



157 W. METZLER RD.  
PO BOX 787  
717.859.3201

# West Earl Township

SPRING

APRIL 2014

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## Storm Water Runoff & Pollution Solutions

### Storm Water Runoff

#### **What is storm water runoff?**

Storm water runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent storm water from naturally soaking into the ground.

#### **Why is storm water runoff a problem?**

Storm water can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water.

### Storm Water Pollution

#### Solutions

#### **Lawn Care**



Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to

streams.

- Don't overwater your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.

#### **Auto Care**

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same results as dumping the materials directly into a water body.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car your so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of

used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

#### **Pet Waste**

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters.



- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local water bodies.

For more information about storm water visit the PA Department of Environmental Protection website at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us) or the US Environmental Protection Agency website at [www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater).

# Compost Facility

## The Entry Cards

Township residents who have obtained a card for the compost facility may continue to use it until there are no more trips left on the card. There is no need to return the card to the Township office at the end of the year to have it reloaded. Once you have used up all of your trips to the compost facility you may call or stop by the Township office to have your card reloaded. A maximum of 50 trips will be offered to each cardholder in West Earl Township per year.

## Yard & Woody waste

When dropping off yard waste (leaves and grass clippings), please place it on the windrows to the rear of the facility. If you have woody waste (tree & shrub debris), place it on the brush pile located at the front of the facility. Please do not leave any plastic or non-biodegradable bags at the facility. We have biodegradable brown kraft bags available at the Township office for \$1 each. Biodegradable bags are also available at home improvement stores.



The compost facility is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week except for Wednesdays between 8 AM and 3:30 PM when the facility is closed for grinding.

## REFUSE/RECYCLING NEWS

Curbside yard waste pick up will begin on April 8th. 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 8th. 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 2014 Refuse/Recycling Schedule for specific dates when yard waste and woody waste will be picked up.

**White Goods and Tires** will be picked up on **Saturday, April 12th.** Tags for these items can be purchased at the Township Office during regular business hours, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, for \$12 each. 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 10th.** Tags purchased after Thursday, April 10th will not guarantee a pickup on April 12th.



# Unwanted Phone Books

With the availability of reliable, online search resources, many of us no longer need a phone book in our house. However, each year, more than 650,000 tons of phone books are delivered to households across the United States. A large percentage of these go unused. While a third of all phone books are recycled, 410,000 tons still find their way to landfills or incinerators, costing taxpayers about \$60 million each year in management costs. Phone book recycling also presents operational challenges as directories are often distributed with materials that contaminate the recycling process (e.g., magnets and plastics). In addition, unused phone books represent a waste of natural resources (phone books contain on average 60% virgin paper), and the unnecessary production, transport, and recycling or disposal of paper emits greenhouse gases, contributing to climate change.

Action can be taken to fix this problem! These days, the information we need is often just a click away. Yet many of us still receive phone books automatically, even if we don't need them. To stop receiving unwanted phone books visit [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org) or [www.yellopagesoptout.com](http://www.yellopagesoptout.com).



Visit [earth911.com](http://earth911.com) for further information about recycling.

# New Tax Collector

West Earl Township has a new Tax Collector.

**Teresa Peachey**  
**136 Cornerstone Way**  
**Ephrata, PA 17522**  
**(717) 656-7522**

**Tax Office Hours at the Township Building:**

April 15th 10 AM - 1 PM	April 22nd 10 AM - 1 PM
April 16th 1 PM - 4 PM	April 23rd 1 PM - 4 PM
April 17th 5 PM - 8 PM	April 24th 5 PM - 8 PM

Checks should be made payable to "Teresa Peachey, Tax Collector" and mailed to the above address or dropped off at the Township building during the above referenced hours. Please contact the Tax Collector with any questions you may have regarding your real estate or street light/special hydrant tax bills.

*\*Please do not mail your tax payments to the Township Office.*

## West Earl Lions' Club Easter Egg Hunt



The West Earl Lions' Club will be holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th at 1:00pm. This event will be held at the West Earl Lions' Community Park along Route 772 between Brownstown and Talmage.

The egg hunt is for West Earl Township children, aged infant through 12 years old. Prizes and chocolate rabbits will be award.

This event will be held  
RAIN OR SHINE.

### 2014 Street Sweeping

Street sweeping will take place on March 26th, 27th and 28th throughout the Township

## HYDRANT FLUSHING



The West Earl Water Department will be flushing hydrants from May 5th through May 30th. During the flushing, water may appear milky due to air in the system. Please report any brown or rust-colored water to the Township office at 717-859-3201.



## VOTING DISTRICTS

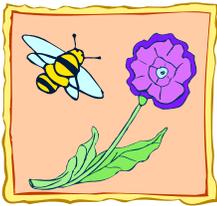
West Earl Township, previously divided into two voting districts, has now been divided into three voting districts.  Earlvile, Farmersville and West Earl North.

- ◆ **4401 Earlvile** - Polling place is West Earl Fire Company (14 School Lane Avenue).
- ◆ **4402 Farmersville** - Polling place is the Farmersville Fire Company (74 E. Farmersville Road).
- ◆ **4403 West Earl North** - Polling place is the West Earl Township Municipal Building (157 W. Metzler Road).

For a map of the voting districts please visit the Township's website at [www.westearltwp.org](http://www.westearltwp.org).

West Earl Township  
PO BOX 787  
Brownstown, PA 17508

Presorted  
First-Class Mail  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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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  
7:00pm*

#### **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 656-7522
- Water & Sewer Dept  
(after hours) 859-3725
- Police Department 859-1411
- Emergencies 911
- Zoning Officer 859-3201
- Sewage Enforcement 625-1930

### Email Addresses

- Public Works Dept [jhouser@westearltwp.org](mailto:jhouser@westearltwp.org)
- Water Dept [waterdept@westearltwp.org](mailto:waterdept@westearltwp.org)
- Sewer Dept [sewerdept@westearltwp.org](mailto:sewerdept@westearltwp.org)
- Township Manager [ktobias@westearltwp.org](mailto:ktobias@westearltwp.org)
- Administrative Office [datadept@westearltwp.org](mailto:datadept@westearltwp.org)