



West Nottingham Township Newsletter

Spring 2012

Clean-up Day supports *Keep PA Beautiful* program

The Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful (KPB) program has been around for more than 25 years. It has effectively used education and action to inform the public of the growing problem that roadside litter creates. April is "spring litter pick-up month" and in keeping with this annual tradition and important service, the Supervisors have chosen Saturday, April 14 as Spring Clean-up Day (rain date April 21).

Residents young and old are encouraged to participate in this event which will begin at 9:00 AM at Nottingham County

Park. Participants will register at pavilion 8 and assigned a road to be picked. Gloves, trash bags and safety vests will be provided. Participants should return to Nottingham



County Park at noon for a free lunch and prizes! Local businesses supporting Spring Clean-up Day have donated a variety of prizes to be raffled off to participants. One lucky boy or girl will win a bicycle!

This year, co-sponsors of the event include Wal-Mart (North East, MD), McDonald's (Rising Sun, MD), Rita's of Oxford, Martin's Food Markets (Rising Sun, MD), Acme Markets (Oxford), Robinson's Furniture (Oxford), Kilby Cream (Rising Sun, MD), DeFrank Automotive (Nottingham), and Nottingham Inn Kitchen & Creamery.

If you'd like more information about Clean-up Day, please call 610-932-4072 ext. 8. Please help us keep West Nottingham beautiful and join us for Clean-up Day!

Spring Dumpster Day Scheduled

Spring is here and it's time to clean out the garage, sort through the boxes in the closet and get rid of that old mower in the shed! The Township will hold the 2012 Spring Dumpster Day on Friday and Saturday, April 20-21 from 7:00 AM until 3:00 PM, at the municipal building, 100 Park Road. Proof of residency is required.

Acceptable items include furniture, appliances, and air conditioning (AC) units. Doors from refrigerators and freezers should be removed, however do not drain the Freon from appliances or AC units. There will be a \$10 fee for each CFC

appliance and a \$5 fee for each non-CFC appliance. Exact change is appreciated, or a check made payable to "West Nottingham Township" will be accepted.

There are a variety of options for unacceptable items: For tires, motor oil and batteries visit www.seccra.org/specialrecycling.htm; for hazardous household waste (HHW) including oil-based paint check out www.wnt-gov.org and click on the "Township Calendar" link. Upcoming HHW events will be listed on the monthly calendar, or visit [\[tyswa.org\]\(http://tyswa.org\) for more information.](http://chestercount-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

For information about Dumpster Day, please call 610- 932-4072 ext. 8.

West Nottingham Township Contact Information

100 Park Road
P.O. Box 67
Nottingham, PA 19362
610-932-4072
www.wnt-gov.org

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Search "West Nottingham
Township, Chester County"

Real Estate & Per Capita Tax Bills Mailed Soon

Residents and property owners can expect to receive real estate and/or per capita tax bills on or before May 1, 2012. Tax bills paid before June 30 will be at a discounted rate. Real estate and per capita tax bill payments should not be combined. If you are paying by check or money order, please make the payments

separately.

The real estate tax rate for the township is .97 mills. The per capita tax is \$10 per person and must be paid by all township residents who are 18 years and older. Full-time students are exempt from the tax. Please note that mortgage companies do not pay per capita taxes.

The West Nottingham Township Tax Collector, Hannah Rush, will hold two collection events for residents: the first on May 15 from 4 to 8 PM and the second on June 30 from 8 AM to 3 PM. Payments may also be sent to the attention of the West Nottingham Township Tax Collector, P.O. Box 67, Nottingham, PA, 19362. If you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

If you do not receive your real estate or per capita tax bills by May 15, please contact Hannah Rush at 610-932-4072 extension 404. Residents are responsible for notifying the township if their mailing address has changed. Tax bills are sent to the address on file with Chester County. If this address is incorrect, you should notify the township and Chester County Tax Assessment as soon as possible.

What you need to know about Earned Income and Local Service Taxes

The Earned Income Tax (EIT) is a 1% income tax collected by Keystone Collections Group. One-half of this tax goes to the school district and the other to the Township. **ALL** residents are required to pay the EIT either through their employer or by making quarterly estimated payments. Annual EIT tax returns must be filed with Keystone Collections Group by April 17, 2012.

If you are new to the township, or if you did not get an EIT tax return form, visit the Keystone Collections website listed below. Failure to pay the EIT may result in interest and penalty charges. Visit www.keystonecollects.com for EIT forms and contact information.

The Local Services Tax (LST) was enacted January 1, 2008. Anyone who works in the township and earns more than \$12,000 per year must pay a \$52 yearly flat tax. This includes individuals who are self-employed or those who conduct business out of their home. Berkheimer Associates is the collector of the LST. If you have questions, please contact the

Township Secretary at 610-932-4072 ext. 8 or Berkheimer at www.hab-inc.com.

Residents are responsible for notifying the Township when mailing addresses have changed or if a post office box is in use. It is important to have your current mailing address on file with the Township so that tax bills and other correspondence reach you in a timely manner.

Single-Stream Recycling

The Southeastern Chester County Refuse Authority (SECCRA) and many refuse haulers now accept co-mingling of recyclable materials. This means that you don't have to separate glass from plastic or paper from cardboard. Known as "single-stream recycling", this process allows materials to be collected and mixed together, then sent to a facility for processing.

The Township offers a 24-hour recycling center to accept glass, plastic (#1 and #2), paper, junk mail, magazines, and cardboard. Please check with your trash hauler for curbside recycling guidelines.

Looking for a way to recycle that old table and chairs or run down dresser? Instead of setting it out for your trash hauler to take to the landfill, consider listing it on SECCRA's "swap" site, SECCRA-Swap.com. SECCRA's advice, "Don't throw it away! Give it away!"

Do you have an old TV or computer that you want to get rid of? Visit SECCRA.org for information on recycling electronics. You can also take advantage of recycling events sponsored by Chester County. Visit www.chestercounty.org and search for "Household Hazardous Waste". Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events are listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

There is a \$25 charge for any check returned for insufficient funds.

Emergency Management Volunteers Needed

West Nottingham Township Emergency Management Coordinator, John Reynolds, is looking for area residents to join the township's Emergency Management Team, Oxford Regional Emergency Management (OxREM) group, and Oxford Area Point of Dispensing (POD) site at Penn's Grove. You can choose to volunteer for one or all of these groups.

As part of the township's Emergency Management Team (EMT) volunteers would participate in online training and a bi-annual exercise with Peach Bottom Atomic Power. EMT volunteers would be called in the event of a real emergency to work in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

As part of OxREM, volunteers would be required to participate in an annual Oxford area emergency drill and work at the Oxford Area EOC in the event of a real emergency.

As a POD volunteer, you will have priority access to medicines for your family and you will help to provide critical services to your neighbors and community. The operation of a POD requires about 60-75 personnel per shift or around 150 total personnel. We depend almost 100% on volunteer support. Many of the key POD leadership positions will be filled by members of our school/school district staff, local police, fire, and emergency management. About 20 of our volunteer positions require some type of medical experience or qualification. The bulk

of our volunteers do not require any specific skill...just a willingness to step-up and help during a time of disaster.

If you are interested in joining the Township's EMT, please contact the Township Secretary at 610-932-4072 ext. 8. If you are interested in joining OxREM or the Oxford

Area POD, please come to a recruiting event scheduled for April 26th, at 6:00 pm at Penn's Grove Middle School located at 301 S Fifth Street in Oxford. Additional information can be found on the township's website at www.wnt-gov.org and click on the "Welcome Home" link.

Don't Be a Victim of Theft

Police have reported a rise in petty theft in our area. Residents are encouraged to lock the doors of all vehicles even when parked in front of your own house. You should also remove valuables from your vehicle; lock them in your trunk if removing them is not an option. Culprits are looking for unlocked car doors and taking whatever they can get, including loose coins. Other types of theft on the rise include scrap metal and packages left on door steps. We have also had reports of unknown persons calling residents "phishing" for personal information to include bank account information, social security number, and/or credit card numbers. Do not give your personal information to anyone! If you get a phone call requesting this type of information, hang-up and call the Police to report the scam. Non-emergency phone calls to the West Nottingham Township Police should be made to 610-467-0312.

Roadside Plantings

Please refrain from planting trees, shrubs or bamboo along roadways. As they grow, trees pose a danger to power and telephone lines, and can fall into the roadway in severe weather. Bamboo and fast growing bushes and shrubs planted close to the road prevent the road crew from clearing the roads during severe weather.

Vegetation Mowing Requirement

The Code of Ordinances states that any grass, weeds or vegetation of any kind cannot exceed a height of eighteen (18") inches. Residents who don't comply with the ordinance will be subject to an enforcement notice and possible fine. For more information or to review the vegetation ordinance, visit www.wnt-gov.org, click on "Ordinances and Zoning" and see Chapter 10 Health and Safety, Section 103 Required Height and Cuttings.

Get A Building Permit Before Starting Your Project

The township receives hundreds of building permit applications each year. Building permits are not issued the day an application is submitted. Processing a permit application takes time. First, the Codes Enforcement Officer (CEO) will verify that the application being submitted is complete and meets the current zoning ordinances. Then, the CEO forwards the completed application to the Building Codes Official (BCO) for review. By law, the BCO has up to 4 weeks to review the application and issue a permit. Permits are not considered complete until all information is received and a deposit has been paid. Incomplete per-

mit applications will result in a delay of the plan review. A few examples of the types of projects that require permits include a new home, shed, detached garage, re-paving or paving a driveway, deck or porch, and in-ground or above ground swimming pool (including all pools that can hold up to 2 feet of water). If you live in a

mobile home park, you must have a zoning permit from the township before placing a shed. Failure to obtain a permit before starting your project, will result in a fine. For permit applications and fees schedule, visit www.wnt-gov.org and click on the "Applications, Permits & Fees" link or call 610-932-4072 ext. 5.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Spring Clean-up Day, April 14

9 AM - Noon at Pavilion 8, Nottingham County Park

HHW Collection Event, April 14

9 AM - 3 PM in Phoenixville (e-waste accepted)

Federal/State Tax Filing Deadline, April 17

Spring Clean-up Day Rain Date, April 21

Dumpster Day, April 20-21

7 AM - 3 PM at 100 Park Road, proof of residency required

Primary Election, April 24

7 AM - 8 PM at 100 Park Road

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Public Hearing, May 10

7:30 PM at Herr's Visitor Center

Tax Collector's Office Hours, May 15

Accepting Real Estate and Per Capita tax payments from 4 - 8 PM at 100 Park Road

HHW Collection Event, May 19

9 AM - 3 PM in Pottstown (NO e-waste accepted)

HHW Collection Event, June 22

9 AM - 3 PM in Coatesville (e-waste accepted)

Tax Collector's Office Hours, June 30

Accepting Real Estate and Per Capita tax payments from 8 AM - 3 PM at 100 Park Road

HHW info: www.chestercounty.org

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Public Hearing Draws Near

For over 5 years now, the township has been working with the Chester County Planning Commission and the Brandywine Conservancy to revise the zoning districts and zoning ordinances to better reflect the Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in 2006. The Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed ordinances on Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Herr's Visitor Center. The ordinances and supporting documentation are available for inspection at the municipal building or online at www.wnt-gov.org/Prop_Zoning.html. If you have any questions, please contact the Township Secretary at 610-932-4072 ext. 8.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All township meetings listed below take place at the municipal building, 100 Park Road in Nottingham beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisors: April 10, 24; May 8, 22; June 12, 26.

Planning Commission: May 1; June 5.

Historical Commission: April 19; May 17; June 21

OxREM: April 26 (POD recruitment meeting at Penn's Grove School at 6:00 p.m.); May 24; June 28. Meeting location to be announced on website, www.oxrem.org.

Come out and see what's going on in your neighborhood!