

WEST GOSHEN



1025 Paoli Pike • West Chester, PA 19380
www.westgoshen.org

Summer 2004

Township Newsletter • Volume 14 No. 1

Our new park will feature a fenced in dog area, a skateboard & inline skating park, and two tennis courts ...

New Park Planned for 2005

West Goshen will have a new park in the northern part of the Township by late 2005.

Even though the park is over a year away from opening, it is safe to say this park is going to the dogs. Or, to be more specific, a portion of the park will be dedicated to dogs and dog lovers.

The new 3.5 acre park will also provide inline skaters and skateboarders with a place to practice their skills and include two tennis courts to meet current demands for facilities to practice and play on.

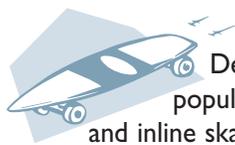
The new park will be located along Pottstown Pike, just south of the recently renovated Wawa at Pottstown Pike and Greenhill Road. Land for the park was donated to West Goshen Township by Wawa.

The park will serve various needs of residents and neighbors of West Goshen Township.



An area of the park will be fenced in providing a safe area where dogs may exercise unleashed. This area will allow dogs and their human partners to play catch, practice obedience training, or just run without endangering other visitors to the park. A portion of the fenced-in area will also have an agility course for dogs, with obstacles and

other canine-friendly equipment. Special water fountains will be installed so humans and their companions will both be able to cool down with a drink of water. As with many of West Goshen's parks, dog bags will be available so owners can clean up after their pets.



Despite the growing popularity of skateboarding and inline skating, appropriate, safe facilities are usually not readily available. Tennis court and basketball court surfaces are incompatible with skateboard usage. Often, skateboarders turn to dangerous or unauthorized places such as sidewalks, staircases, or homemade courses designed with picnic tables and trashcans, to hone their talents. The nearest public (not for-profit) skatepark to West Goshen Township is nearly twenty miles away in Kennett Square.

The Pottstown Pike park will have a 110 foot by 220 foot skatepark providing ramps and obstacles for participants of all skill levels. A viewing gallery will allow parents, friends, and others to comfortably watch skaters and boarders without fear of being endangered by errant skateboards. The Township will require helmet and knee and elbow pads before anyone is permitted to enter the skatepark. West Goshen Township currently has



four tennis courts, all located at Community Park at Fern Hill and N. Five Points Roads.

United States Tennis Association teams schedule court usage for games. Individuals and groups utilize the courts for practice. The West Goshen Summer Recreation Program organizes tennis clinics for children nine through twelve years old. And, of course, the tennis courts are a popular site for countless pick-up games.

Two additional courts at the new park will provide an alternative for the casual or serious tennis players looking for a place to play.



This park will be West Goshen's first in the northwest part of the Township, helping to bring convenient recreation opportunities to residents in that area. The new park will also provide many of the amenities people have come to expect from West Goshen's parks. Water fountains, bathroom facilities, picnic tables and other places to sit and rest will be available.

Look for updates about the Pottstown Pike park in future issues of the West Goshen Township Newsletter and at www.westgoshen.org. ★

township information

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

6 year elected term

Patricia B. McIlvaine, *Chairman*
Edward G. Meakim, Jr., *Vice-Chairman*
Dr. Robert S. White, *Member*

ADMINISTRATION

Sharon Lynn, *Township Manager*
Jeanne M. Denham, *Finance Director*
Richard J. Craig, *Township Engineer*

WEST GOSHEN POLICE

1025 Paoli Pike, W.C., 19380
Police 911 or 610.696.7400
Fax 610.696.3935
police@westgoshe n.org
Michael J. Carroll, *Chief of Police*

SEWER TREATMENT PLANT

848 S. Concord Rd., W.C., 19382
610.696.0900
Fax 610.429.9360
John M. Scott, *Sewer Plant Manager*

BUILDING OFFICIALS CODE ADMINISTRATORS APPEALS BOARD

Louis Calvarese
David W. Graf
Roberta P. Kelly
James J. McIntyre
Grant K. Middlestead

PARK & RECREATION BOARD

Michael A. Pillagalli, *Chairman*
Gerald L. Napiecek, *Vice-Chairman*
Edward T. Smith, *Secretary*
Robert M. Cifone
Daniel Dixon
Mary Lou Enoches
Jennifer Grey-Rice
Leslie K. Bair, *Alternate*

PLANNING COMMISSION

Paul D. Spiegel, *Chairman*
James J. O'Brien, *Vice-Chairman*
Nancy B. Higgins, *Secretary*
Dean K. Diehl, Jr.
Jeffrey Laudenslager
Robert B. Little
Daniel S. Rafter
Michael P. McKie, *Alternate*

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Peter C. Anderson, *Chairman*
Joseph DeFelippes, *Vice-Chairman*
Gillian M. Goodwin
Grant K. Middlestead, *Alternate*

SEWER AUTHORITY

James F. McLearn, *Chairman*
Walter E. Hoover, Jr., *Vice-Chairman*
Lewis H. Reid, *Secretary*
John L. Windle, *Treasurer*
Theresa A. Davis, *Member*
Paul D. Spiegel, *Member*

THE FRIENDS OF WEST GOSHEN PARKS, INC.

*Non-profit group assisting the Park and
Recreation Board; meets quarterly*
Jan Mulligan, *President*
Kelly Cifone, *Vice-President*
Megan Zug, *Treasurer*

AUDITORS

James L. Mosteller
Louis J. Mayer
Jacob W. Bowman, Jr.

TAX COLLECTOR

William R. Keenan

TOWNSHIP PARKS

Barker Park
Falcon Lane by Westtown Way
Coopersmith Park
Spring Lane, off West Chester Pike
Hallowell Park
404 North Five Points Road
West Goshen Community Park
Fern Hill & North Five Points Roads

Building Codes Adopted

West Goshen Township recently adopted the International Codes 2003 edition published by the International Code Council amending the code of West Goshen Township. The International Code Council, an association committed to building safety and fire prevention, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. The International Codes adopted by the Township include the 2003 International Building Code, International Existing Building Code, International Residential Code, International Electrical Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Energy Conservation Code, International Fire Code and International Property Maintenance Code. The purpose of these codes is to establish minimum requirements through regulations that safeguard the public health and safety. For more information on the International Codes, please visit the Township Building to view public copies of the codes, visit our website at www.westgoshe n.org, or contact one of our Building Officials at 610-696-5266. ★

Legal Briefs

■ Motorized scooters are not permitted on sidewalks or roads and are only permitted on private property with the owner's previous consent and approval.

■ The following weeds may not exceed 12 inches on any land in West Goshen Township: ragweed; chicory or blue daisy; Canadian thistle; multiflora rose; Johnson grass; any other species of noxious weeds. In addition, grass, brush, and similar vegetation may not exceed 12 inches.

■ Tree limbs, hedges, or other plant growth may not hang into the road and must be cut back of the curb line.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES RECOGNITION

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to West Goshen Township by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Certificate of

Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment for the West Goshen Township Board of Supervisors and its management team. Township Finance Director Jeanne M. Denham and

Assistant Finance Director Jennifer Latzer are primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. Barbacane, Thornton, and Company, the Township's independent auditors, have been instrumental in assisting the Township to achieve its first award.

The CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program in demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate interested citizens as well as businesses to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 14,000 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, DC.



The West Goshen Township Finance Department was recognized by the GFOA at the June 23, 2004 meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Pictured are: (back row) Accounts Payable/Payroll Coordinator **Kevin Lowrie**; and (front row, left to right) Assistant Finance Director **Jennifer Latzer**; Finance Director **Jeanne Denham**; President of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the GFOA **David Fiorenza**; Billing Technician **Jeanette Towers**; Utility Billing Coordinator/Assistant Treasurer **Cindy Haldeman**; and Fixed Asset Accountant **Xia Zhu**.

PUBLIC TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

	Board of Supervisors	Park and Recreation	Planning Commission	Sewer Authority	Zoning Hearing
	4:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	7:00 PM
August	11 and 25	18	17	11	12
September	8 and 22	15	21	8	9
October	13 and 27	20	19	13	14

All meetings are held in the Township Administration building except the Sewer Authority, which meets at the Sewer Treatment Plant at 848 South Concord Road. There is a public comment period at each meeting. Additional Zoning Hearing Board Meetings may be added as needed. Check www.westgoshen.org for updates.

Do Your Part To Keep Our Water Clean

All of West Goshen's storm drains empty either directly into the nearest stream or into a local drain basin with any overflow going to local streams. Pollution from used motor oil, antifreeze, or lawn and garden chemicals and other materials that enter the storm drain system quickly contaminate the local streams and groundwater. There are no treatment facilities to remove contaminants that enter the storm drain system.

There is growing national concern about the effects of stormwater contamination on the natural environment. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates

that over 60% of our water pollution comes from urban and agricultural storm water runoff. The EPA and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) prohibit discharging any contaminants into the stormwater system. Violators are subject to fines as required by law.

You can help reduce the pollution of local streams and groundwater by using lawn and garden products carefully according to their directions and returning used automotive fluids and toxic household waste to the recycling centers listed below:

WASTE ITEM	RECYCLING CENTER	ADDRESS
Antifreeze, used motor oil	Pep Boys Carousel Auto Sales Tolsdorf Express	711 Gay Street, West Chester 1360 Wilmington Pike, West Chester 337 Pottstown Pike, Exton
Used motor oil	Al's Sunoco Lazer Lube	851 S. High Street, West Chester 3832 Lincoln Highway, Downingtown
General household and automotive	Government Services Center	601 Westtown Road, West Chester (October 5, 2004, 9 AM – 3 PM only)



From Your Library

The West Chester Public Library will hold six storytimes for three and four year-olds at the West Goshen Township Administration Building this fall. No registration is needed for these mornings of stories, rhymes, and songs.

Time: 10am
Dates: Tuesdays, Sept. 7 and 21;
Oct. 5 and 19;
and Nov. 2 and 16!

Call 610-696-7985 after September 1 for more information. ★

* Calling All Artists *

West Goshen Township announces the fourth annual Resident Art Exhibit at the Galleries at West Goshen Township. The exhibit, which will run throughout the month of September 2004, features paintings, photographs, sculptures, wood carvings, and other works of art by West Goshen residents.

Anyone interested in participating in the exhibit may submit an original work of art (which has not previously been exhibited in the Township Administration Building) with an

entry form by Monday, August 30, 2004 at 3:00 PM. Exhibit entry forms may be obtained from the Township website at www.west-goshen.org or by calling 610.696.5266, ext. 4104.

Township Galleries Exhibits

August –
West Goshen Summer Recreation Program Exhibit

September –
West Goshen Resident Exhibit

October & November –
West Chester University Faculty Exhibit

The exhibit will run from September 3 through October 1 at the Galleries at West Goshen Township, in the Township Administration Building. A public reception will be held on Tuesday, September 28 between 7:00 and 8:00 PM. All are welcome to attend! ★



The Friends of West Goshen Parks Need Your Help!

The Friends of West Goshen Parks is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the development, improvement, and maintenance of all Township owned parklands and the advancement of recreational programs and events for the benefit of the citizens of West Goshen Township.

Fundraising efforts by The Friends of West Goshen Parks help make free events like the Summer Concert Series and Community Day possible. In addition, members of The Friends of West Goshen Parks volunteer at various events throughout the year.

You can become more involved in the events at your parks in any of the following five ways:

1. Join The Friends of West Goshen Parks.

A family membership costs just \$5.00 per year. Use the handy form below to sign up today.

2. Get involved with a committee. The Friends of West Goshen Parks participates in numerous events throughout

the year. If you are interested in becoming more involved in specific events, let The Friends of West Goshen Parks know. Or, if you are interested in helping the Board of Directors of The Friends of West Goshen Parks in fundraising, publicity, or would like to recommend potential corporate or foundation donors, contact The Friends of West Goshen Parks at 610-692-2550.

3. Volunteer at West Goshen Community Day.

Volunteers are needed to help with children's crafts, beverage and raffle sales, staffing the information table, and setup and cleanup. Interested volunteers can call The Friends of West Goshen Parks at 610-692-2550.

4. Donate clean baby food jars with lids

to be used for sand art at West Goshen Community Day. The jars and lids may be dropped off at the West Goshen Township Administration Building (Paoli Pike and N. Five Points Road).

5. Support The Friends of West Goshen Parks at events.

As part of fundraising efforts, The Friends of West Goshen Parks sell beverages and raffle tickets for prizes donated by local businesses at Community Day. A collection jar is present at many events. In addition, a portion of concession stand sales at West Goshen Community Park are contributed to The Friends of West Goshen Parks.

The Friends of West Goshen Parks, Inc. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Indicate email address if you would like to receive information about upcoming events:

Check here if you are interested in volunteer opportunities:

Make your \$5.00 check payable to:

The Friends of West Goshen Parks, Inc., P.O. Box 441, West Chester, PA 19381.

Movies in the Park

The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department will show the following **FREE** movies on our large screen at West Goshen Community Park (N. Five Points and Fern Hill Roads):

Saturday, October 9

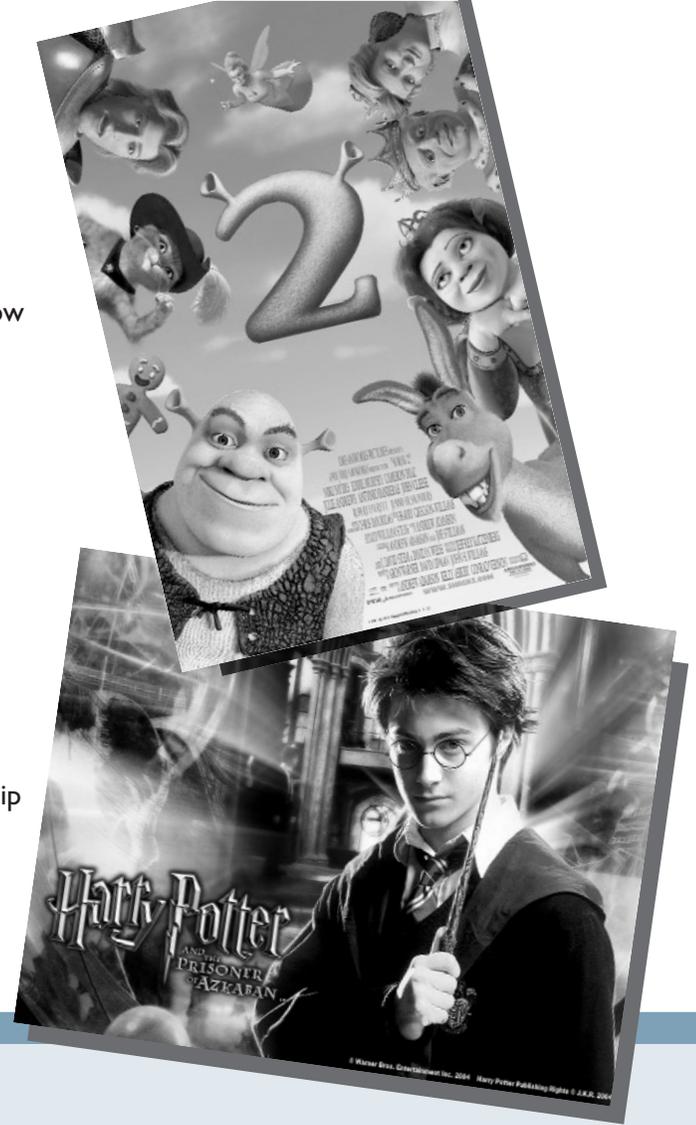
SHREK 2

Saturday, October 16

**Harry Potter
AND THE PRISONER
OF AZKABAN**

Movies begin at 7:00 PM. Please remember that these movies are shown outdoors, so dress appropriately.

In the event of rain, excessive wind, or unseasonably cold weather, movies may be moved to the West Goshen Township Administration Building (Paoli Pike and N. Five Points Road). Indoor seating is limited, so come early. To check on the location determination, visit www.westgoshen.org or call 610-696-5266 after 5:00 PM on the date of the movie. ★



Bus Trips

The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department will offer the following bus trips this fall:

Saturday, October 2: Citizens' Bank Park. Don't miss your last chance to see the Phillies' new ballpark this season, as the Phils take on the Florida Marlins in a game that is likely to decide who makes the playoffs. \$40 per person includes round-trip transportation, a ticket to the game, and driver tip.

Saturday, November 6: Lancaster. Get an early jump on your holiday shopping as we visit Lancaster's outlet centers. Conclude the day with a buffet dinner at Miller's Restaurant. \$45 per person includes round-trip transportation, dinner, and tips.

Saturday, December 11: Longwood Gardens. Take part in a Chester County holiday tradition and see the lights at Longwood Gardens, followed by dinner at Longwood's Terrace Restaurant. \$60 per person includes round-trip transportation, dinner, admission, and tips.

Monday, December 13: Radio City Music Hall. See the Christmas Spectacular, spend the afternoon in New York City, and have dinner in Times Square at the Bubba Gump Shrimp Company. \$110 per person includes round-trip transportation, a ticket to the show, dinner, a map of New York City, and driver and server tips.

Saturday, December 18: New York City. Spend the afternoon seeing the city decorated in its holiday finest and finish your last minute shopping. \$25 per person includes round-trip transportation, a map of New York City, and driver tip.

Seating for each of these trips is limited on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about any of these trips, contact the West Goshen Park and Recreation Office at 610-696-5266 or klehr@westgoshen.org, or visit the Township website at www.westgoshen.org. ★

YOUR GUIDE TO COMMUNITY DAY 2004

West Goshen Township celebrates its ninth annual Community Day at West Goshen Community Park on Sunday, September 12. With free activities for the whole family, Community Day offers something fun for everyone. The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department presents the following tips to help you enjoy Community Day festivities:

■ **Where and When:** Community Day takes place at West Goshen Community Park, Fern Hill and N. Five Points Roads, on Sunday, September 12, 2004 between Noon and 5:00 PM. **The Exceptions** will perform at the J. Leon Hagerty Amphitheater from 4:00 PM through 6:00 PM. In the event of rain, Community Day would be postponed to Sunday, September 26. Visit www.westgoshen.org or call 610-696-5266 on the morning of September 12 for the rain determination.

■ **Parking:** The main parking lot at West Goshen Community Park has limited parking spaces. But don't despair, as there is plenty of parking

within a half-mile of the park! West Goshen Community Park has an additional lot next to The Arc of Chester County building by Lawrence Drive. In addition, local businesses also allow parking in their lots for Community Day. West Goshen Township also has overflow parking in the Fresh Meadows Field across Fern Hill Road from Community Park. A free shuttle service will transport people from remote locations to the Community Park. For a map of parking areas around Community Park, visit http://www.westgoshen.org/Departments/Events/Community_Day/ParkingMap.pdf.

■ **Free Activities for Children:** Children can have fun all afternoon without emptying their parents' wallets or pocketbooks. Free activities for kids include:

- Pony rides
- The home run contest
- Face painting
- Puppet shows
- Crafts including sand art and spin art
- A moonbounce, giant slide, funhouse, and obstacle course

■ **Free Activities for Everyone:** Why let the kids have all the fun? Everyone can enjoy tackling the challenge of the rock climbing wall, seeing 2004 Battle of the Bands winners **Driving GT**, or partying to the music of **The Exceptions**.

■ **Things You Might Want to Bring Your Wallet for:** Although the day's activities are free, you may still want to bring some money for food from the Community Park Concession Stand, The Stadium Grille, or K&G Pizza. Get an early jump on your holiday shopping at Artisans' Row, featuring the works of 50 local artisans and crafters. Don't forget to purchase raffle tickets from The Friends of West Goshen Parks for your chance to win baskets of prizes donated by local businesses.

■ **Volunteering to Help:** Anyone interested in volunteering to help on Community Day can call The Friends of West Goshen Parks at 610-692-2550. More information on The Friends of West Goshen Parks is available on Page 5. ★



Noon - 12:45	Performance by Battle of the Bands winner Driving GT
Noon - 4:00	Moon Bounce, Giant Slide, Obstacle Course, Fun House
Noon - 4:30	Music by DJ Bob Wiederwax
Noon - 5:00	Artisans' Row Featuring Regional and Local Artisans and Crafters
Noon - 5:00	Children's Crafts and Sand Art
Noon - 5:00	Rock Climbing Wall
12:30 - 4:30	Face Painting
12:30 - 1:15	Puppet Show with Segal Puppet Theatre
12:30 - 2:30	Home Run Hitting Contest
1:00 - 4:00	Tall Cedars Clowns
1:00 - 4:00	Caricature Artists
1:00 - 4:00	Turk's Head Jugglers
1:00 - 4:00	Pony Rides
2:00 - 2:45	Puppet Show with Segal Puppet Theatre
4:00 - 6:00	Performance by The Exceptions

WEST GOSHEN



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1025 Paoli Pike
West Chester, PA 19380
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
610.696.5266
(fax) 610.429.0616
twp@westgoshen.org
www.westgoshen.org

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U.S. Postage PAID
West Chester, PA
Permit #79

Township offices will be closed on **Monday, September 6** and on **Monday, October 11**.

There will be no trash or recycle pickup on **Labor Day (Monday, September 6)**. Trash will be picked up the next day: **Tuesday, September 7**. Trash and recyclables will be collected on **Monday, October 11**.

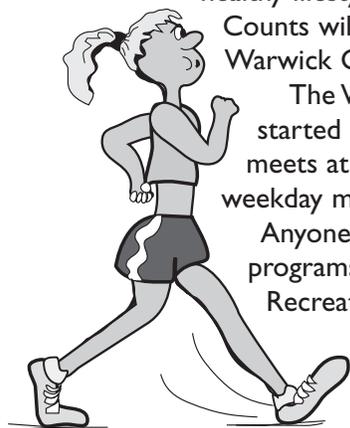
Walk With Us

Over 1,000 Chester County residents have signed up to participate in CHESCO: Every Step Counts, an initiative to get people interested in healthy lifestyles through walking.

CHESCO: Every Step Counts will host group walks at East Goshen Park and Warwick County Park at 10:00 AM on Saturday, October 4.

The West Goshen Park and Recreation Office has also started the West Goshen Walks walking club, which meets at West Goshen Community Park at 7:00 on weekday mornings.

Anyone interested in learning more about these walking programs can contact the West Goshen Park and Recreation Office at 610-696-5266 or via email at klehr@westgoshen.org. ★



The West Goshen Township Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing for the completed Comprehensive Plan on Wednesday, September 8, 2004 immediately following the 4:00 PM Board of Supervisors meeting. All are welcome to attend. ★

Construction Begun at Paoli Pike and N. Five Points Road

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) has begun construction on traffic improvements at the intersection of Paoli Pike and N. Five Points Road. The roadwork is expected to last through the summer.

Traffic may become congested during construction. Please allow extra time if you need to use this intersection. Alternatives include West Chester Pike or the Route 322 exit of Route 202. Remember that state law requires drivers to use headlights when driving through a construction area. Fines for traffic offenses are doubled in construction zones. ★

Bulk Trash pick-up dates are August 5, September 2, and October 7.

SUMMER SAFETY & \$AVING\$ GUIDE

Keep Your Cool & Save Some Cash

PECO Energy offers the following top 10 energy savings tips to keep your energy bills down and your home cool:

 Keep your thermostat at a constant, comfortable level of 75-78 degrees when you are home. Lowering the thermostat setting will not cool your home any faster.

 To reduce heat and moisture in your home, run appliances such as ovens, washing machines, dryers, and dishwashers in the early morning or evening hours when it is generally cooler outside. You can also reduce the kitchen heat by microwaving or barbecuing outside instead of using your stove or oven.

 Keep shades, blinds, and curtains closed. Nearly 40% of unwanted heat enters building through windows.

 Don't place lamps or televisions near your air conditioning thermostat. The heat from these appliances will cause the air conditioner to run longer.

 Turn off all unnecessary lighting and appliances.

 Use fans to circulate cooled air. This will more evenly distribute cool air and can reduce the amount of time your air conditioner is turned on.

 Place window air conditioners on the north or shady side of the apartment or house when possible to avoid overworking the unit in the hot daytime sun.

 Replace the air conditioner filter at the start of the cooling season and check its condition monthly.

 Install or replace caulking or weather stripping around doors and windows to keep cool air inside.

 If shopping for appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners, look for the Energy Star label and purchase the most energy efficient unit you can afford. These newer, more energy-efficient models will lower monthly operating costs.

By taking these simple energy efficient steps, you can save up to 10% to 15% of your energy costs. ★

Lawn Mowing Tips

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, nearly 68,000 people are treated in emergency rooms each year with lawn mower related injuries. When mowing your lawn, make sure to take the following precautions:

- Use a lawn mower with a release that automatically stops the engine when you let go of the handle. Riding mowers should have a release that turns the engine off when you get up from the seat.

- Wear sturdy shoes (not sandals or sneakers) when mowing your lawn. Protective eyewear, hearing protection, workgloves, long sleeved shirts, and full-length pants are also recommended.

- Walk across your yard removing objects from your lawn before mowing. Items left on the lawn may become dangerous projectiles if run over by a lawn mower.

- Keep children and pets away from lawn mowers. Do not allow children to ride as passengers on riding mowers. Children under 16 should not operate riding mowers. Children under 12 should not use walk-behind mowers.

- Always turn off the mower and wait for the blades to stop completely before removing the grass catcher, unclogging the discharge chute, or crossing gravel paths or roads.

- Start and refuel mowers outdoors, not in a garage or shed. Only refuel mowers when the engine is turned off and cool.

- If mowing a steep incline with a riding mower, go straight up and down to avoid tipping over. If using a walk-behind mower, move horizontally across the slope to avoid being run over by the mower. ★

Each issue, we will bring you safety tips from West Goshen Township's own Officer Friendly, Corporal Robert Holland.

Safety Tips from Officer Friendly

Keep your children safe when they get on their bicycles.

- Children should avoid riding bicycles in the street whenever possible. If possible, they should stick to riding bikes on sidewalks or driveways. If children must ride on a street, make sure to ride on the right side of the street.

- Bicyclists must adhere to the same traffic codes as automobiles. This means that bicycle riders must stop at red lights and stop signs.

- And of course, bicyclists must wear helmets at all times. ★



SUMMER SAFETY & \$AVING\$ GUIDE

Know the Rules Before Installing Your Pool

Make sure your pool is safe this summer.

West Goshen's building codes require a fence or other barrier of a height of at least 4 feet around any pool. Any gates leading to the pool area must have a self-closing latch at least 54 inches above the ground.

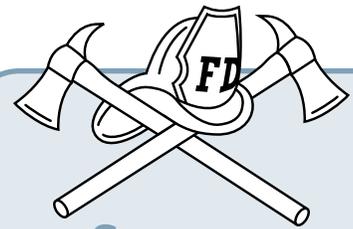
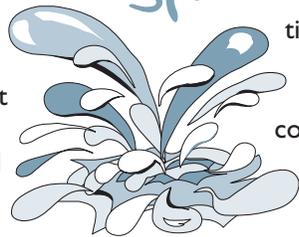
Houses with doors leading to pool areas must be equipped with an alarm that sounds for 30 seconds when such doors are opened. The alarm may have a deactivation switch located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door that resets itself within 15 seconds. The purpose of the alarm is to prevent accidental drownings by notifying homeowners when any children leave the house for the pool area.

Above ground pools must have ladders that can be removed, locked, or secured to prevent access when the

pool is not in use. Remember that above ground pools are subject to the same regulations as in-ground pools. Before purchasing an above ground pool two feet deep or deeper, don't forget to budget for proper enclosure and alarm if needed.

Other ways to keep your pool safe include keeping rescue equipment near the pool, making sure children do not enter the pool unattended, and maintaining a distance of no more than one arm's length away from any infants or toddlers in the swimming pool.

For more information about installing a pool on your property or obtaining a pool permit, contact a West Goshen Township Building Official at 610-696-5266. ★



Summer Fire Safety Tips from Fire Marshal Ralph Brown

West Goshen Township prohibits the manufacturing, sale, exposure for sale, or use any fireworks, firecrackers, torpedoes, roman candles, skyrockets, sparklers, and all other articles of the nature or character of fireworks for pyrotechnic display. Of these items, only sparklers may be legally used in the state of Pennsylvania.

When using sparklers, maintain a safe distance from buildings, trees and bushes, and vehicles. Children under 18 must be supervised by an adult when using sparklers. Young children are advised not to play with sparklers. Allow sparklers to cool down before touching or depositing in your trash.

Do not include any unlit fireworks with your trash. Instead, contact Fire Marshal Ralph Brown at 610-696-5266 to safely dispose of them. ★

DON'T GET BUGGED THIS SUMMER

Insects can be more than a nuisance during the summertime. With growing awareness of Lyme disease and West Nile virus, the serious health risks presented by some insects need to be addressed. Fortunately, there are some fairly simple precautions you can take to make yourself less likely to get bugged this summer.



Don't make yourself too attractive to insects. Avoid using scented soaps, perfumes, or sprays when heading into wooded areas. Some insects are also attracted to bright colors and flowery prints.

The best protection is prevention. Avoid areas where insects nest or congregate, such as stagnant pools of

water, uncovered foods and gardens where flowers are in bloom. Wear long sleeved shirts and a hat and tuck pant legs into your socks when heading into the woods. Avoid wearing sandals or other open-toe shoes. Protect any exposed skin with an insect repellent containing DEET.



Consider building a bat box in your back yard. A single bat can eat up to 3,000 mosquitoes per night.



When stung by a bee or wasp, remove the stinger by gently scraping it off horizontally with a credit card or your fingernail. Do not use a needle to remove the stinger unless it has been sterilized first. ★