

2009-1

April 2009

Spring Newsletter

# West Earl Township

157 W. Metzler Road, PO Box 787, Brownstown, PA 17508

www.westearltpw.org



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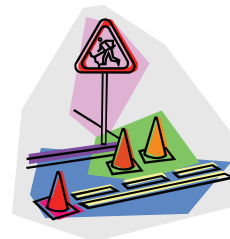
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## Scheduled Road Maintenance



The West Earl Township Road Department is preparing for a busy year of road maintenance. The 2009 maintenance program will consist of the following projects:

- Seal coating of Cocalico Creek Road from route 772 to Zook's Mill Road.
- Seal coating the entire length of Sheaffer's School Road.
- Substantial amount of rubberized crack sealing on roads within the developments.
- Widening East Metzler Road.
- Complete rebuilding of a 1000 foot portion of East Metzler Road.



During the rebuilding of East Metzler Road, that portion of the road will be closed for approximately 2 or 3 weeks with access limited to local traffic only.

Thank you for your patience during this road maintenance season.

## Refuse/Recycling News

Curbside yard waste pick up will begin on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Yard waste includes leaves, grass clippings, garden residue and sod. Brown Kraft Bags are required for yard waste. These biodegradable bags are available for purchase at the Township Office for \$1 each. Woody waste pick up will also begin on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Woody waste includes, shrubbery and tree trimmings. Each bundle of woody waste requires a green tag. Bundles should be no longer than 4 feet and no heavier than 25 lbs. **Please remember not to mix any trash with your yard waste.** Refer to your 2008-2009 Refuse/Recycling Schedule for specific dates when yard waste and woody waste will be picked up.

stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers and water heaters) cost \$12 for each item. Tags for tires cost \$2 each. **To ensure that your address is included on the list for pick up, please purchase tags for these items no later than Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.** Tags purchased after Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> will not guarantee a pickup on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

### *A reminder about curbside collection of cardboard boxes:*

If you place cardboard boxes out for curbside collection, please remember to flatten the boxes and tie them into bundles. This will make it easier for the hauler to collect them quickly and efficiently. If you would like to recycle your corrugated cardboard boxes you may bring them to the Township building and place them into the cardboard dumpster. The dumpster is located in the Township parking lot along the fence.



**White Goods and Tires** will be picked up on **Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**. Tags for these items can be purchased at the West Earl Township Municipal Office during regular business hours, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Tags for disposal of White Goods (large appliances such as



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## Newly-Expanded List of Building Code Inspection Agencies

In November 2008, West Earl Township expanded the list of building code inspection companies permitted to perform inspections in the Township. In addition to Associated Building Inspections (ABI), two additional companies were added: Commonwealth Code Inspection Service, Inc., and Building Code Inspections, LLC. Both ABI and Commonwealth can provide commercial, industrial, and residential inspections. Building Code Inspections, LLC provides only residential inspections. All three companies (with their phone numbers) are listed on the zoning/building permit application form. When you apply for a permit that requires building code inspections, you will need to choose an inspection company to work with.

Since we now have three companies, the procedure for obtaining a building permit has changed somewhat. Here's how it works:

- Download an application from the Township's website ([www.westearltpw.org](http://www.westearltpw.org)) or pick up an application from the Township Office. If the project does not fall under the requirements of the Uniform Construction Code and is exempt (i.e. a utility shed, a deck less than 30' above the ground, detached residential accessory building less than 1,000 sq. ft., an agricultural building, etc.), then you do not need to choose an inspector, because all you need is a zoning permit for the use and location of the structure with respect to setback requirements.
- If your project does require inspections, then the applicant will have to choose an inspection company. Since costs for inspections will vary, take the time to contact the companies on the list to find out what fees are charged (*you may also download a fee schedule for each inspection agency on the Township's website*). The Township cannot recommend one inspection company over another, so the choice will be yours.
- If the building project does require inspections, a zoning permit for the project will be issued by the Zoning Officer first, since all building code inspection agencies are required to verify that the building project meets zoning requirements. The applicant will pay the Township for the zoning permit at the time it is issued.
- After the zoning permit is issued by the Zoning Officer, the applicant will take the zoning permit and all construction documents (building plans) to the chosen inspection agency for approval. The inspection agency will stamp the building plans if they are approved for construction.
- The applicant brings the stamped, approved construction plans back to the Township Zoning Officer. The Zoning Officer (Building Code Official) will then issue the building permit for the project.

Generally, most projects involving inspections can be approved within seven days from the time the zoning permit is issued by the Zoning Officer. Any delay usually is caused by the lack of detail required for approval of the construction drawings by the inspection companies. Please allow yourself at least that much time to apply for and obtain a permit to begin work. The Township will make every effort to expedite your application, but you will need to plan ahead and allow time to process your permit.

### *A Few Reminders.....*

#### **Hydrant Flushing**

The Water Department will be flushing hydrants Monday through Friday from May 11<sup>th</sup> - May 29<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> - June 12<sup>th</sup>. During the flushing, water may appear "milky" due to air in the system. This condition will dissipate over time. Any dirty or rust colored water should be reported to the Township.

#### **Compost Facility**

When bringing your yard waste to the Township's compost facility, please do mix leaves, brush and grass clippings. There are separate piles for each material at the compost facility.

#### **Tax Bills**

All tax bills are sent to the owners of properties and not mortgage companies so if you have not received your real estate, street light or special hydrant tax bills please contact the Township's tax collector, Robert Coble at 656-4075.

## Spring Home Composting Workshops

### Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority Sponsors Home Compost Workshops

Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority's (LCSWMA) mission is to manage the County's waste and recyclable materials in an environmentally safe, reliable and efficient manner. One of LCSWMA's activities includes educating residents on how they can do the same at home. Typically this means recycling through municipal curbside programs and by bringing materials to LCSWMA's permanent, drive-through Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 1299 Harrisburg Pike in Lancaster.

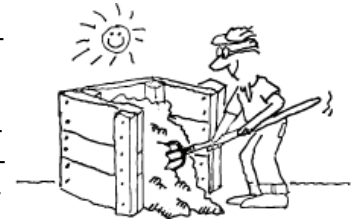
There is another way residents can beneficially manage the waste they produce at home, and that is by composting. It's an excellent way to recycle "organic" waste, i.e. vegetable scraps, grass clippings, leaves etc., and turn them into a useful and valuable product.

To help get home composting projects started, for the fifth consecutive year the Authority is organizing workshops, where residents will learn how to recycle the "good garbage" that is typically put out with the trash. And to further encourage home composting in the County, host municipalities will provide a free composting bin from PaDEP to a member of each household attending a workshop.

Lancaster County residents are invited to attend any one of the home composting workshops scheduled this spring. All workshops are on Saturday morning, from 10 am to 11 am.

Workshop pre-registration is required to ensure each household attending receives a home composting bin. Residents must register with the municipal recycling coordinator where the workshop is being held. **Workshops are limited to the first thirty people to register for each venue.**

- **April 18** at the Maple Grove Community Building in Lancaster Township. The Community Building is located at 1420 Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603. To register, contact the Lancaster Township Recycling Coordinator at (717) 291-1213 or email



[lyost@twp.lancaster.pa.us](mailto:lyost@twp.lancaster.pa.us)

- **April 25** at the Little Chiques Park in Mount Joy Borough. The entrance to the park is located on the 200 block of Park Avenue, between East Main Street and North High Street, Mount Joy, PA 17552. To register, contact the Mount Joy Borough Recycling Coordinator at (717) 653-2300 or email [lindsey@mountjoypa.org](mailto:lindsey@mountjoypa.org)
- **May 2** at the Upper Leacock Township Municipal Building located at 36 Hillcrest Avenue, Leola. To register, contact the Upper Leacock Township Recycling Coordinator at (717) 656-9755 or email [bhink@ultwp.com](mailto:bhink@ultwp.com)
- **May 16** at the East Cocalico Township Municipal Building located at 100 Hill Road, Denver, PA 17517. To register, contact the East Cocalico Township Recycling Coordinator at (717) 336-1720 or email [ecocalicotwp\\_recycle@dejazzd.com](mailto:ecocalicotwp_recycle@dejazzd.com)

Penn State Master Gardeners of Lancaster County conduct the workshops on the basics of composting, materials that should be used, the issues of temperature and moisture, etc. Activity books are provided for children, so this can be a family educational event.

## A Message from the West Earl Police Department.....



### AVOID SCAMS & CONS

- Beware of credit card schemes, bogus investment opportunities and free vacation offers.
- Carefully review all information about any offer before making any financial commitments.
- Never give anyone your social security, credit card, bank account numbers or any other personal information unless you initiated the conversation.
- To learn more about current Scams and Cons contact the Better Business Bureau or your bank customer service representative.

If you discover that you have been the victim of a scam or suspect fraud, contact your local police department immediately.

**Remember, if it sounds too good to be true — it probably is!**

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## Meetings

### **West Earl Board of Supervisors**

*Meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month at 7:00pm*

### **West Earl Planning Commission**

*Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm*

### **West Earl Parks and Recreation Board**

*Meets the 3rd Monday of every month as needed at 7:00pm*

### **West Earl Zoning Hearing Board**

*Meet 1st Wednesday of the month as needed at 7:30pm*

### **West Earl Sewer Authority**

*Meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm*

### **West Earl Water Authority**

*Meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm*



## Important Phone Numbers

- Municipal Office 859-3201
- Fax Number 859-3499
- Tax Collector 656-4075
- Water & Sewer Dept  
(after hours) 859-3725
- Police Department 859-1411
- Emergencies 911
- Police Dept Fax 859-3630
- Building Inspector 733-1654
- Zoning Officer 431-3739
- Sewage Enforcement 721-9008