

WORCESTER TOWNSHIP

AT THE CENTER POINT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



WORCESTER TOWNSHIP

1721 Valley Forge Road
P.O. Box 767
Hours: 8:00 am—4:30 pm
Phone: 610-584-1410
Fax: 610-584-8901
worcestertwp.com

Board of Supervisors

Susan G. Caughlan, Chair
Stephen C. Quigley, Vice Chair
Arthur C. Bustard, Member



Stay Connected:
Twitter, Facebook, and E-News
signup at worcestertwp.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Additional Changes in 2016	P. 2
2016 Budget Adopted	P. 3
Road Improvement Program	P. 3
Parks & Recreation Programs	P. 4-5
Land Development Updates	P. 6
Fire Marshal and WVFD	P. 7
Recycling Information	P. 8



WHAT'S NEW IN 2016?

NEW CHAIRPERSON:

Susan G. Caughlan was voted to serve as Chair of the Worcester Township Board of Supervisors on January 4, 2016. She has been on the Board of Supervisors since 2010, and served as Vice Chair for the duration of 2015. Caughlan is also the President of the Worcester Township Historical Society.

NEW FEE SCHEDULE AND PERMITTING APPLICATIONS:

With a new year comes a new fee schedule – notable changes include new *permitting fees*, *field rental charges*, and *residential sewer rates*. Our fee schedule is always readily available on the home page of our website at the very top of the page. While you're on our website, take a look at our newly designed and user-friendly permit applications.

CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION FEES:

The Township will no longer be covering the extra costs associated with credit card transactions, which could often times soar to more than \$500 per month. Please consider another form of payment for your purchases, such as check or cash. Those who still wish to pay via credit card will be charged a 1.79% service charge fee.

Other Quick Notes

- The Board of Supervisors Work Session meetings are now held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm (**MORE DETAILS INSIDE**).
- Worcester Township is now offering a public notary service (**MORE DETAILS INSIDE**).

E-Recycling Event Coming this Spring—See the back page for details

OTHER QUICK NOTES CONTINUED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSION MEETING CHANGE:

The Board of Supervisors recently changed its public meeting schedule. Gone are the Monday morning Work Session meetings. The Board will now conduct its Work Session meetings beginning at 6:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

Work Sessions are meetings at which the Board discusses various issues before these are voted on at a Business Meeting. Work Sessions also include a public comment period that allows residents to discuss any topic of concern.

The evening meetings are more convenient for many residents, especially those who work during the day.

The Board will continue to conduct its Business Meeting beginning at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of each month, following the Work Session. The Business Meeting also includes a public comment period that allows residents to discuss any topic of concern.

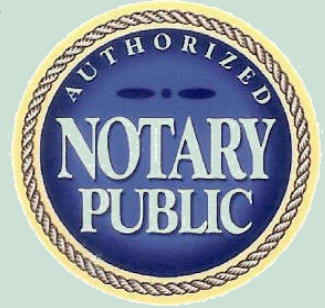


Can't attend a public meeting? Township staff is always available to field your questions. Please call us at (610) 584-1410, or e-mail Township Manager Tommy Ryan at tryan@worcestertwp.com.

NOTARY SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP:

Looking for a notary? We do that.

Notary services are now available at the Township Building, during normal business hours, from 8:00am to 4:30pm. The service is free for Worcester Township residents; a small fee is charged for non-residents.



It's recommended that folks call the Township Building at (610) 584-1410 at least a day in advance to confirm the notary will be available when you arrive.

AMANDA'S RECYCLING IDEAS

Since pizza boxes are made from cardboard, you might think they are recyclable. Not necessarily. Cardboard that is soiled by grease and cheese is not recyclable.

When paper products are recycled they are mixed with water and turned into a slurry. Pizza box grease causes oil to form at the top of the slurry, and the oil attaches itself to the paper fibers, running the slurry batch.

Tear out the soiled portions of your pizza box before recycling. If the entire box is grease-free, the entire box can be recycled or composted. And you can be left to enjoy your pizza!

Do you have a great recycling idea to share with others? Contact Assistant Township Manager (and recycling guru) Amanda Zimmerman at (610) 584-1410 or azimmerman@worcestertwp.com.



INFORMATION ON MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLING CAN BE FOUND ON THE BACK PAGE.



WATERSHED PROTECTION TIP CREEK

Instead of hosing off the driveway, patio or sidewalk, reach for a broom. Water run-off from our driveway or sidewalks carries contaminants – such as dirt, motor oil, fertilizers and animal waste – into our watersheds.

Sweeping also saves water... hosing for 15 minutes uses about 150 gallons of water!



This Watershed Protection Tip is part of Worcester Township's ongoing efforts to provide public education on stormwater management and to protect our environment.

BALANCED & SENSIBLE 2016 BUDGET ADOPTED

The 2016 Budget, adopted on December 16, maintains the quality services our residents have long enjoyed, and at a reasonable cost.

The budget holds the line on all taxes – rates for the per capita, earned income and property taxes will remain unchanged in 2016. **In fact, Worcester's real estate tax rate ranks as the second lowest among Montgomery County's 67 municipalities.**

The owner of a single-family property assessed at \$400,000 will pay \$20 in property taxes to the Township this year (*note: the balance of property taxes are paid to the Methacton School District and Montgomery County*).

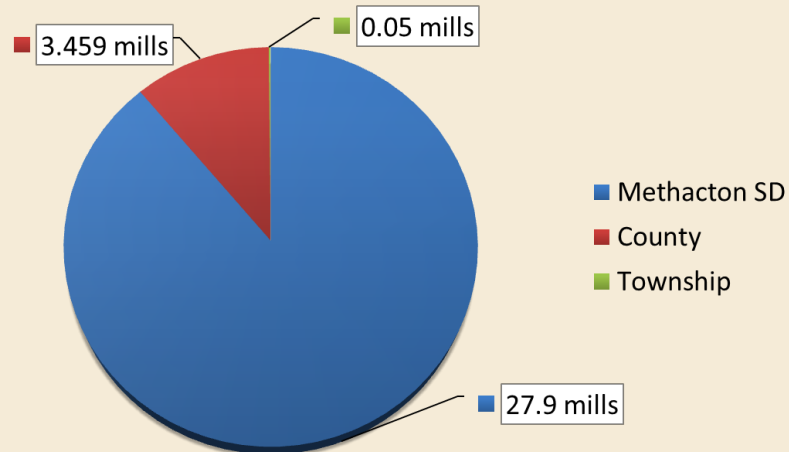
Overall the budget assumes a modest 1.5% increase in operating revenues, and projects an approximate 4% decrease in operating expenditures.

The budget increases road resurfacing and other infrastructure repair dollars by about 10% – helping to keep our roadway network safe and in good condition. And the budget funds improvements in Heebner Park.

In addition, the budget provides strong financial support to the Worcester Township Fire Department. The Township will contribute \$200,000 in operating and capital contributions to our community's all-volunteer team of emergency responders.

Please visit worcestertwp.com for more information on the 2016 Budget.

Where are my property taxes going?



ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This year Worcester Township will continue implementation of its annual road improvement program. This program is designed to maximize the useful life of infrastructure through an aggressive maintenance plan and appropriately-scheduled capital improvements. The program allows the Township to maintain more than 50 miles of roads in good condition.

The maintenance plan includes pothole repair, street sweeping, roadside brush trimming, roadside swale maintenance and patch milling.

The capital plan includes the replacement of culverts and storm water pipes and the

resurfacing and reconstruction of roads. On average, the Township resurfaces or reconstructs between two and four miles of roadways each year.

The number of roads treated depends on many factors, including the extent of repairs needed, the cost of materials and the damage done during the winter months. As such, road projects are often subject to change.

At this time projects proposed in 2016 include the repaving of:

- Hickory Hill Lane;
- Crest Terrace;
- Greenbriar Drive;
- Griffith Road;

- Fisher Road;
- Landis Road, from Potshop Road to Defford Road;
- Sunny Ayre Drive, from Locust to Warner;
- Windy Hill Road.

When the list of roads to be resurfaced is confirmed this information will be posted to the Township website.

Motorists using the above-noted roads may experience delays during construction. We thank folks for their understanding and patience as we work to improve our community's roadways.

PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING

BASKETBALL CAMPS

TENNIS CLINICS

SOCCER CLINICS

NOTHING BUT NET BASKETBALL CAMP

Campers will spend a week developing their fundamental basketball skills with a huge emphasis on FUN!

Dates: June 27, 2016—July 1, 2016 (M-F)
Time: Girls: 9:00 am -12:00 pm
 Boys: 12:15-3:15 pm
Ages: Rising 1st—Rising 8th Graders
Cost: \$90/ player

MONTCO SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

This premier summer league offers boys and girls in grades third through tenth the opportunity to play organized and competitive basketball in the summer. The league is professionally run with official referees, rules, standings, and play offs. All registration must be done as a team with 10-15 players and coaches.

Team registration and fees must be turned in by Friday, April 29, 2016. Registration Packets and additional information are available on the Township website.

Dates: June through August 2016
Time: See official schedule
Ages: Grades 3-10
Cost: \$850/ team



PENN SUBURBAN COMMUNITY TENNIS

Youth Tennis Lessons Resume on April 13! Penn Suburban Community Tennis will be hosting tennis lessons for youth ages 5-10 over the course of three sessions this Spring and Summer.

Dates: All Classes are on Wednesdays

- Session 1: April 12, 2016 to May 11, 2016 (Rain Date: May 18, 2016)
- Session 2: June 15, 2016 to July 13, 2016 (Rain Date: July 20, 2016)
- Session 3: August 3, 2016 to August 31, 2016 (Rain Date: September 7, 2016)

Times: Ages 5-6: 4:30 to 5:15 pm
 Ages 7-8: 5:15 to 6:15 pm
 Ages 9-10: 6:15 to 7:15 pm

Fee: \$60/ player



Age: PRE K—GRADE 2

Our Pre-k to 2nd grade program will help children who are interested in exploring new opportunities, along with being able to run around, kick the ball, and play with other children.

GRADE 3-8

Our 3rd to 8th grade program is for those players looking to develop their soccer skills and athletic ability.

Dates: June 13 to July 2, 2016
 Monday/Wed: K– Grade 4
 Tuesday/Thursday: Grade 5-8
 Saturday: Pre-K

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 pm (K to Grade 8)
 9:00 to 12:00 pm (Pre-K)

Fee: \$150/player
 (Discount Rate: \$135/ player until May 23, 2016)



BASEBALL

ALL STAR SLUGGERS

All-Star Sluggers is a safe, simple, and fun introduction to the game of baseball for boys and girls ages 2 to 5 years old. Our coaches use creative, engaging drills and games to develop basic hitting, fielding, throwing, running, and sliding skills.

Dates: Saturdays: May 23 to June 20, 2016

Time: 9:00 am to 10:00 am

Ages: 2 to 5 years old

Cost: \$60

Location: Sunnybrook Park



NOTES FROM THE NORRISTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOOKMOBILE:

Bookmobile and Outreach is the mobile branch that takes the library experience far beyond the library's walls. Bookmobiles are special boutique libraries that serve communities throughout the county, bringing access to the library's fabulous collection right to your doorstep!

The Bookmobile has a new stop in Montgomery Township, at the brand new Community and Recreation Center. Look for the bookmobile on the following dates:

LOCAL STOP:

MERRYMEAD FARM
 2222 VALLEY FORGE RD
FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY AT 1 PM

UPCOMING COURSES AND PROGRAMMING:

In addition to the Library's ongoing programs mentioned in December's newsletter, the Library offers a variety of education courses related to the basics of computer operation, web design, file management, and the basics of Microsoft Office.

Please visit their website at <http://mnl.mclinc.org> for the most accurate course information.



IF THE SKIES LOOK THREATENING, MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE LIBRARY'S WEBSITE FOR CLOSURES OR DELAYS. WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY INSIDE AND READ BOOKS.

WORCESTER TOWNSHIP

At the Center Point of Montgomery County
worcestertwp.com

TRIP HIGHLIGHT

Broadway: Finding Neverland or
NYC on your Own



DATE: Wednesday, May 11, 2016
PRICE: \$140/ person (those attending show)
\$52/ person (those just visiting NYC)

Based on the film of the same name, *Finding Neverland* follows the story of author J.M. Barrie and his relationship with the family of widow Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, who eventually became Barrie's inspiration to write *Peter Pan*. The musical explores the power of imagination to open up new worlds, and the pressures put upon those worlds by the inevitability of growing up.

"TAKE A WALK IN THE PARK DAY"

Pack the picnic basket, lace up your sneakers and get ready to enjoy some fresh air. March 30 is officially "TAKE A WALK IN THE PARK DAY," a time to enjoy spring's beginnings in your local green space. What's so great about a park?

A recent study suggests you can ease brain fatigue and stress with a simple stroll through a park. Come and take a walk through Heebner, Mount Kirk, Sunnybrook or Heyser Field!



SPEND THE DAY WITH US 2016 Bus Trips

Worcester Township, in cooperation with Upper Providence and Lower Providence Townships, offers a great variety of bus trips throughout the year to our residents. Pick up and drop off locations are in Worcester, or a neighboring municipality, with plenty of parking

Payments can be made by check, cash, and credit card (with a 1.79% service charge fee added to each transaction). Attendees will be notified of trip details via email by the municipality hosting the trip as soon as they are known.

NYC ON YOUR OWN

Wednesday, March 30, 2016
Wednesday, November 16, 2016
Price: \$52/ person

Leave the driving to us, and explore The Big Apple on your own. Catch a show, visit your favorite shops, or explore—the day is yours.

CAPE MAY WHALE WATCH

Saturday, August 13, 2016
Price: \$70/ person

Get ready to set sail on a memorable adventure to search for whales off shore of Cape May, New Jersey. Attendants will also have free time on the beach and nearby area.

CHERRY BLOSSOMS BOAT TOUR WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thursday, April 14, 2016
Price: \$116/ person

Going down the Potomac River, you'll be treated to a narration of sights along the route, in addition to a three-course plated lunch. Notable daytime attractions include the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

BEER & WINE FEST YORK COUNTY, PA

Saturday, October 15, 2016
Price: \$70/ person
Must be 21+ to attend.

Spend the afternoon at the York County Fairgrounds enjoying local beer and wine samples at Yorktoberfest!

BROADWAY: ALADDIN OR NYC ON YOUR OWN

Wednesday, June 15, 2016
Price: \$160/ person
(those attending show)

\$52/ person (those just visiting NYC)
The beloved story of Aladdin is brought to thrilling theatrical life in this hit musical.

CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

Date and Price: TBA

Please check website for updates. Attendees will enjoy a three-course lunch and tour of the Culinary Institute of America in New York. The CIA is the world's premier culinary college.

GOURMET FOOD TOUR—NYC

Monday, July 11, 2016
Price: \$65 per person

Guests will visit the famous Chelsea Market, Mario Batali's Eataly in the Manhattan Flatiron District, and the Greenmarket in Union Square. Lunch is on your own!

RADIO CITY ROCKETTES

Thurs., Dec. 1, 2016—Mon., Dec. 5, 2016—Tues., Dec. 13, 2016
Price: \$115/ person

The Rockettes put on a show to each year's performance better than the last at the world's largest indoor theatre.



LAND DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

The following projects are now under subdivision and development review:

- **IBEW** – A 17,340 sf addition to an existing educational and training facility at Germantown Pike
- **RHODES REAL ESTATE VENTURES** – A two single-family detached home subdivision on Berks Road.
- **WHITEHALL ESTATES** – A 38 single-family detached home subdivision on Whitehall Road.

The following subdivision and land development projects are among those receiving preliminary and/or final approval in the recent years, and construction has not yet begun:

- **THE RESERVE AT CENTER POINT:** A 25 single-family detached home subdivision on North Trooper Road.
- **STONY CREEK FARMS, COMMERCIAL:** Three buildings for office, retail and restaurant uses at North Wales Road & Township Line Road.
- **WATER STREET ROAD LP:** A two single-family detached home subdivision located at Water Street Road.

- **WILLOW CREEK FARMS:** A three single-family detached home subdivision at Heebner Road.
- **MEADOWOOD:** A 6,565 sf addition to the retirement community located at Skippack Pike. The addition will house rehabilitation facilities, a pool and other amenities.

The following approved subdivision and land development projects are now under construction:

- **THE PRESERVE AT WORCESTER:** A 39 single-family detached home subdivision located at Skippack Pike and North Wales Road.
- **APPLEWOOD ESTATES:** A 23 single-family detached home subdivision at Berks Road and Skippack Pike.
- **ARBOR RESERVE:** A four single-family detached home subdivision at North Wales Road and Morris Road.
- **SYCAMORE ESTATES:** A 12 single-family detached home subdivision at Berks Road and Weber Road.

All plans are available for public review at the Township Building, Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm.

FAQ:

Does the Township inspect electrical work, or do I need a third party underwriter?

You need a third-party underwriter. We will do a final inspection on electric afterward to ensure a third-party seal of approval is present.

SAVE YOURSELF A STEP:

- A copy of your contractor's PA license certificate is required with each permit application.

- An insurance certificate naming Worcester Township as the certificate holder is also required with each permit application.

THINKING ABOUT BUILDING? Then think about building permits!



Municipalities require building permits to ensure proposed improvements meet building code standards. When construction is built to code standards there's a reduced risk of collapse and other hazardous conditions, which helps to protect not only those living at the property but also our community's emergency responders.

In addition, building permits create a record of the work done and the inspections conducted for a particular project. Prospective buyers will often visit the Township Building to ask if permits have been issued for work completed at a property being offered for sale. Smart buyers know that many

insurance policies will not provide coverage for improvements completed without required permits.

So before you tackle that long-overdue home improvement project, give our Codes Department a call at (610) 584-1410. We'll be happy to assist you and to answer any questions you have.

And be sure to visit the Township's award-winning website, worcestertwp.com, for more permit information and to download a permit application.

HAPPY BUILDING!

FIRE MARSHAL ON DUTY: WELCOME DAVE CORNISH

A warm Worcester welcome to Dave Cornish, recently appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve as our community's Fire Marshal.

Dave will work with the Township Building Inspector to ensure fire protection measures at area businesses are maintained to code. He will also review proposed subdivision plans so to properly locate fire hydrants, and investigate illegal burning incidents.

Dave is a former Chief and a long-time volunteer with the Worcester Township Fire Department. He possesses more than thirty years' of firefighting and public safety experience.

The Fire Marshal post is a part-time position, but Dave is always available to answer resident questions. He may be contacted at the Township Building at (610) 548-1410, or by e-mail at dcornish@worcestertwp.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WVFD FACEBOOK PAGE

FROM OUR NEIGHBORS NEXT DOOR Worcester Volunteer Fire Department

Thank you to all the residents that supported the Fire Department's 2015 fund drive, your donations helped our volunteers provide service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Below are several tips to help reduce delays when fire or EMS need to respond to an emergency:

- 1) **ENSURE THAT YOUR HOUSE NUMBER IS VISIBLE FROM THE STREET.** Reflective letters or a reflective background makes the house number easier to find.
- 2) **PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLEAR THE SNOW FROM AROUND THE FIRE HYDRANT NEAR YOUR HOME.** During larger snow storms, the hydrants can be buried in snow from the plows and difficult to find.

3) **KEEP TREES AND BUSHES PRUNED ALONG YOUR DRIVEWAY.** The trucks are much higher and wider than your car (11 feet wide, and 14 feet tall). If you are planning gates at the end of the driveway, it is important to ensure trucks can enter, turn around, and exit.

Remember, for non emergency situations you can reach the Montgomery Dispatch center at [610-584-6911](tel:610-584-6911), they can page the duty fire officer at any time. **It may take us several days to return phone calls at the Fire House.**

The Fire Department is always looking for new members. The Department has a cadet program (ages 14 to 16), a junior fire fighter program aimed at high school age youth (ages 16 to 18) as well as regular membership.

Training is provided at both in-house training and courses at the Montgomery County Fire Academy at no cost to the members. If you are interested, stop by the firehouse on our Thursday drill night.

As always, be on the lookout for our upcoming events at worcestertfd.com.

Check out WVFD on Facebook for their most up to date photos, activities, and information.



WORCESTER TOWNSHIP

1721 Valley Forge Road
P.O. Box 767
Worcester, PA 19490
610-584-1410
worcestertwp.com



FIRST CLASS BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANSDALE, PA 19446
PERMIT NO. 458

WHERE DO I RECYCLE...

E-RECYCLING EVENT COMING THIS SPRING

Worcester Township, in conjunction with a few neighboring municipalities, will be hosting an “Anything with a Plug” electronic recycling event. Residents are welcome to bring old televisions, computers, microwaves, cell phones, and many other items. The complete list and event flyer is located on the Township website.

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2016

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location: Palmer Park (Creamery Road in Skippack Township)

Cost: \$30 per TV or computer monitor
\$10 per microwave, dehumidifier, or air conditioner



PAPER SHREDDING

DETAILS:

- Recycle paper ONLY.
- There is a two bag or two box limit per person. The truck will leave when it is at capacity.
- This event is open to residents only, please, no businesses.

DATES:

Saturday, July 16 (9 am—12 pm)
Western Montgomery Career & Technology Center

Saturday, July 23 (9 am—12 pm)
Abington Junior High School

Sunday, Oct 23 (9 am—12 pm)
Lower Merion Transfer Station

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

DETAILS:

- Event workers will unload your materials, please remain in your vehicle.
- Acceptable items include gasoline, oil, turpentine, paint thinner, oil paint, pool chemicals to name a few. *A full list can be found at Montgomery County's Recycling webpage.*

Saturday, April 9 (9 am—3 pm)
Indian Valley Middle School

Saturday, April 30 (9 am—3 pm)
Norristown Area High School

Saturday, May 14 (9 am—3 pm)
Temple University—Ambler Campus

Saturday, June 18 (9 am—3 pm)
Abington Junior High School

Saturday, September 17 (9 am—3 pm)
Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center

Sunday, October 16 (9 am—3 pm)
Lower Merion Transfer Station

TIRE COLLECTION

DETAILS:

- Eight tires per person maximum.
- Rims are accepted.

Saturday, May 21 (9 am—12 pm)
Mont. Community College
Blue Bell

Saturday, June 25 (9 am—12 pm)
Western Montgomery County
Career & Technology Center



WORCESTER TOWNSHIP

At the Center Point of Montgomery County
worcestertwp.com