 2" in diameter and larger, should be left full length, placed along roadside with large ends closest to the road, not in a random pile.
- Only 8 bundles of brush and/or tree limbs and 10 fresh cut branches are allowed per property.

Shredding Event

**Saturday, May 2
(9 am- noon)**

This is FREE for Pennsbury Township residents and will be held in the Township Building parking lot. **No commercial businesses.**

This is an opportunity for you to shred those important documents that should not be sent to the landfill. Identity theft is everywhere so take this opportunity to dispose of sensitive items properly.

Unionville — Chadds Ford School District Update

Please enjoy the following updates from UCFSD.

Four new school board members were sworn in at the December Board meeting. Representing Region C, Pennsbury and Chadds Ford Townships, Jen Brown and Erin Talbert. Rashi Akki was elected to Region A, and Victoria Baratta to Region B. John Murphy, also Region C, was re-elected to a second term. Completing their Board service were Vic Dupuis, Bob Sage, Carolyn Daniels, and Gregg Lindner.

Service Above Self: Over the holidays the school community took the district-wide focus area to heart. Here's a sampling: A Coat Drive and Bike Drive brought in nearly 1,000 warm coats and hundreds of bicycles. The Charles F. Patton Middle School community collected gifts as part of their annual holiday Giving Tree program, a 20-year tradition. Fourth Graders at Hillendale Elementary raised over \$750 and purchased items and wrote personal notes for comfort kits for the HEADstrong Cancer Foundation.

Student Achievement: Twenty-two Unionville High School students were named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists. This was a record number. Of those students, twenty were recently named finalists.

Annual Audit: A careful review was completed of UCFSD's Independent Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2019. No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses were found in any area.

Kennett Library News

Many of us remember taking our children to story time at our local library. The Kennett Library certainly does that but also offers a host of other children's programs such as Sunshine Yoga introducing 2-5-year olds to yoga with song, movement and games. And Lego club, and Playdough Picassos... For teens there are Arcade nights and Magic the Gathering groups.

But adults are not left out! There is Tea and Board Games, A Virtual Reality walk in experience, movies and you can learn about topics like Quickbooks as well as get career help with Career link. Plus, four monthly book clubs from mainstream literature to International, Graphic Novel and Eat Your Words lunchtime Rush Book Club featuring discussion of a short story and a bite to eat with Librarian Megan Walters.

Check out kennettlibrary.org for details on library programs as well as other community events. Sign up for the weekly newsletter so you don't miss a thing!

Facilities: The long-range facilities plan continues to progress. Upcoming projects include a renovation of the middle school cafeteria and replacing the high school track surface.

Budget: The annual budget cycle began with the passing of a "preliminary" budget. There will be much ahead as we await budget and mandates from the state and begin the process of setting priorities and making trade-off decisions. The budget is finalized in June.

Athletics: A working committee of coaches, teachers, students and parents developed and are implementing Athletic Values & Standards; this work supports character and values development on and off the field.

Parent Education: Sessions were conducted for parents and community on Suicide Awareness and Prevention, Vaping, and Promoting Emotional Resilience.

Arts & Music: The middle school recently performed Aladdin Jr. and the high school presented the musical production Into the Woods (Stephen Sondheim). Performances are held in the fall and spring and the entire community is invited to attend.

Please visit www.ucfsd.org to learn more.

A Message From The Longwood Fire Company

Longwood Fire Company is a combination career / volunteer fire company providing Fire, Rescue and EMS services to the greater Kennett Region since 1921.

Volunteer responders still make up a large part of our force. 30 years ago, Pennsylvania had approximately 300,000 volunteer firefighters. Today, there are less than 38,000. While the time commitment of being a volunteer firefighter is greater than most other volunteer opportunities, the need is much more necessary. Volunteer firefighters save Pennsylvania taxpayers over 6 billion dollars a year. We need your help, please see our website, www.longwoodfireco.com to learn how you can help.

Please see our funding raising opportunities to support our operation. Currently, our nearly \$3 million dollar budget is only funded 38% by contributions from our municipalities. We have an annual EMS subscription drive, our annual Fire fund drive appeal and our pool fill operation. Please see our website to learn more about opportunities to support your neighbors.

As warm weather approaches, please review the Township's open burning ordinance to ensure that you are conducting a safe burn. We would also like to remind you to never drive through a flooded roadway. It only takes 6" of water to start moving a smaller vehicle.

PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY 2020

Board of Supervisors (elected 6 yr term)

Meets 3rd Wednesday
7:00 pm
Wendell Fenton, Chair
610-388-6861
supervisor.fenton@yahoo.com

Aaron McIntyre, V. Chair
484-787-4202
aamcintyre@pennsbury.pa.us

Dan Boyle
484-757-9776
dboyle@pennsbury.pa.us

Township Manager

Kathleen Howley
610-388-7323

Assistant Secretary

Pat Carpenter

Financial Assistant

Barbara Biedekapp

Tax Collector

(elected 4 yr term)

Marge Crandell

Code Enforcement

Officer

Russell Drumheller
610-388-1790

Solicitor

Tom Oeste, Esq.
610-436-4400

Township Engineer

Matthew Houtman
610-565-6363

Road Crew

Dave Allen, Roadmaster
610-388-9180

Pete Laws
Jeffrey Miller
Patrick Yerkes

Constable

(elected 6 yr term)

Harry McKinney

Township Auditors

(elected 6 yr term)

Pat Barron
Adelaide Jones
Maceo Davis

Zoning Hearing Board

Greg McCauley
James Porter
Bill Talman

Vacancy Board

Robert Luft

Planning Commission

Meets 4th Tuesday
5:30 pm

Dennis Smith, Chair
Corinne Murphy, V. Chair
Jeff Streitl, Sec.
Lynn Luft
Jim Ware
Mike Clements

SECCRA & Recycling

Will Sappington

Historic Commission

Joan Gummy
Lynn Luft
Eileen Mallouk
Brenda Mendenhall
Susan Williams
Judi Wilson
Russell Drumheller,
non-voting

Rt 52 Scenic Byway Committee

Joe Carbonell

Kennett Library Board

Barbara Necarsulmer
Todd Bruce

Newsletter Editor

Sallie Corbishley

Computer Assistant

Gary Summers

Animal Control

Brandywine Valley SPCA
610-692-6113

State Police

Avondale Barracks

(non emergency)
610-268-2022

To Report Road Kill

On US 1 - PennDot
484-340-3200

All other roads-
PA Game Commission
610-926-3136

Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board

District C

(elected 4 yr term)

John Murphy
Jen Brown
Erin Talbert

www.ucfsd.org

ELECTED FEDERAL AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. Senators

Robert P Casey (18)

555 Walnut St., 1st floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717-231-7450
<http://casey.senate.gov>

Patrick J. Toomey (22)

8 Penn Canter
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-241-1090
<http://toomey.senate.gov>

U.S. House of Representatives

District 6

Chrissy Houlahan (20)
709 E Gay St.
West Chester, PA 19389
610-883-5050
www/houlahan.house.gov

District 16

Lloyd Smucker (14)
516 Cannon, HOB
Washington, DC
202-225-2411
www/smucker.house.gov



PA Senator

District 9

Thomas Killion
780 E. Market St.
Suite 140
West Chester, PA 19380
610-436-3320
tkillion@pasen.gov

PA House of Representatives

District 160

Stephen Barrar
1 Beaver Valley Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
610-358-5925
parep160@aol.com



Pennsbury Township Calendar

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Supervisors usually meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 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 the 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm at the Township Building.

SCHOOL BOARD

Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board meetings begin at 7:30 pm. Locations & more info: www.ucfsd.org

APRIL

4 Saturday, 9 am - 3 pm — **Household Hazardous Waste Collection** at the Center for Arts & Technology Pickering Campus, 1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville (see page 5)

6-10 Monday - Friday — **Branch Pickup** (see page 5)

16 Thursday, 7:00 pm — **Get Ahead of Onsite Sewer System Problemse** Annual meeting of Pennsbury Land Trust at the Township Building. Everyone is welcome. (see page 3)

13 Monday — **Last Day to REGISTER for the Primary Election**

18 Saturday, 9 am-3 pm — **Household Hazardous Waste Collection** at Octorara High School, 226 Highland Rd., Atglen (see page 5)

21 Tuesday — **Last Day to APPLY for an Absentee Ballot for the PRIMARY ELECTION**

23, 24, 25 Thursday, Friday & Saturday — **Dumpster for Township Residents** at the Township Bldg. (hours and info on page 4)

25 Saturday — **Roadside Cleanup** (see page 4)

28 Tuesday, 7 am - 8 pm — **PRIMARY ELECTION**

MAY

2 Saturday, 9 am - noon — **Shredding Event** in the Township Building parking lot (see page 5)

9 Saturday, 9 am - 3 pm — **Household Hazardous Waste Collection** at Owen J. Roberts Middle School, 881 Ridge Rd., Pottstown (see page 5)

sara corbishley, editor

PRESORT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Chester, PA
Permit #66

Pennsbury Township
Mary McMullan Building
702 Baltimore Pike
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

