



PENN
TOWNSHIP
LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

Township News

Fall 2015 Edition

97 N. PENRYN ROAD MANHEIM, PA 17545
717-665-4508 (p) ♦ 717-665-4105 (f)
www.penntwplanco.org

MAKING A SPECIAL PLACE TO LIVE EVEN BETTER: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Coalition for Smart Growth is partnering with the Lancaster County Planning Commission to support development of a new county comprehensive plan—Places 2040.

If you've lived in Lancaster County for any length of time, you recognize what a special place this is. Our distinctive communities, our natural and cultural heritage, and our vibrant economy make this place unique. How can we maintain and enhance this community character as we move forward? Come out and share your thoughts and ideas.

- What are your favorite places in Lancaster County?
- What is needed to maintain and improve the quality of life in your community?
- What would it take for your children or grandchildren to stay in the county?
- What have we done well?
- Where can we go from here?

Register today at <http://pa-lancastercountyp planning.civicplus.com/documentcenter/view/536> or call Latoya at 717-299-8333.

Local residents will share their stories of why Lancaster County is important to them at each event and engage the audience in a discussion of why this place matters and how we can make it even better.

Two nearby events:

Thursday, September 10th

6:00—7:30 p.m.

Elizabethtown Library

10 S Market St.

Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Thursday, October 22nd

6:00—7:30 pm

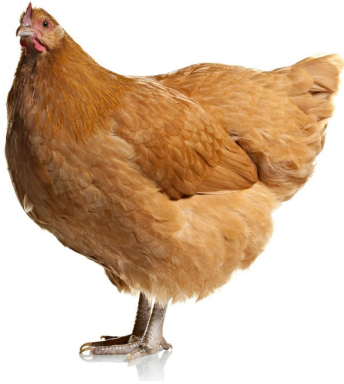
Ephrata Library

550 South Reading Road

Ephrata, PA 17522

These events are free. Attend as many sessions as you like.





ATTENTION POULTRY OWNERS

Raising backyard poultry is a growing trend across the United States. It is very important for all backyard poultry owners, as well as commercial poultry owners, to know the signs of deadly poultry diseases, as well as the basic “biosecurity” steps you can take to protect your birds. Avian influenza (AI), commonly known as “bird flu,” is caused by an influenza type A virus. Avian influenza viruses occur naturally in birds. Wild bird species (such as ducks, swans and geese) can carry the viruses but usually do not get sick from them. However, avian influenza in birds is very contagious and can make some domesticated birds (chickens, ducks, quail, pheasants, guinea fowl and turkeys) very sick or even cause death.

While there have been no reported cases of Avian Bird Flu in Pennsylvania, it is very possible we may see an outbreak this fall or early winter. There are over 24 million birds in Lancaster county and this flu can wipe out a flock in 24 to 48 hours. Should this strike the agricultural community, the economic impact could be devastating. Fortunately, this is not transmittable to humans. One of the most important things you can do to protect your birds is to follow good biosecurity. If you see signs of illness in your birds, report it immediately. Together, these actions will help keep Avian Bird Flu from infecting new flocks.

WATCH FOR THESE SIGNS OF ILLNESS:

- Sudden increase in bird deaths in your flock
- Sneezing, gasping for air, coughing, and nasal discharge
- Watery and green diarrhea
- Lack of energy and poor appetite
- Drop in egg production or soft- or thin-shelled, misshapen eggs
- Swelling around the eyes, neck, and head
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, comb, and legs
- Ruffled feathers, listlessness, lethargy

For more information on good biosecurity practices, visit USDA’s web site: healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov

If you have sick or dying birds, please report them to USDA or your State veterinarian right away! **USDA Toll-Free Number: 1-866-536-7593**



LOOK for Signs.

Know the warning signs of bird diseases such as AI (or “bird flu”) and END, also known as virulent Newcastle disease.



REPORT Sick Birds.

Don’t wait. Early detection and reporting can make a difference. If your birds are sick or dying, contact your agricultural extension office/agent, local veterinarian, local animal health diagnostic laboratory, or the State veterinarian. Or, call USDA toll free at **1-866-536-7593**.



PROTECT Your Birds.

Restrict traffic onto your property. Disinfect shoes, clothing, and equipment. Wash hands thoroughly. Keep other birds and people away from your birds.

SOURCE: USDA

DO I NEED A PERMIT?

Not all permits are created equal. They use completely different sets of criteria to evaluate a project. A zoning permit will be reviewed for bulk standards (lot coverage, setbacks, height, etc.) and uses. These regulations are detailed in the Zoning Ordinance, and can depend on the zoning district where the property is located. A building permit is reviewed for building materials and construction methods. Pennsylvania's Uniform Construction Code establishes which codes are followed. Currently, the 2009 International Building Code and 2009 International Residential Code are the main codes used.



Below is a general list of when you would need a permit. This list is not all inclusive. Other permits (Stormwater, Driveway, etc.) may be required. *Prior to the start of any construction, it is highly recommended to call the Township Office and see if a permit is necessary.*

Zoning Permit

- Changing the use of the land or structure
- Building a new structure/or addition with a cost in excess of \$500.
- Altering or developing any real estate (whether vacant or not). This include grading, paving, filling, etc.
- Putting up a sign (wall or freestanding)
- Forestry (Timbering) of a property

Building Permit

- Construction of a new dwelling
- Alteration of an existing structure
- Changing of the dwelling's egress (entry)
- Increasing the size of the building
- Construction of a residential accessory structure (such as a shed or outbuilding) larger than 1,000 square feet.
- Expansion, alteration, and repairs to a commercial structure

DROP-OFF UNWANTED PRESCRIPTIONS

Safe disposal of medication can save lives and keep chemicals out of the water ways. Northern Lancaster County Regional Police Department has a MedReturn box that allows for safe disposal of medications.



Items Accepted:

- Prescriptions Medications
- Prescription Patches
- Prescription Ointments
- Over-the-counter medications
- Vitamins
- Samples
- Medications for pets

Items Not Accepted:

- Needle Sharps
- Inhalers
- Commercial Medications & Bio-hazards
- Aerosol Cans
- Over-the-Counter Ointments & Lotions
- Thermometers
- Hydrogen Peroxide

Call 717-733-0965 to verify what items they will accept.

The Northern Lancaster County Regional Police is located at 860 Durlach Road, Stevens, PA 17578-9761.

Additional drop-off locations can be found at: <http://webserver.health.state.pa.us/health/custom/DrugTakebackLocations.asp?COUNTY=Lancaster>

SEASONAL TIPS FOR PROTECTING OUR WATERWAYS

Autumn Leaves

Autumn leaves are beautiful but they can also cause problems if they aren't collected and properly disposed of. When leaves and yard clippings are raked into the street or ditches, the vegetative debris can clog storm drains. During heavy rains, blocked



storm drains and ditches can cause flooding. Leaves and grass clippings that make their way to local streams and rivers r e l e a s e

nutrients that contribute to the accelerated growth of algae. This can be harmful to fish and other aquatic wildlife. By taking the following steps we can reduce the threat of flooding and nutrient loading to local waterbodies.

Fertilizer Tips

Fall is often the time homeowners seed and fertilize their lawn. Fertilizers are among the many common stormwater pollutants that can degrade water quality. Though fertilizers contain chemicals that are good for lawns and plants when used properly, excessive amounts applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams.

Fertilizers are made of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus. When it rains, these nutrients are carried by stormwater into the nearest stream, river, or other water body. Too many nutrients in water can cause algae to grow, which uses up the oxygen in the water. Low levels of oxygen in water can hurt aquatic wildlife and even lead to fish kills.

Mulch: An easy and beneficial way to deal with leaves is by mulching them back onto your lawn. Simply mow the leaves and leave them on the lawn. The mower will chop the leaves into small pieces that will decompose and provide valuable nutrients to the soil.

Compost: Add autumn leaves to a compost pile or place them in planting beds or gardens to provide an inexpensive and nutrient rich fertilizer for your garden. Composting is nature's truest form of recycling.

Rake: At this time, Penn Township does not collect leaves and brush. Check with your contracted waste hauler to find out if a leaf collection service is available. Leaves should never be placed in the storm drain, gutter or street.



- ◆ If you've been in the habit of fertilizing more than once, consider cutting back and fertilizing just in September.
- ◆ For the greatest benefit to your lawn, be sure to use a "slow release" fertilizer. This long-lasting type of nutrient also is more likely to stay in the root zone rather than washing off the lawn and into the street and down the storm drain during the next rainstorm.
- ◆ More is not better! Use only the amount directed. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Read the label. More application does not mean a greener lawn – it means more watering and mowing.
- ◆ Check the weather forecast. Never apply fertilizers if a heavy rain is anticipated.
- ◆ Clean up any spills by sweeping the product back onto the lawn. Never sweep or hose fertilizer toward a paved surface or a storm drain.
- ◆ Water the lawn with about 1/4-inch to 1/2-inch of water after a fertilizer application. This helps move the fertilizer into the soil and reduces the potential of being lost in stormwater runoff.

Do Your Part, Be SepticSmart:

The Do's and Don'ts of Your Septic System

Learn these simple steps to protect your home, health, environment and property value:

NOTE: The Pennsylvania Department of Environment Protection **requires** systems are pumped and inspected every **three (3) years**.

Protect It and Inspect It:

Do:

- Have your system inspected (in general) every three years by a licensed contractor and have the tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years.

Think at the Sink:

Don't:

- Pour cooking grease or oil down the sink or toilet.
- Rinse coffee grounds into the sink.
- Pour household chemicals down the sink or flush them.

Do:

- Eliminate or limit the use of a garbage disposal.
- Properly dispose of coffee grounds & food.
- Put grease in a container to harden before discarding in the trash.

Don't Overload the Commode:

Don't:

- Flush non-degradable products or chemicals, such as feminine hygiene products, condoms, dental floss, diapers, cigarette butts, cat litter, paper towels, pharmaceuticals.

Do:

- Dispose of these items in the trash can!

Shield Your Field:

Don't:

- Park or drive on your drainfield. The weight can damage the drain lines.
- Plant trees or shrubs too close to your drainfield, roots can grow into your system and clog it.

Do:

- Consult a septic service professional to advise you of the proper distance for planting trees and shrubs, depending on your septic tank location.

Don't Strain Your Drain:

Don't

- Concentrate your water use by using your dishwasher, shower, washing machine, and toilet at the same time. All that extra water can really strain your septic system.

Do:

- Stagger the use of water-generating appliances. This can be helpful especially if your system has not been pumped in a long time.
- Become more **water efficient** by fixing plumbing leaks and consider installing bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators and water-efficient products.



For more SepticSmart tips, visit: www.epa.gov/septicSMART

Earthlings:



*Inside
and
OUT*

RSVP: 665-6700
after September 8th

Tuesdays

Beginning
Oct 13- Nov 23
@ 4:00

Children ages 7-12

*HANDS-ON Science for Your
HANDS-ON Kid!*

STEM: Discovery Club



Manheim Community Library

15 East High Street, Manheim, PA 17545 Phone: 665-6700 Fax: 665-2470

More at www.ManheimLibrary.org
Or visit us on FACEBOOK



**Friends of the Library
Book Sale**

Friday, Oct. 16th: 3-7 pm
&
Saturday, Oct. 17th
8:30 – noon

*Great reads for all ages,
Movies too!*

Manheim Borough Building
Community Room

Check out the Classic Car Show
on Saturday

TODDLERTIME WITH STAY & PLAY AT THE LIBRARY

Thursdays at 9:30

Begins Sep 17

Explore rhyme, rhythm, and word play with stories
and activities just right for your inquisitive toddler.

Registration begins September 8

Toddlers who walk with confidence and a caregiver!

Sign-up by calling 665-6700 after Sep 8th.



Family Storytime

Tuesdays, begins SEP 15 at 10 AM
at Penn Township Building

Wednesdays, begins SEP 16 at 10 AM
at the Library

- Have fun with language, sounds, and print.
- Make a related craft.
- The public is invited.
- Registration required.
- Call 665-6700 after September 8 to reserve your spaces.

SIGN-UP Party

10:00 Wednesday, September 9
Activities, snacks and play
Drop-in and bring your calendar!



**1000 Books before
Kindergarten**

*Give your child a
great head start.*

Packets and Prizes only available at the Library!

TOWNSHIP WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEE

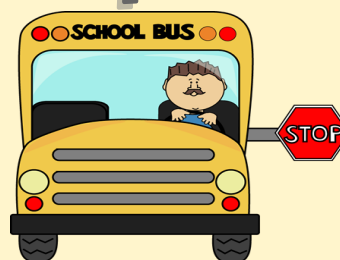
Elizabeth "Betsy" Logan started with the Township on June 29th as the Director of Community Development and Public Outreach. Most recently, she was the Zoning Officer for Hellam Township in York County. Prior to that, she worked in both the public and private sectors in land planning and development. Betsy is a Certified Planner through the American Planning Association, and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Planning from Arizona State University.

Some of her responsibilities include farmland and historic preservation, recycling, stormwater planning and compliance, land development, strategic and comprehensive planning, community and economic development, mapping, special projects, grant writing, and public education and outreach.



Betsy will be communicating Township news and information to the community. If you have articles or upcoming events you would like to include on the Township website, Facebook page, or in the Newsletter, please contact her by email at elogan@penntwplanco.org or call the Township at 717-665-4508.

Stop for Buses



Schools are back in session, and children will be running to catch the bus.

You **MUST** **STOP** when you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, including at an intersection.

Stop at least 10 feet away from the bus.

Wait until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm has been withdrawn, and all children have reached a place of safety.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Motor Vehicles

LITITZ RECENTER FANTASTIC FALL ACTIVITIES!

September 8-12 **TRY FITNESS CLASSES FREE!**

Group, Spin & Aquatic Fitness

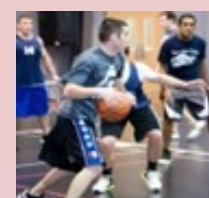
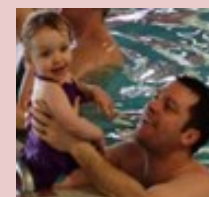
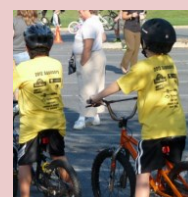
Sept. 8 & 12 **Doggie Swim at Lititz Springs Pool**

Sept. 19 **38th Annual Pretzel Twist**

5 Mile Run / 5K Walk / Kids Fun Run / Starts at 8:30am

Sept. 25 **9th Annual Youth Triathlon**

Ages 7-15 SWIM, BIKE & RUN! / Starts at 4:30pm



Active Fun for all Ages!!

GYMNASIUM-FITNESSCENTER-MAIN POOL-SPLASH POOL-RECKIDS CHILD CARE

NEW!! FITNESS STUDIOS, FITNESS CENTER, GYMNASIUM, FUNZONE, MASSAGE AND MORE!



www.lititzrec.com 717.626.5096
301 W. Maple St. Lititz, PA 17543

PLEASE REMEMBER TO

VOTE

Important Election Dates

Last day to REGISTER before November election **October 5**

Last day to apply for a absentee ballot **October 27**

Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive absentee ballots **October 30**

MUNICIPAL ELECTION **November 3**
Voting Hours: 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM



Trick-or-Treat Night

October 30th
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**62nd Annual Manheim
Community Farm Show**

October 5-9, 2015

Fall Township Office Holiday Closures:

September 7 - Labor Day

October 12 - Columbus Day

November 26 & 27 -Thanksgiving

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairperson - Travis E. Rohrer
Vice Chairperson - John H. Kegarise
Treasurer - Ronald H. Krause
Supervisor - Ben Bruckhart
Supervisor - Jill Groff
Secretary (non-voting) - David W. Kratzer, Jr.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairperson - Joseph Lyons
Vice Chairperson - Rich Whitehouse
Secretary - Linda Brown
Member - Mark Compton
Member - Stephen Engle

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Chairperson - Brian Miller
Vice Chairperson - Dale Rohrer
Member - Steven Bushey
Member - Gerald Wolfe
Member - Justin Wolgemuth
Secretary (non-voting) - Harry S. Smith, Jr.

BOARD OF AUDITORS

Chairperson - J. Meredith Miller
Secretary - Amy J. Minnich
Member - Nancy P. Auker

Penn Township Offices

Municipal Office	665-4508
Water & Sewer Billing	665-4508
Building / Zoning	665-4508
Sewage Enforcement	989-8439
Northern Lancaster County Regional PD	733-0965
District Magistrate - Edward Tobin	626-0258
Township Constable - J.F. Dittoe, Jr.	575-1929

Manheim Central School District

District Office	664-8540
Business/ Tax Office	664-8520
High School	664-8400
Middle School	664-1700
Doe Run Elementary	665-8850
H. C. Burgard Elementary	665-8900
Stiegel Elementary	665-8800

**NORTHWESTERN LANCASTER
COUNTY AUTHORITY**

Chairperson - David Stewart
Vice Chairperson - Herbert Mattern
Treasurer - Paul Steinweg
Secretary - Jeff Sweater
Member - Robert Kurtz

**NORTHERN LANCASTER
COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE**

Chief - David Steffen

**PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT**

Director - Daryl J. Lefever

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

David W. Kratzer, Jr.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR /
ZONING OFFICER**

Harry S. Smith, Jr.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Elizabeth S. Logan, AICP

**SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER**

Len Spencer, III, SEO

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www.facebook.com/PennTwpLanco

