



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

[www.westearltwp.org](http://www.westearltwp.org)

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# WINTER 2019-2020



The West Earl Township office will be closed on the following days:

December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

*Happy Holidays*

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

West Earl Municipal Office	717-859-3201
West Earl Municipal Fax	717-859-3499
West Earl Police Department	717-859-1411
West Earl Fire Company	717-656-6791
Farmersville Fire Company	717-354-5841

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### THE 2020 CENSUS IS COMING...ARE YOU PREPARED?

**APRIL 1, 2020**

West Earl Township is gearing up for the 2020 decennial census. This census is only done once every ten years. We, as United States citizens, have an important role to play in helping to ensure a complete and accurate count.

The census, mandated by the Constitution, provides the basis for reapportioning congressional seats, redistricting and distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to support vital programs such as critical infrastructure, roads & bridges, Medicare, education, senior citizens' programs, human services support and rural development. Of the \$675 billion, \$27 billion will make its way to Pennsylvania. This comes out to about \$2,000 per person.

When you respond to the census material sent to you, you are helping all Pennsylvania communities get their fair share of this funding. It takes each and every one of us to do our part. The population number submitted to the president in 2020 will dictate the state's federal funding until the next census in 2030. This means, the more people who respond and return the census sheets NOW, the more funding PA will receive for the next 10 years.

Remember – this is a one-time deal. There are no do-overs or late entries. PLEASE take a few moments out of your day to fill out this survey and return it. Ten minutes of your day will make a huge impact on the next 10 years of your life.

Visit [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) to learn just how census data impacts your community.

# GARDEN SPOT VILLAGE

*Where life blooms.™*



Maple Farm Location  
604 Oak Street Akron, PA 17501  
717-859-1191

[info@gardenspotvillage.org](mailto:info@gardenspotvillage.org)  
[www.maplefarm.org](http://www.maplefarm.org)

## Winter Safety Tips

- Be prepared with well stocked first aid kit and road flares
- Check wipers for cracks and top up windshield washer fluid
- Keep gas tank at least half full
- Always check for proper tire pressure
- Keep set of booster cables in vehicle
- Keep cell phone charged
- Skidding? Lift foot off the gas, turn in the direction of the skid and gently brake
- Stuck in snow? Pour sand, gravel or salt under tires to improve traction

If you are a resident of West Earl Township, you should have received a letter in late October informing you of the new trash and recycling rates and the options you have concerning a trash hauler. If you have not already done so, please return the opt in/opt out form. We have had some questions regarding this new trash contract, and are more than happy to share the questions and answers with all of you.

**Will the pricing be guaranteed for the three to five years of the contract?** No. We cannot guarantee that prices will not go up. We will try to keep the rate as low as possible for West Earl residents, but there are many factors included in the rate we charge.

**Will there be a cap on rate increases?** No. We will not cap increases. Again, we will try to keep the rate as low as possible.

**Is there an option to get out of the township hauler once you are in?** No. Once a customer is in the trash program, they must remain in the program for the duration of the trash contract (3-5 years).

**If a property is vacant for a month or two, can trash billing be put on hold?** No. Whether a property is vacant for a short time or not, trash must still be invoiced monthly.

The township does not make money off of trash and recycling. Our goal is to keep our trash rates low while still making sure that the trash and recycling budget is able to stay on track. And, please remember that every residence in West Earl Township MUST have a trash hauler. Feel free to contact the township with any other questions or concerns.

## Furman Home for Funerals

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**ARE YOU "REAL ID" READY?**

Beginning in October of 2020, all Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or other form of identification to board a domestic commercial airline flight or military installation that requires ID. These REAL ID-compliant items are not necessary to drive, vote, access federal courts or apply and receive federal benefits. However, if you are looking to fly anywhere in the United States, you will need to have a REAL ID or other federally acceptable form of identification (such as a valid passport or military ID) come next October.

For more information and frequently asked questions, please go to [dmv.pa.gov/REALID](http://dmv.pa.gov/REALID).



With winter weather upon us, the West Earl Roadcrew would like to remind you that snow and ice removal must be completed within 24 hours of cessation of any snow, sleet or freezing rain. The path cleared must be at least 24" wide. If the snow or ice is that tightly packed that removal within 24 hours is impossible, enough sand or other abrasive must be put down as to make the area reasonably safe for travel, and as soon as weather permits, the snow and ice must be removed. No snow is allowed to be pushed onto public streets or next to a fire hydrant.

## TOP RECYCLING MYTHS

1. **RECYCLING IS HARD.** No, it isn't! Recycling is as easy as throwing something in the trash. Make sure you know what can and can't be recycled and pair your trash cans with a recycling bin.
2. **RECYCLABLES NEED TO BE WASHED.** Don't waste water! Recyclables only need to be emptied. Rinse them quickly only if soiled.
3. **PIZZA BOXES ARE NOT RECYCLABLE.** Pizza boxes are recyclable but crust and *grease stains* are not! Make sure to remove crusts and scrape cheese off the inside of the box before recycling. If the box is greasy, chances are it can't be recycled.
4. **IF SOMETHING HAS THE RECYCLING ARROWS ON IT, IT'S RECYCLABLE.** No – not always. Those little arrows refer to the type of plastic the items were made from, not how recyclable they are. Remember – only the BIG FOUR can be recycled.
5. **COMPOSTABLE ITEMS CAN BE RECYCLED.** No! Composting and recycling happen in different ways. Food waste and compostable service ware CANNOT be recycled.
6. **BAG YOUR RECYCLABLES.** Leave your recycling loose and free! Never place bagged recyclables inside your bin. If you collect recyclables in a plastic bag, remove them from the bag before placing them in your bin. Return plastic bags to retail stores for recycling.
7. **THE GARBAGE MEN DUMP EVERYTHING INTO ONE TRUCK.** Sometimes communities use the same truck for all collection, which can be confusing to residents. But, don't worry. Your recyclables are taken to a sorting facility where they are separated and baled to sell back to manufacturers.

There are a lot of reasons to recycle and it's an easy way to make a difference every day. Recyclables hold the power to become new packages and products. You can find out more about the recycling program by going to the Lancaster County Solid Waste Mgmt. website – [www.lcsmwa.org](http://www.lcsmwa.org).



Construction Management | Preconstruction  
Design-Build | General Construction



Colder weather means hunting season for many Pennsylvanians. Please be aware that **Chronic Wasting Disease** (CWD) is still a concern. Here are a few precautions you should take when handling or pursuing deer:

- Do not shoot, handle or consume an animal that is acting abnormally or appears to be sick. Contact your state game commission if you see or harvest an animal that appears sick.
- Wear latex or rubber gloves when field dressing your deer.
- Minimize the handling of brain and spinal tissues.
- Wash your hands and instruments thoroughly after field dressing is completed.
- Avoid consuming the meat from any animal that test positive for the disease.
- If you have your deer processed for you, request that your animal is processed individually.

You can learn more about CWD at [www.agriculture.pa.gov](http://www.agriculture.pa.gov).



**A note from  
Representative Keith J. Greiner  
Helpers and Heroes  
Legislation Passes  
Pennsylvania House of  
Representatives**

Communities are facing a growing crisis in attracting volunteer first responders, forcing many local fire

companies to close. In the 1970s, there were nearly 300,000 Pennsylvanians who volunteered at their neighborhood firehouse. Today, we are down to roughly 37,000.

This fall, the House passed more than a dozen bills that help recruit, retain and show respect for those willing to put their lives on the line for their neighbors. The bills have been sent to the Senate for consideration.

We are forever grateful to those volunteers willing to sacrifice time with their own family to help complete strangers. We owe it to them to do everything in our power to grow their ranks to ensure responders will always be there to answer the call.

The legislation addresses a multitude of issues from tax relief for fire companies and first responder family members, modern recruitment expansions, freeing up existing resources, providing education and loan assistance for volunteers, and much more.

The bills were based on recommendations made by a commission consisting of first responders, policy makers and advocates who spent months examining the landscape and challenges facing responders.

As a life member of one of our local fire companies in Lancaster County, the Upper Leacock Fire Company, I've seen up close the sacrifices that our local volunteer first responders make to keep our community safe. We must act now to help our volunteers ensure a 911 call in Lancaster County never goes unanswered.

## **Did you know? MS4 News**

An illicit discharge is the discharge of any substance that is not stormwater into a stormwater system. The discharge can occur via overland flow or direct dumping of materials into a catch basin. Not only is this bad for our environment, but putting materials into a stormwater system is illegal.

Illicit discharge is a problem because stormwater flows directly into our local waterways. Unlike wastewater from your home, which flows to a wastewater treatment plant for treatment prior to discharge, stormwater does not receive any additional treatment. Illicit discharges can dump chemicals, nutrients and other toxic pollutants into our creeks, streams and rivers.

Illicit discharge can be an unintentional situation or an intentional dumping that allows pollutants into the stormwater system. Examples of illicit discharge include:

- Dumping motor oil, paint or other household hazardous waste into a catch basin
- Allowing wash water from a car wash to enter a storm drain
- Connecting basement drains to stormwater systems
- Placing lawn clippings or other yard waste into a stormwater system or in a location that can carry it into a stormwater system during a storm
- Leaving spilled contaminants, such as oil or gasoline, on pavement so that it washes into the stormwater system during a subsequent rain event.

We should do everything possible to protect and preserve our ground and surface water quality. We can all make a difference by taking a few simple steps:

- Check with your municipality & county for household hazardous waste drop-off locations and times
- Clean up spills on pavement as soon as possible using cat litter or other absorbent material
- Contact your local municipality if you witness illegal dumping or if you see anyone pouring something into a storm drain inlet, ditch or stream.
- Never place yard waste near a stormwater system, including along a back property line, along a stream bank, in the woods or in another off-road area.

**Is there something you would like to see in the newsletter?**

**Email us your suggestions -  
mwallace@westearltp.org**

**Monthly Meetings**

Board of Supervisors

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 7 PM

Sewer Authority

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7 PM

Water Authority

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month at 7 PM

Planning Commission

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7 PM

Park & Recreation Board

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month (as needed) at 7 PM

Zoning Hearing Board

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month (as needed) at 7 PM