



157 W. METZLER RD.
PO BOX 787
717.859.3201

West Earl Township

NEWSLETTER |

JANUARY 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Budget Highlights	1
Swift H2O	1
Refuse-Recycling News	2
Compost Facility Changes	2
Snow Removal Procedures	3
Snow & Ice Removal Regs	3
Proposed Public Sewer	3



Help reduce waste by recycling your live Christmas tree this year. See page 2 for details.



2011 Budget Highlights

The Board of Supervisors met on October 20, 2010, and November 3, 2010, to discuss and evaluate budget and capital project priorities for 2011. Our Township has been facing challenging economic conditions that have negatively affected Township revenues. The Board has responded to this challenge by proposing a “bare bones” budget and reducing expenditures.

General Fund

Projected revenues are expected to decrease by approximately 4.5% from \$1,766,985 to \$1,691,084. Significant decreases are expected in earned income tax and real estate transfer tax.

The Township is also projecting a decrease in expenditures by approximately 1.2% from \$1,908,861 to \$1,885,104. This cost savings was achieved by across the board spending cuts including freezing salaries for all employees and reducing police overtime hours by using compensatory time. The Township is not proposing an increase in real estate taxes for 2011.

Water Fund

The Township purchases bulk water from the City of Lancaster and then resells this water to its customers. The Township has been informed by the City of Lancaster that our bulk water rate will increase 97% in 2011.

As the rate increase proposal now stands, this increase would most likely raise the per-thousand gallon rate from \$5.88 to \$7.35. The Public Utilities Commission is currently reviewing the City of Lancaster’s proposed rate increase, so the effective date and the amount of the rate increase may change. The Township will communicate any proposed rate increases to residents as soon as more information is received on this matter.

Special Hydrant Tax

The special hydrant tax, which pays for hydrant service from the Leola Authority, is assessed on the front footage of properties in the Meadowview development. The Board is proposing an increase of the footage assessment from \$.05 per front foot to \$.06 per front foot.

Street Lights

There is no proposed increase in the street light tax.

Refuse and Recycling

There is no proposed increase in trash hauling rates.

Capital Reserve

The only major project proposed for 2011 is the purchase and installation of new communication equipment for the water system.

Road Projects

The Township will be doing micro surfacing and seal coating on Peace Road, Balmerstown Road, Maple Avenue, Hershey Avenue and Meadowview Drive. There will be resurfacing work on White Street, Robin Dale Drive and Willis Pierce Road.

A Reminder to Water Customers

The Township’s water customers recently received a letter requesting contact information in case of an emergency with the water system. If you have not already done so, please respond to this request by providing us with your preferred method of contact, either your telephone number, cell phone number for text messages or email address. You can provide us with this information by sending an email to datadept@westearltpw.org, calling 717.859.3201 or visiting our website at www.westearltpw.org and clicking on the “Swift H2O” web portal link.



Reduce, Reuse,
Recycle

Refuse/Recycling News

The 2011 refuse/recycling calendars were recently mailed to all customers. If you have not received your calendar please call the Township office at 717.859.3201.

Christmas Trees

Curbside Christmas tree pick up for those on the Township's trash program will be on Saturday, January 15, 2011. Please place your decoration-free Christmas tree out at the curb the night before. All the Christmas trees are taken to the Township's compost facility. Residents who don't use the Township's trash hauler may drop their trees off at the Township's compost facility located on Locust Street in Talmage.

Cooking Oil Recycling

Have you fried food at your home and then wondered what to do with the vegetable oil?

Now there is a free, convenient way to responsibly recycle your waste vegetable oil. Lancaster County Solid Waste Authority now accepts, at no charge, waste vegetable oil from Lancaster County households at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility located at 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster. Why deliver your vegetable oil to the HHW facility?

- Vegetable oil should never be poured down the drain—it clogs pipes & prevents the oxygenation of water
- Vegetable oil can be used to make bio-diesel.

For every gallon of waste vegetable oil you deliver to the HHW Facility, you are decreasing the emissions associated with diesel fuel and heating oil emissions:

- 26% less carbon monoxide.
- 39% less particulate matter.
- 100% offset in carbon dioxide.

There is no sulfur (a carcinogen in diesel fuel) in vegetable oil.

The HHW Facility is open from 8am to 4pm Monday through Friday and 8am to 12pm on Saturday. Other materials accepted for free include: e-waste (computers, televisions, etc.), batteries, fluorescent bulbs, paints, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, kerosene, etc. Go to www.lcswma.org/HHWasteFacility for more information.



For information
about home
composting visit
[www.lcswma.org/
composting](http://www.lcswma.org/composting)



Compost Facility Changes

The Township would like to make residents aware of several upcoming changes to the compost facility. Beginning in January 2011 the entrance to the compost facility, which is located on Locust Street in Talmage, will be controlled by a new card entry system. This system will eliminate the need for the honor-system cash box currently being utilized and will also help to prevent theft and the placement of unwanted materials at the site.

Cards will be provided, free of charge, to any Township resi-

dent who would like one. Residents will be required to stop by the Township office at 157 W. Metzler Road in Brownstown during regular business hours to get their card. Identification will be required to verify street addresses.

The Township has not yet determined what the fees will be for non-Township residents and commercial customers. Once those details are finalized they will be announced via the Township website at

www.westearltwp.org and the Township's Facebook page along with any further information about the new card entry system as it becomes available.



Snow Removal Procedures



The winter season is upon us and the Public Works Department would like to remind you of the general policy for snow removal. Each winter storm event could be cause for change however.

The major roads are attended to first with the residential streets following. Salt and anti-skid material is spread onto the roadway at the onset of the storm. When the snow accumulates to around 3 inches, the center of the road will be plowed one pass in each direction. This process may take place a couple of times throughout the duration of the storm. As the storm ends the plow will return to widen the street to its full width. Keep in mind that if you clear your driveway or sidewalk there is a possibility of snow getting onto those areas that

you have cleared.

In our attempt to clear the snow from the roads, plowed snow occasionally damages mailboxes and plastic fences. Wet, heavy snow and slush increases the chance for damage to occur. To reduce the potential for damage to your mailbox make sure that it is tightly secured on a solid post. Residents are reminded that mailbox damage occurring from the plowed snow is the responsibility of the property owner. The Public Works Department will make every effort to avoid causing any damage.

Additional reminders during snow events:

- Do not push or blow snow onto the roadway. This creates hazardous driving conditions.

- Please park vehicles off the street whenever possible. When the crew has done the widening of the street, they will not return to clear parking spaces.
- It is recommended that you wait to clear your sidewalk until after the crew has widened the street. This will prevent the need for additional shoveling of the sidewalks.
- Drive carefully on snow and ice covered streets.

Any questions, please contact the Director of Public Works at 717.859.3201.

Snow & Ice Removal Regulations



The Township has an ordinance in place that gives snow and ice removal guidelines for residents of properties located within the Township.

Properties that adjoin a sidewalk.

Residents of properties that adjoin a sidewalk are responsible for removing snow and ice from the sidewalk. A path of at least 24 inches in width must be cleared. If the snow and ice has become too hard to remove, non-skid or abra-

sive material must be placed onto the sidewalk in order to make it safe for travel. This must be done no later than 24 hours after the snow has stopped falling.

Snow and ice removal from roofs.

It is the responsibility of residents of properties in the Township to remove snow and ice from their roofs in order to prevent it from falling onto sidewalks or streets. This must be done no later

than 24 hours after the snow has stopped falling.

Thank you for helping to keep the streets and sidewalks safe for residents.

Proposed Public Sewer Service

The West Earl Sewer Authority is in the planning stages of extending public sewer to Sandy Beach Heights and the Brian Development. The tentative start date for construction is Fall 2011. The Sewer Authority will be contacting residents of these two neighborhoods as the project moves forward.

West Earl Township now accepts Discover and Mastercard for utility payments. A fee of 2.45% (\$1.50 minimum) will apply for all credit card transactions.



West Earl Township
PO BOX 787
Brownstown, PA 17508

Presorted
First-Class Mail
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Brownstown, PA
Permit No. 1

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

Merry
Christmas

Important Phone Numbers

- Municipal Office 859-3201
- Fax Number 859-3499
- Tax Collector 556-8294
- Water & Sewer Dept
(after hours) 859-3725
- Police Department 859-1411
- Emergencies 911
- Zoning Officer 859-3201
- Sewage Enforcement 721-9008

We're on the web!
www.westearltwp.org