

WEST GOSHEN



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

Winter 2014

Township Newsletter • Volume 23 No. 3

How to Dispose of Household Electronic Devices

West Goshen residents are reminded that electronic devices may not be disposed of with regular trash pickup in accordance with Pennsylvania's Covered Device Recycling Act of 2010. Electronic devices may be disposed of at the following events:

Saturday, March 29, 2014, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM:

West Goshen Township Municipal Complex, 1025 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380. Township residents may dispose of electronic devices at this special dropoff. A \$20 fee will apply to any glass-screen televisions, CRTs, or



computer monitors. Projection televisions will not be accepted.

Saturday, April 12, 2014,

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM:

CAT Pickering Campus, 1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460. This will be the first of Chester County's Household Hazardous and Electronics Waste disposals for 2014. For a list of acceptable and unacceptable items, visit

http://www.westgoshen.org/Departments/Trash_Recycling/Hazardous_Waste.cfm.

Township Offices Now Open Monday Through Friday

Beginning in January 2014, the West Goshen Township Administration offices are open Monday through Friday. Office hours are 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM. The new hours will provide an extended opportunity for residents, business owners and visitors to meet with Township staff or pay a sewer or trash bill and allow contractors to apply for and / or pick-up building permits and schedule inspections five days per week.

Saturday, April 26, 2014, 9:00 AM –

3:00 PM: Octorara High School, 226 Highland Road, Atglen, PA 19310. This is the second of Chester County's 2014 Household Hazardous and Electronics Waste disposals.

Information about future Household Hazardous and Electronics Waste disposals will be listed in the Waste and Recycling Guide in the Spring 2014 issue of The West Goshen Township Newsletter. ★

Shred It

West Goshen Township will host a shredding event at the Municipal Complex on Saturday, April 12, 2014 between 9:00 AM and noon. Residents can bring personal documents to be securely shredded and recycled. This event is for residents of West Goshen Township only. Items from businesses will not be accepted. ★

Dates Announced for Yard Waste Collections

West Goshen homeowners may place their biodegradable yard waste for curbside collection on the following Saturdays in 2014:

March 22nd
April 12th
May 17th
June 7th

July 12th
August 9th
September 13th
October 11th



In addition, leaves will be collected on Saturday, November 15th, Saturday, December 6th, and Saturday, December 20th.

Yard waste and leaves can be placed in biodegradable paper bags or trash cans. Yard waste will not be collected from plastic bags. Branches not exceeding four feet in length may be bundled together. There is no limit to the number of paper bags or bundles to be collected.

Visit www.westgoshen.org or check the West Goshen Township Newsletter Waste and Recycling Guide in the Spring 2014 issue for more information about yard waste collection. ★

Subdivision and Land Development Report

The following plan has been approved for development:

McDonald's Rebuild

Location: 927 South High Street

The proposed plan concerns the demolition of the existing 4,025 square foot restaurant and the rebuilding of a 3,344 square foot restaurant with improvements.

The following plans remain under review:

Traditions of West Goshen

Location: 1299 Boot Road

A 43,671 square foot independent living facility, consisting of 114 units is proposed.

Fern Hill Elementary School

Location: 915 Lincoln Avenue

This plan proposes a 14,014 square foot classroom addition, a 2,040 square foot cafeteria addition and enclosing the existing front entrance of the school. An

additional 64 parking spaces will be created adjacent to the proposed classroom addition with a pick up and drop off area. A new ten foot wide bus stacking lane is to be created for pickup and dropoff in front of the cafeteria.

WAWA/CVS/Bank

Location: 1010 West Chester Pike

This plan proposes to demolish the existing building (Thomas Chevrolet) and construct a 5,102 square foot convenience store, a 14,600 square foot pharmacy, and a 3,650 square foot bank.

3-Lot Subdivision

Location: East Side of Pottstown Pike, South of Greenhill Road

The proposed plan will create a three-lot single family detached dwelling subdivision. An existing house is to remain on one of the lots.

The Woodlands at Greystone

Location: Northwest corner of the Route 322 Bypass and Phoenixville Pike

The submitted plan proposes for the development of 598 dwelling units pursuant to the Flexible Design Conservation District regulations for a 446+ acre property located along Pottstown Pike, Phoenixville Pike, and the Route 322 Bypass (commonly referred to as the Jerrehian tract).

Goshen Leisure Development II

Location: 21 Hagerty Boulevard: East of Route 202, North of Hagerty Boulevard
The proposed plan reflects 164,150 square feet of flex office and warehouse buildings to be located at 21 Hagerty Boulevard.

415 Goshen Road Subdivision

Location: 415 Goshen Road

The proposed plan will subdivide the property, located at 415 Goshen Road into five single-family lots.

A plan may be viewed, by request, by contacting West Goshen Township. ★

township information

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

6 year elected term

Patricia B. McIlvaine, *Chairman*
Philip J. Corvo, *Vice-Chairman*
Raymond H. Halvorsen, *Member*
Theodore J. Murphy, Esq., *Member*
Dr. Robert S. White, *Member*

ADMINISTRATION

Casey LaLonde, *Township Manager*
Jeanne M. Denham, *Finance Director*
Raymond H. Halvorsen, *Director of Public Works*
Richard J. Craig, *Township Engineer*
J. David Woodward, *Streets Superintendent*
Dorine A. Hannum, *Parks Superintendent*

WEST GOSHEN POLICE

1025 Paoli Pike, W.C., 19380
Police 911 or 610.696.7400
Fax 610.696.3935
police@westgoshe.org
Joseph J. Gleason, *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*

PARK & RECREATION BOARD

Edward T. Smith, *Chairman*
Gerald L. Napiecek, *Vice-Chairman*

Michael A. Pillagalli, *Secretary*
Robert M. Cifone
Mary Lou Enoches
Dorine A. Hannum
Kenneth W. Lehr
Nancy Pine
Joseph Waters
Sara J. Franco, *Alternate*
Michael McKinley, *Alternate*

PLANNING COMMISSION

Monica Drownian, *Chairman*
Jeffrey Laudenslager, *Vice-Chairman*
Vito Genua
Robert Holland
Jeffrey S. Lieberman
Carrie Martin
Will Morrison
John T. Wildrick

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Joseph DeFelippes, *Chairman*
Scott T. Cullinan, *Vice-Chairman*
Shannon Royer, *Member*
Salvatore Triolo, *Alternate*

SEWER AUTHORITY

Michael T. Arnold, *Chairman*
David R. Johnson, *Vice-Chairman*
Philip J. Corvo, *Secretary*
Ron Rothrock, *Treasurer*
Dr. Robert S. White, *Assistant Secretary*
Frank J. Biasi, *Alternate Member*

THE FRIENDS OF WEST GOSHEN PARKS, INC.

Non-profit group assisting the Park and Recreation Board; meets bimonthly
John Herley, *President*
John Smith, *Vice-President*
(Vacant), *Secretary*
Marilyn Reich, *Treasurer*
LaRue Morgan, *Member*
Gerald L. Napiecek, *Member*
Peggy Niemeyer, *Member*

AUDITORS

Hugh J. Purnell, Jr., *Chairman*
William Gale, *Secretary*
William Christman, *Member*

TAX COLLECTOR

William R. Keenan

TOWNSHIP PARKS

Barker Park
Falcon Lane by Westtown Way
Coopersmith Park
Spring Lane, off West Chester Pike
Lambert Park
1145 Pottstown Pike
West Goshen Community Park
Fern Hill & North Five Points Roads



2014 Budget

The West Goshen Board of Supervisors approved the 2014 General Fund Budget, Sewer Fund Budget, and Waste and Recycling Fund Budget at their December 11, 2013 meeting. Detailed budget information is available for review at www.westgoshe.org/PDFs/Finance/2014_final_budget.pdf.

2014 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

REVENUES

Taxes	\$ 12,328,000
Licenses	468,000
Fines & Forfeits	190,000
Interest & Rents	54,752
Intergovernmental Revenue	635,326
Departmental Earnings	677,550
Miscellaneous Revenue	288,840
Fund Equity & Other	8,262,330

Total Revenues \$ 22,904,798

EXPENDITURES

General Government	\$ 2,252,866
Public Safety	6,507,446
Highways	3,489,998
Parks & Recreation	1,372,592
Libraries	10,000
Debt Service & Capital Projects	831,781
Misc.	-
Other Financing Uses	135,052
Reserved for Future Year's Expenses	8,305,063

Total Expenditures \$ 22,904,798

2014 SEWER FUND BUDGET

REVENUES

Interest Earnings	\$ 4,500
State Aid Employee Pension	87,677
Connection Fees	6,000
Sewer Rents	4,327,794
Misc. Revenue & IWP	35,200
Fund Equity & Other	3,831,041

Total Revenues \$ 8,292,212

EXPENDITURES

Administrative Expenses	\$ 607,002
Rent to Authority	432,000
Collection	856,901
Treatment Plant	2,514,050
Transfers	47,716
Reserved for Future Year's Expense	3,834,543

Total Expenditures \$ 8,292,212

2014 WASTE & RECYCLING BUDGET

REVENUES

Interest Earnings	\$ 1,000
Grants	60,000
Waste & Recycling Income	2,159,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	15,000
Fund Equity & Other	1,105,381

Total Revenues \$ 3,340,881

EXPENDITURES

Administrative Expenses	\$ 99,224
Professional Services	7,242
Contracted & Other Services	2,184,812
Transfers	-
Reserved for Future Year's Expenses	1,049,603

Total Expenditures \$ 3,340,881

Public Township Meetings

Board of Supervisors (7:00 PM, second Wednesday of each month): February 12; March 12; April 9.

Park and Recreation Board (7:00 PM, third Wednesday of each month): February 19; March 19; April 16.

Planning Commission (7:00 PM third Tuesday of each month): February 18; March 18; April 15

Sewer Authority (7:30 PM, first Wednesday of each month): February 5; March 5; April 2.

Zoning Hearing Board (7:00 PM, first Thursday after the second Wednesday each month, except where otherwise noted): February 13; March 13; April 10.

All meetings are held in the Township Administration building except the Sewer Authority, which is conducted 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.westgoshe.org for updates.

Greening West Goshen

"Greening West Goshen" offers environmentally sound practices for homeowners, businesses, gardeners, and property managers. If you have a green tip you would like to share, forward it to Newsletter Editor Ken Lehr at klehr@westgoshen.org.

They Sleep in Winter...

...Or do they? We watch the falling leaves from deciduous trees, as well as the needles from several varieties of conifers. There are some conifers that also lose all of their foliage during the winter months. These would include European Larch, and the Dawn Redwood. These trees become completely barren as the autumn months slide inevitably into the grasp of winter.

There are three recognized zones of dormancy that our trees go through as the fall months lead into winter. The first is a "pre-dormancy" period. In this time, the stage is set by the cessation of active growth, and the buds are formed that will, in time, open in the following spring. These buds develop a type of cold weather protection. The entire scenario is brought on by the reduction of light as the days grow shorter. Abscisis acid, which is produced in the fall months, assists the trees in preparing for the cold months to come. The concentration of this acid declines as the winter months progress.

In the second zone, the trees move into "true dormancy." There is no turning back once the trees in our climate zone

have reached this point. In order to develop beyond this "cooling period," trees must maintain temperatures of 38 degrees or less. The time required varies, but it would usually require one to three months. Some parts of the trees seem to be less affected by dormancy. The roots of the tree do not require the "cooling period" process. They seem to settle into a "rested state" and will resume growth when the conditions are favorable.

In the third zone of "post-dormancy," the cooling period has ended and the trees settle into a restful sleep, wherein they will lie dormant until the night time will shorten, the daylight periods will lengthen and the temperature will rise enough for the tree to start its growth process once again.

If you have used the autumn months to plant new trees, it is good to keep in mind that newly planted trees are vulnerable during their first winter and sufficient mulch should be provided to form a barrier of protection from the changes of temperature and change in moisture levels. Mulch supplied to newly planted trees is good insurance that your investment will be protected.

If you have older, more mature trees, winter is an excellent time to remove deadwood and diseased limbs from your trees. Avoid winter pruning of native dogwoods and sugar maples. In addition to deadwood, you may wish to remove epicormic growth (sucker growth) that occurs at the base of a tree or forms along the limbs near the primary wood (trunk) of the tree.

Keep in mind that winter droughts can be as damaging to a tree's system as a summer drought. Prolonged periods without moisture accompanied by warm temperatures would be a good time to water trees. Newly planted or stressed trees would be more needful of watering than established trees. However, be careful to avoid overwatering. Watering would be possible in areas where the ground is not frozen.

—T. Scott Sanders

Mr. Sanders is a consulting arborist and member of the East Goshen Township Conservancy Board. He provides consulting services to both East and West Goshen Townships and owns a contracting company that specializes in the care of mature trees. ★

..... Volunteers Needed for the 9th Annual Goose Creek Cleanup on April 12th



This year's annual cleanup of the Goose Creek in West Goshen Township will take place on Saturday, April 12th. The cleanup is coordinated by the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association with assistance from the West Goshen Public Works Department. Volunteers are needed to help with the effort. Interested individuals or groups can contact the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association at 610-359-1440 or via email at crc@nni.com. Gloves, coffee, and bagels will be provided. Volunteers with boots and waders are encouraged to bring them. ★

Free Workshops with Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association

The Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association is sponsoring two free workshops for homeowners, landscaping professionals, and property managers this February.

Mike Leventry addresses "Protecting Our Water Resources and Environment Through Reduced Chemical Use" on Sunday, February 23rd between 2:00 and 3:30 PM at Penn State Brandywine. Leventry has worked as an integrated pest management professional for ten years, including time at Longwood Gardens, the University of Delaware, and the Kennett Collection. He will discuss how homeowners can reduce the need for chemical pesticides by utilizing integrated pest management, stress the importance of conservation of naturally occurring predators, and review cultural practices and physical controls for landscaping instead of chemical use. Attendees will learn how to deal with weeds, algae, insects, and troublesome mammals. The workshop will take place at Penn State Brandywine's Tomezsko Building Auditorium, 25 Yearsley Mill Road in Media. To register for this workshop, visit <http://crcwatersheds.org/resources/view/295>.

Vice-President of Weeds, Inc. Drew O'Neil speaks on "Controlling Invasive Vegetation in Aquatic and Terrestrial Environments" between 9:00 and 10:30 AM on Wednesday, February 26th at the Garrett Williamson Foundation, 395 Bishop Hollow Road in Newtown Square. Topics include state and federal permit and licensing requirements, protecting water quality and personal safety, effective manual controls, identification and control for annual invasive vegetation, identification and control of perennial vegetation, special considerations for meadows, and special requirements for aquatic environments. Pennsylvania license credits will be offered for landscaping professionals. Attendees may register via email at info@crcwatersheds.org.

Information about these workshops is available at www.crcwatersheds.org or by calling 610-359-1440. ★

The Annual Organization Meeting: Taking Care of Business for the New Year

The Annual Township Organizational Meeting which took place on Monday, January 6th this year, provides Township Supervisors with the chance to set operating procedures for the year. Responsibilities of the Board of Supervisors at the Organizational Meeting include selection of a chairman and vice-chairman, appointments to various boards and commissions, establishing government office hours, public meeting times, and holidays, approving depositories for Township funds, and designating emergency service providers.

Patricia B. McIlvaine was chosen to chair the West Goshen Board of Supervisors in 2014. Philip J. Corvo, Jr. will serve as vice-chair.

The Board of Supervisors made the following board appointments at the meeting:

Planning Commission	Terry Wildrick (3rd term) Robert Holland (3rd term)
Park and Recreation Board	Edward T. Smith (5th term)
Zoning Hearing Board	Shannon Royer (2nd term) Salvatore Triolo (2nd term)
Sewer Authority	Dr. Robert S. White (2nd term)
Vacancy Board	Edward M. Meakim (3rd term)
Pension Committee	Robert Holland (5th term) William Keenan (19th term) Thomas A. Teneza (7th term) Walter Tompkins (1st term) John Trevisani (6th term)

Township holidays were set as: New Year's Day (January 1); Martin Luther, King, Jr. Day (January 20); Presidents' Day (February 17); Memorial Day (May 26); Independence Day (July 4); Labor Day (September 1); Columbus Day (October 13); Veterans' Day (November 11); Thanksgiving (November 27); Thanksgiving Friday (November 28); and Christmas (December 25). Township offices will be closed on these dates.

Ambulance service will be provided by Good Fellowship and Goshen Fire Company. Fire protection and rescue service will be provided by Goshen Fire Company and West Chester Fire Department. Police service will be provided by the West Goshen Township Police Department. ★

West Goshen residents interested in serving on a local government board or committee are encouraged to contact Township Manager Casey LaLonde at 610-696-5266 or via email at clalonde@westgoshen.org for information.

Summer Employment Opportunities with the Park and Recreation Department

Work outdoors this summer planning, supervising, and participating in a variety of fun activities for children in West Goshen's Summer Recreation Program, Summer Teen Program, and Afternoon Sports Clinics! The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department is currently accepting applications from enthusiastic people interested in planning and supervising safe and enjoyable outdoor activities for children participating in our summer programs. Counselors are assigned to one of four park locations in West Goshen Township for the duration of the eight-week programs working between June 23rd and August 15th.

Summer Recreation Program: Junior Counselor and Summer Counselor Positions

The Park and Recreation Department is currently accepting applications for the positions of junior counselor and summer counselor working with children between the ages of five and twelve in our Summer Recreation Program. The junior counselor position provides support to the summer counselors while gaining introductory experience working with children in a recreational group setting. Junior counselors are required to perform physical activity outdoors such as activity set-up and clean-up in addition to a variety of daily responsibilities as directed by the summer counselors and program director. Applicants must be 16 years old by June 23, 2014 and be willing and able to work maturely in a group environment. Interested candidates must submit an Application for Employment by Friday, April 25, 2014.

The Park and Recreation Department is also accepting applications for the position of summer counselor. Summer counselors plan, lead, and actively supervise a variety of age appropriate recreational activities such as sports, games, crafts, special events, and field trips for children between the ages of five and twelve. Counselors are responsible for the direct supervision and well-being of the participants while communicating and enforcing program rules and expectations outdoors in a team environment. Summer counselor applicants are required to be at least 18



The Top Ten Reasons to be a Counselor this Summer!

1. Work outdoors this summer in one of West Goshen's beautiful parks
2. Part-time positions allow time for other fun summertime activities
3. Gain hands-on experience working with children
4. Practice / increase your leadership and personnel skills
5. Plan and supervise a variety of fun summertime activities for children
6. Be looked up to as a role model and leader
7. Create wonderful lifelong memories for both the children and yourself
8. Experience opportunities to make a positive difference in a child's life
9. Attend weekly field trips
10. Have fun (and get paid for it!)

years of age and have a high school diploma by June 23, 2014. Applications must be submitted by Friday, March 28, 2014.

Summer Teen Program: Summer Counselors

The Park and Recreation Department is accepting applications for candidates interested in working with our popular Summer Teen Program. Summer Teen Program counselors are responsible for planning, facilitating, and supervising sports, games, and special events for participants between the ages of thirteen and fifteen. Summer Teen Program counselors also attend weekly field trips and participate in community

service projects. Applicants are required to be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma by June 23, 2014. Applications for the position of summer teen counselor are to be submitted by Friday, March 28, 2014.

Applications for Employment are available at the West Goshen Township Administrative Building or may be downloaded from www.westgoshen.org/PDFs/Forms/Employment_Application.pdf. For more information contact Summer Program Coordinator Tom Steines at 610-696-5266 ext. 4103 or at tsteines@westgoshen.org. West Goshen Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer. ★

Monthly Bus Trips Resume

The West Goshen Park and Recreation Department's monthly bus trips resume on Saturday, March 29th with a visit to Washington, DC for the **Cherry Blossom Festival**. See the blossoms in bloom or visit the monuments and museums around the National Mall. \$45 per person includes round-trip motorcoach transportation and driver tip.

On Wednesday, April 23rd, the West Goshen Park and Recreation Department returns to Broadway for Disney's latest musical sensation "**Aladdin**." The day is complete with free time in New York and dinner at Carmine's. \$175 per person includes round-trip motorcoach transportation, ticket to the show, dinner at Carmine's, and server and driver tips.

May will feature a visit to see the **Phillies play the Mets at Citi Field** for a Saturday evening game. The May 10th trip costs \$70 per person and includes round-trip motorcoach transportation, a

field-level ticket to the game, and driver tip. Everyone in attendance will receive a Nolan Ryan bobblehead doll commemorating the 45th anniversary of the "Amazing Mets" 1969 World Series championship.

To find out more about any of these trips, contact Park and Recreation Director Ken Lehr at 610-696-5266 or via email at klehr@westgosheh.org. Information about each of these trips is available at www.westgosheh.org.

Want to receive monthly email updates from the Park and Recreation Department? Visit the Park and Recreation page of the West Goshen Township website at www.westgosheh.org/Departments/Park_Rec/Park_Rec.cfm to sign up for your free subscription to "The Rec Room" and receive advance notification of bus trips, special events, programs, and activities throughout the year. ★

J.P. Mascaro and Sons Now Handling Township Trash and Recycling Service

As of January 3, 2014, J.P. Mascaro and Sons will be the Township's waste and recycling hauler. Trash collection days will remain the same and service will not differ from contract specifications. Waste and Recycling should always be at the curb before 6:00 AM. **The routes have changed and your pick-up time will differ from the previous hauler.** We suggest that you do not put loose trash in your totes, as in the cold months it will freeze to the bottom and on windy days it will blow away when trash is collected. Contact lcovatta@westgosheh.org or call 610-696-5266 ext. 4305 with any questions. ★



The West Goshen Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Parade

Saturday, April 12, 2014

West Goshen Community Park
(Fern Hill and N. Five Points Roads)

10:30 AM • Ages 2-9

In the event of postponement due to rain, notification will be posted at www.westgosheh.org.



Arrive early to allow time for parking and to see the Bunny's arrival by fire engine. Eggs contain candy and, for the older children, coins and small toys. The child who finds the golden egg will receive an egg filled with ten dollar coins. After the Egg Hunt, children wearing decorated hats can join in the parade with the Easter Bunny! Prizes will be awarded for the most original hats. Every child participating in the Decorated Hat Parade will receive a commemorative medal.

The Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Parade is **FREE OF CHARGE** for residents of West Goshen Township. Guests are encouraged to bring a dry good donation (soap, toilet paper, diapers, shampoo, deodorant, laundry detergent, etc.) to go to the West Chester Food Cupboard, or gifts of new socks, t-shirts, and men's underwear for the Coatesville Veterans' Administration Hospital.

Register for the West Goshen Egg Hunt and Decorated Hat Parade online at <http://www.westgosheh.org/EasterEggHuntRegistration.cfm>.



The Friends of West Goshen Parks Help Make West Goshen Township One of the Top Places to Live

In naming West Goshen Township as the tenth best place to live in the United States (www.westgoshen.org/PDFs/Newsletters/WGFA113.pdf), Money Magazine proclaimed "West Goshen has a lush, suburban feel, with quiet, tree-shaded residential areas, lovely parks, and a full slate of community activities."

The parks and community events that help make West Goshen Township one of America's best places to live in are made possible through the efforts of Township staff, volunteers, and local businesses. West Goshen residents and business leaders looking to get more involved in the community are encouraged to join The Friends of West Goshen Parks to help the continuing efforts of community building through parks, recreation programs, and public events. Volunteers can help at events, attend planning meetings, or join the Board of Directors of The Friends of West Goshen Parks. Involvement in the Board of Directors is open to anyone, and would require a commitment to attend six meetings per year and lend assistance at events.



If you would like to support the mission of The Friends of West Goshen but are unable to devote the time to volunteer, you can still show your support by joining The Friends of West Goshen Parks as an active member by completing the registration form below and returning it with a \$10 annual membership fee or greater contribution. Your membership shows that you agree that West Goshen's parks and recreation activities help make West Goshen Township a great place to live in, allows you to keep current on the latest updates from The Friends of West Goshen Parks, gives you a say in voting for The Board of Directors of The Friends of West Goshen Parks, and provides the opportunity to get involved in your community and meet other civic-minded residents.

For more information about The Friends of West Goshen Parks, leave a message at 610-692-2550 or contact West Goshen Park and Recreation Director Ken Lehr at 610-696-5266 or via email at klehr@westgoshen.org.

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:

Please check if you would like to receive information about:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joining the Board of Directors or as an Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering at events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with fundraising |

Make your \$10.00 check payable to:
"The Friends of West Goshen Parks, Inc."
P.O. Box 441, West Chester, PA 19381

For a
\$10
ANNUAL
membership fee,
you can join
The Friends of
West Goshen Parks

West Goshen Parks Scheduled for Improvements



Coopersmith Park and Lambert Park are both scheduled to receive major improvements this spring.

Coopersmith Park will receive new playground equipment, which will replace the existing playground set. The swingset and playground were installed in 1998, and according to

safety standards are due to be replaced. The rock-climbing wall which was installed last year will remain in place, but will be inaccessible during the upgrade. The playground equipment is due to be replaced in April, weather permitting.

Robert E. Lambert Park opened in the summer of 2006. The skatepark at that location has become one of the park's most popular attractions. Over time, signs of wear have appeared on the skatepark surface, particular in landing zones from some of the ramps and boxes. An uneven, chipped surface could pose a potential hazard to skateboarders and inline skaters. This spring, the skatepark will be closed for two to four weeks while it is being

resurfaced. Some of the boxes will be removed and a quarter-pipe will be added to improve the traffic flow of the skatepark and to minimize landing areas that may stress the surface.

Information about closures during these improvements will be available on www.westgoshen.org. ★



ROAD RULES

In each issue of the Township Newsletter, the West Goshen Police Traffic Safety Unit will provide information for drivers, focusing on sections of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code or other traffic safety issues.

OLDER DRIVER SAFETY AWARENESS

Recently, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) joined AAA Mid-Atlantic, The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, and other regional safety partners to recognize Older Driver Safety Awareness Week, to help keep drivers of all ages safe.

"As Pennsylvania's population ages and the number of older drivers on the highways rise, balancing the need for mobility among older drivers with safety on our roadways remains an important part of PennDOT's mission," PennDOT Secretary Barry J. Schoch said. "It is vital that older drivers and their families keep an open dialogue and work together to identify any potential issues, and take advantage of the available courses and information to keep safe driving paramount."

Approximately nineteen percent of Pennsylvania's 8.9 million licensed drivers are 65 and older. In 2012, there were more than 18,000 crashes involving a driver 65 and older, resulting in 276 fatalities.

One way older drivers and their families can help lessen the chances of a crash is to take advantage of approved classroom and online driver-improvement courses available for older drivers. Courses are offered statewide and fees vary. A list of organizations offering the courses is available at www.JustDrivePA.com at the "Older Driver" link under the Traffic Safety Information tab.

An added benefit to taking approved driver-improvement courses is reduced insurance costs. According to the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, Pennsylvania law requires insurance companies to provide at least a five percent premium discount when policyholders 55 or older successfully

complete an approved driver-improvement course.

If an older driver's friends or family are concerned that the driver may not have the capacity to safely operate a vehicle any longer, a list of warning signs, safety tips, and a "Talking with Older Drivers" publication is available on the "Older Driver" page at www.JustDrivePA.com.

Whether through necessity or mutual agreement with family members, older drivers who no longer drive have mobility options through two state public transportation programs. Public fixed-route bus service is available for free to senior citizens 65 and older. In addition, through the Shared Ride Program for Senior Citizens, advance reservation, curb-to-curb service is available in every Pennsylvania county for free or at a discounted rate.

More information is available at www.PAcommutes.com. ★

Roonie, the West Goshen Township Westie and namesake of Roonie's Canine Corner at Robert E. Lambert Park, offers advice for dog owners and users of the dogpark in each issue of the Township Newsletter.



ROONIE SAYS...

The Summer 2013 issue of the West Goshen Township Newsletter (www.westgoshen.org/PDFs/Newsletters/WGTSummer13.pdf) featured information from the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) about dogs who may benefit from a visit to a dogpark and dogs who are not ideal candidates for such a setting. In the Fall 2013 issue (www.westgoshen.org/PDFs/Newsletters/WGTFall13.pdf), we looked at advice from the ASPCA for first-time dogpark visitors. We conclude our series of ASPCA advice for dogpark visitors with a look at canine behaviors in a dogpark setting.

While you're at the dog park with your dog, it's important to closely monitor interaction between playmates. But interpretation can be difficult sometimes. What do dogs look like when they're friendly with each other? How about when they don't feel so friendly? What constitutes polite play between dogs? How can you tell when playmates aren't getting along, and how do you know when it's time to intervene? The information below should help you interpret and evaluate dog play. For illustrations and more information about how dogs communicate, please see the ASPCA's article on Canine Body Language at <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/virtual-pet-behaviorist/dog-behavior/canine-body-language>. For more details about interpreting dog play and selecting appropriate playmates for your dog, please see the article "Choosing Playmates for Your Dog" at <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/virtual-pet-behaviorist/dog-behavior/choosing-playmates-your-dog>.

What Good Play Looks Like

When dogs play, they often play-bow, paw at each other and bounce around like puppies. Their bodies look relaxed, rather than stiff, and they might make "play faces"—they hold their mouths open and look like they're smiling. During play, the dogs might growl playfully and open their mouths wide, exposing their teeth and pretending to be ferocious. They might switch roles so that one dog's sometimes on top when wrestling and sometimes on her back, sometimes chasing and sometimes being chased, sometimes pouncing and sometimes getting pounced on. The dogs might also frequently switch games, alternating between stalking and chasing each other, wrestling and rolling around on the ground, mouthing on each other, playing with toys, and taking breaks to drink water or sniff around. As the dogs run and wrestle, you might notice them pausing or freezing frequently for just a second or two before launching back into the game. These little pauses and breaks in play help ensure that play doesn't get out of hand.

Signs of Trouble

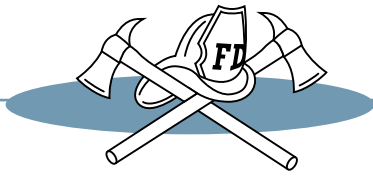
If possible, watch for warning signs and step in before a fight happens. Your first clue that things aren't going well during play might be the absence of all the signs of polite play described above. Instead of those signs, you might notice the dogs' bodies becoming stiffer and more tense. Their movements might seem faster and less bouncy. Play might become louder and build in intensity, without any breaks or pauses. If you see any of these

signs, it's time to separate the playmates. You should also interrupt play if you see a dog who's pursuing and playing too roughly with a playmate who's trying to get away, or who's repeatedly knocking down or standing over another dog. Intervene immediately if a number of dogs start to chase a single dog—especially if that dog is small.

Damage Control: If There's a Fight

Sometimes, despite your best efforts to monitor playtime, dogs get into fights. These scuffles often look and sound ferocious. The dogs might growl fiercely, snarl at each other, bark, snap and show their teeth. However, most dog fights don't result in injury to either dog. They're usually the equivalent of getting into a brief, heated argument with a friend or family member. Even so, if a fight lasts more than a few seconds, the dogs' pet parents should separate them. Doing this can be dangerous. If you grab a dog who's in the middle of fighting with another dog, she might startle and reflexively whip around to bite you. To reduce the likelihood of injury to all parties, follow these guidelines:

- Prevent fights from happening in the first place by actively watching dogs during play. If you think things are starting to look a little tense, end play for a while by calling your dog to come to you. (Please see the article "Teaching Your Dog to Come When Called" at <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/virtual-pet-behaviorist/dog-behavior/teaching-your-dog-come-when-called>.)
- Have a plan and don't panic. Remember that most dog fights are noisy but harmless. If you stay calm, you'll be able to separate two fighting dogs more safely and efficiently.
- Before you try physically separating two fighting dogs, make lots of noise. Clap and yell. Consider carrying a mini-air horn or two metal pie pans to bang together. A sudden loud sound will often interrupt a fight.
- If there's a hose handy, you can try spraying the dogs with water.
- If you've tried briefly (3 seconds or so) making noise but the dogs are still fighting, you and the other dog's pet parent should approach the dogs together. Separate them at the same time. Both of you should take hold of your dogs' back legs at the very top just under the hips, right where the legs connect to the body. (Avoid grabbing the dogs lower on their legs, like by their knees, ankles or paws. Doing so could cause them serious injury.) Like you'd lift a wheelbarrow, lift your dog's back end under his hips so that his back legs come off of the ground, and move backwards away from the other dog. As soon as you can, turn your dog away from the other dog.
- DO NOT grab your dog by the collar. It seems like the natural thing to do, but it might startle your dog and cause her to turn and bite you. This kind of bite is like a reflex that's done without thinking. Many pet parents get bitten this way—even when their dogs haven't shown any signs of aggression in the past.
- After a fight stops, put both dogs on leashes and end the play session. Avoid giving the dogs another chance to fight—just call it quits for the day. ★



Safety Tips by Fire Marshal Andrea Testa

Help keep fire hydrants clear of snow...

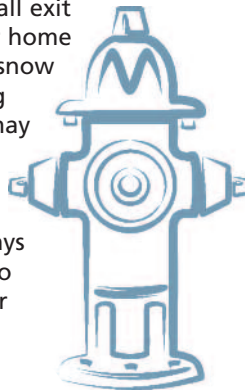
There are over 500 fire hydrants in West Goshen Township. Although the fire companies have maps showing the location of each of these hydrants, winter storms and snow plowing sometimes bury these hydrants under a mountain of snow which makes them impossible to find quickly.

With winter upon us and more snow sure to come, we are asking for your help. If you have a fire hydrant on or near your property, please take a few moments and clear the snow away. Clearing the snow away from a fire hydrant increases its visibility and can save precious time saving lives and property when firefighters

need to hook up to the hydrant in a hurry.

When it comes to fighting fires, every second counts.

Also make sure all exit doors from your home remain clear of snow and ice. Clearing only one door may impede your escape during an emergency. You should always have at least two ways out of your home. ★



Police Invite West Goshen Children to SKATE-A-RAMA



**March 23rd
1:00 – 4:30 PM**

The West Goshen Township Police Department invites children to participate in the annual Skate-A-Rama at Ice Line on Sunday, March 23rd between 1:00 and 4:30 PM. Children can skate for free, meet West Goshen Police Officers, and get a free snack and a drink.

This event is sponsored by the West Goshen Police Department, Ice Line, and several local businesses. Registration forms will be posted on www.westgoshe.org in February, and will be made available at schools. ★

Summer Concert Series and Fall Movie Series Made Possible by Valued Business Partners

The Summer Concert Series and Fall Movie Series are free to the public thanks to the generous support of local businesses. In addition, local businesses have helped by donating prizes for the Harvest Festival's Scarecrow and Giant Pumpkin contests. The West Goshen Park and Recreation Board and The Friends of West Goshen Parks thank the following businesses who supported these events.

2013 West Goshen Summer Concert Series

Platinum level sponsors: Faulkner Auto of West Chester; Park Valley Associates; TD Bank.

Silver level sponsors: Buckley, Brion, McGuire, Morris, and Sommer, LLP; West Goshen Automotive and Fleet Services.

2013 Fall Movie Series

Fred Beans Ford Lincoln of West Chester.

Prizes for the 2013 West Goshen Harvest Festival

The Palace Bowling and Entertainment Center; Ice Line.

If your business would like to support the West Goshen Park and Recreation Department's free public events, contact Park and Recreation Director Ken Lehr at klehr@westgoshe.org.



Kristin Camp of Buckley, Brion, McGuire, Morris, and Sommer, LLP receives a certificate of Appreciation at the December 11, 2013 Board of Supervisors Meeting for sponsorship of the West Goshen Summer Concert Series. Presenting the certificate is Chairman of the West Goshen Park and Recreation Board Joseph Waters. ★



Part of Our Community

Preventative care. Primary care. Emergency care. Most of us are familiar with ways of staying healthy, getting treatment for illness or injury, or rehabilitating to full functionality. However no matter how healthy a life we lead, there inevitably comes a time to face the end. For those whom medicine can no longer restore to health, there is hospice care. And in the West Chester Area, Neighborhood Health's Hospice Program is the leading provider of hospice services.

Neighborhood Health, a member of Penn Medicine, was founded in 1912. Neighborhood Health serves Chester County, eastern Lancaster County, western Delaware County, southern Montgomery County, and southern Berks County from their home base in West Chester Borough and West Goshen Township. Programs include Neighborhood Visiting Nurse Association, Neighborhood Senior HealthLink, and Neighborhood Hospice.

Hospice care is prescribed when a physician determines a patient has six months or less to live without any medical cure. At that point, members of a hospice team will meet with the patient and family members and detail services available. The patient (or family members or legal designee if the patient is comatose or otherwise incapable of making decisions) would then decide whether or not to enter hospice care.

The majority of hospice patients continue to live in their home environment, whether that be at their house, an assisted living community or nursing home, or even at the local Salvation Army. "We'll service people wherever they call home," says Heidi Owen, Director of Hospice Services for Neighborhood Health.

Once signed up for homecare, patients

will receive visits from nurses, nursing aides, social workers, and a chaplain. The frequency of visits depends largely on the needs of the individual patient. Medication and equipment needed for comfort care are paid for by the hospice.

"Whereas a traditional hospital model is based on a medical approach, hospice care is a four-pronged approach to cover the patient's medical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs," explains Heidi Owen. "The real focus of the care is, 'What is the symptom we need to deal with?' We have a really intense pain management regime. Our goal is the best pain management for the quality of life for the patient. We ask, 'What are their goals? Where do they want to go?' That guides our decisions."

Most clients of hospice service continue with home care until their passing. However, for people who need more intensive, immediate hospice care, Neighborhood Health opened a 22-bed inpatient facility at 400 E. Marshall Street in 2008. It was the first hospice facility opened in Chester County, and is the county's only freestanding one not located in a hospital.

In most cases, patients are referred to the hospice facility directly from a local hospital. Members of the hospice team will usually meet with the patient and family members in the intensive care unit. In about half the cases, the patient is unconscious or otherwise unable to make a decision. If the family decides to opt for hospice care, the patient is transferred to Neighborhood Health's facility. The hospice is strictly for short-term care, usually seven days or fewer. There patients will receive any needed care from a staff available 24 hours per day. Families can stay with their loved ones, with 24 hour unrestricted visiting privileges. For those wishing to stay with their loved ones, pullout sofas offer a place to sleep. About 25% of people in the hospice inpatient unit will eventually return home where they will receive additional hospice care.

Hospice services extend beyond the patient to the family members. Family members may be trained to give medications to their loved ones, may get



Neighborhood Health's Hospice offers patients and their families a comfortable setting.

help for funeral planning with a social worker, and may receive counseling services. A children's group support program works with children in different age groups so they may meet others experiencing similar loss and learn coping strategies. For families at the inpatient facility, volunteers work to make their stay there as comfortable as possible, providing a lending library of books, CD's, and games, stocking the pantry with beverages and snacks (including fresh baked cookies!), or just sitting with families to provide quiet companionship.

"Our volunteers are our backbone," says Owen.

Volunteers must undergo eighteen hours of in-person and online training. Most volunteers are not actively recruited, but express an interest in helping based on word-of-mouth. Often, volunteers have had family members who benefited from hospice services.

Volunteers often bring their own expertise to help with therapy for patients and their families. Music therapy, pet therapy, reiki (healing touch) therapy, aroma therapy, hypnotology, and reflexology are all offered with the help of volunteers. "Most of our alternative therapy and programs have come out of brainstorming by volunteers," says Owen.

Owen points out that volunteers are also always needed to help with administrative aspects of the hospice.

In an effort to make the stay at the hospice inpatient facility as comfortable

Neighborhood Health

Visiting Nurse Association | Hospice Services | Senior HealthLink

610.696.6511 800.848.1155 www.nvnacc.com



Penn Medicine

as possible, the unit will sometimes host special events for patients and their loved ones to share. Brides who wanted loved ones to witness their nuptials have had their weddings there. Young people have had pajama and pizza parties. A musician had his bandmates visit for a rock concert. One wife arranged for her husband to have one more poker night with his buddies.

In one instance, a patient wanted one more visit to the beach. Because her condition made this wish impossible, the staff and volunteers of Neighborhood Hospice did the next best thing, and brought the beach to West Goshen. West Chester Inn (currently Days Inn) agreed to lend their pool. Artificial palm trees were brought in, and the patient was able to have one final beach party with her family and friends.

Sometimes, the services offered extend beyond comfort, as hospice staff helps patients achieve life goals. One hospice patient at Barclay Friends fulfilled her wish to become a United States citizen. Other patients have been able to get married while in hospice care.

"People think hospices are all doom and gloom, but it's really about celebrating life," says Heidi Owen.

Benefits of Neighborhood Health's Hospice extend to the community at large. As Heidi Owen indicates, "Because of our nonprofit status, we take any patient who comes through our doors," regardless of ability to pay. The hospice program reaches out to school counselors to offer students free bereavement counseling when needed. Anyone may join a bereavement support group without charge, whether or not the loved one participated in the hospice program.

The majority of funding for Neighborhood Health's Hospice comes from Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance. Additional support is provided by the United Way. Often, individuals may make donations to the Hospice in memory of loved ones. Other funding may support specific projects, such as a grant from the SHINE group of the Chester County Hospital Foundation to decorate the Hospice Unit.

Hospice patients have ranged in age from one day old to 107 years old. Each experience offers unique challenges to the staff and volunteers. "We don't get a second chance," points out Heidi Owen. "It's a very delicate, specialized care."

However, Owen also points out the positive experience for both the patients and the staff. "I've been in my position almost twenty years, and every day is a new day, and we learn something from every family. It's an honor and a privilege to be with somebody at the end of their life."

Owen advises anyone considering hospice care to inquire about information as early as possible. "It doesn't mean you have to admit them to hospice immediately but it's good to have information," she says. "When things start happening, it usually happens pretty quickly. It's good to use your heart and head when making informed decisions."

For more information, visit www.cchosp.com/cchpage.asp?p=1515. ★

Let Your Loved Ones Know Your Wishes in Case of Emergency

Often, patients in emergency care are not conscious or able to make important medical decisions regarding the continuation of treatment or enrollment in hospice care, leaving family members to make difficult choices. Heidi Owen, Director of Hospice Services for Neighborhood Health Hospice, recommends planning ahead to make your family aware of your wishes for such an emergency.

Many people are familiar with the concept of a living will. While the living will is important for letting your wishes be known, a more comprehensive advance care directive will also indicate who has the durable power of attorney to speak for you if you are unable to speak for yourself. This may be especially important if not all family members

agree on a plan of care.

Make your family aware of your wishes. Owen recommends discussing advance care at Thanksgiving when family tends to be present in a comfortable setting at the privacy of home. If your designated representative is not an immediate family member, make sure he or she is aware of your intents so that person will be prepared in the case of an emergency.

After completing an advance care directive, make sure it is in a location that is easily accessible in case of emergency. A safety deposit box would not be helpful if the bank is closed during an emergency. Likewise, while it is useful to notify your family physician of your intents, you would not want to leave your advance care directive with

her in case it is needed when her office is closed. It is best to keep the document in a secure place in your home so you may access it when needed.

You may keep a notice of your advance care directive in your wallet or car so the hospital will know whom to seek out in case of an emergency. The notice should indicate if you have a living will and designated durable power of attorney for health care, and have an emergency contact name, address and telephone number.

The documents "Advance Directives: Legal Documents to Assure Future Health Care Choices" and "Five Wishes" are available free of charge from Neighborhood Health of West Chester. Call 610-696-6511 for more information. ★

WEST GOSHEN



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TOWNSHIP HOLIDAYS | Township offices will be closed on Monday, February 17th in honor of Presidents' Day. Trash and recycling will be collected as usual on Monday, February 17th and Thursday, February 20th.

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