



# Township News

## ***Fall 2019 Edition***

97 N. PENRYN ROAD MANHEIM, PA 17545

717-665-4508 (p) ♦ 717-665-4105 (f)

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

### TOWNSHIP OFFICE FALL CLOSINGS

September 2: Labor Day

November 28 & 29: Thanksgiving

December 24 & 25: Christmas

December 31: New Year's Eve

### **Penn Township Offices**

Hours: Mon-Thurs...7am-5:30pm

Municipal Office .....717-665-4508

Water & Sewer Billing.....717-665-4508

Building/Zoning .....717-665-4508

Sewage Enforcement.....717-989-8439

Police Department.....717-733-0965

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## JOIN US FOR A FREE TOUR OF OUR FACILITIES!

What happens to your trash after you throw it away? Where does it go? How is it transformed into a resource? You can find out these answers and more by taking a FREE tour of LCSWMA facilities. Go behind-the-scenes at the Transfer Station Complex, Lancaster Waste-to-Energy Facility, Frey Farm Landfill or Susquehanna Resource Management Complex to see how our sites operate.

Tour highlights include:

### **TRANSFER STATION COMPLEX**

Learn about the "first stop" after your trash leaves the curb, and where you can safely dispose of household hazardous waste.

### **LANCASTER WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY**

Learn how we combust trash to make electricity that powers the equivalent of 30,000 area homes.

### **FREY FARM LANDFILL**

Learn how we protect the environment with a state-of-the-art landfill. Plus, discover how the landfill site produces renewable energy and offers a habitat for wildlife.

### **SUSQUEHANNA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPLEX**

Learn how we combust trash to make electricity that powers PA State Capitol buildings.

To schedule a tour, visit [www.lcswma.org/tours](http://www.lcswma.org/tours) or call 717-397-9968.

## Why not plan to install a Rain Barrel next year!

I know it's hard to imagine a week or two without rain, but eventually this rainy cycle is going to have to end. Rain barrels or cisterns can be hooked-up to your roof gutter and downspout system to collect rain water which can be used to water houseplants, flower pots, and landscaping beds.

Most rain barrels hold about 55 – 60 gallons of water. A 1" rain event falling on 100 square feet of roof will generate approximately 60 gallons of water. If you have a large roof, you can link two or three rain barrels together so you can collect more water!

Rain barrels can save you money! Water consumption increases between 20 and 200% in the summer- if you water your plants from a public water system, then you'll pay more for water use. If you have a well, you may reduce groundwater resources and pay more for electricity used to pump the water from the ground.

Here are some important tips to keep your rain barrels working for many years:

Keep the barrel covered with a lid to prevent insect infestation and trash/debris accumulation.

Keep your roof gutters and downspouts clear so rain water can flow easily into your rain barrels.

Rain barrels do not work in freezing temperatures! Make sure to disconnect the rain barrel from the downspout system and empty before freezing temperatures arrive, usually in mid-October.

Store your rain barrel inside a shed, garage or basement if possible. If you must store one outside, then turn it upside down, secure with a weight so that it doesn't blow over, and cover with a large plastic bag to prevent animal inhabitation and water accumulation.



Choose Healthy.  
Choose WIC of Lancaster County!

The Lancaster County WIC program is eager to provide families with healthy food options, nutrition education and breastfeeding support. Recipients include pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5. Most families receiving Medical Assistance, SNAP or cash assistance benefits are eligible. Plus, many working families qualify!

To find out how WIC can help you today, call 717-509-3686 or visit us online at [www.cap lanc.org](http://www.cap lanc.org).

PA WIC is funded by the USDA. [This institution is an equal opportunity provider.](#)

## Do I need a Permit?

The answer is "YES" if you are:

- Adding a bedroom
- Installing or replacing an above-ground or in-ground pool
- Installing or replacing a fence, including fencing for animals or pools
- Changing use of a structure or land
- Installing a retaining wall, deck, patio or sidewalk
- Installing or enlarging a greenhouse
- Repaving or adding to your driveway
- Finishing a basement
- Changing office, attic or storage space to a bedroom or living space

The list above is not all-inclusive. If you have ANY questions about permitting, please call the office at 717-665-4508.

## Burn Permits

**Burn Permits are required for most fires within the Township and are available free of charge at the Township office.**

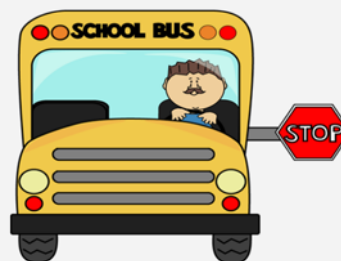
It is illegal to burn trash, household garbage, rubbish, rags, old clothes, leather, rubber, carpets, furniture, crockery, masonry, construction materials, Styrofoam, aerosol cans, by-products of manufacturing and processing operations, and recyclable items.



## 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

# Emergency Services in Crisis

Across the state, local fire and Emergency Management Service (EMS) companies are struggling and on the verge of extinction. Volunteers are dwindling and costs are soaring. Training requirements have intensified. With donations, volunteers and paid staff harder to come by, the future of the local fire and EMS companies looks grim. Without real, viable solutions to address these shortages, many local stations may be forced to close.

## That means one thing: Pennsylvania is on the verge of a public safety crisis.

Whether it's helping at the scene of an overdose or putting out a house fire, volunteer fire and EMS responders keep the Commonwealth's communities safe. Local lawmakers are imploring the legislature to act now and give this crisis the attention it deserves but we need your help. According to multiple EMS agencies, the reality is that EMS services are experiencing a severe personnel and financial crisis.

### A manpower shortage

In years past, employers allowed volunteer fire and EMS workers to serve their community without repercussion. Services to the community were on a neighbor helping neighbor basis but as demand for certain services increase, insurance rates sky rocket, and wages stay or fall short of industry standards, it becomes harder and harder to find qualified personnel and finances to pay for service demands and requirements. Today, law makers are imploring the legislature to grant tax incentives for employers who permit employees to respond to calls while at work and to provide a fix for out-of-control insurance rates at the State Workers Insurance Fund (SWIF). Many years ago, ambulance services were viewed as strictly a transport service. Today, EMS is a health care provider bringing the emergency room out to the community.

### Not keeping pace

Saving lives is the goal of EMS providers so when a 9-1-1 call comes in, they respond first and deal with money issues later. "EMS is the best example of socialized medicine, where we are required to respond and transport and can't refuse service. Those who can pay make up for those who can't. Problem is, those who can pay, often don't. Private insurance has also become problematic for EMS companies since the Affordable Care Act, which ushered in high deductible, high-copay insurance plans. These make it more challenging for EMS companies to collect from patients, particularly if the EMS is an out-of-network provider.

### Seeking solutions

With reimbursements below cost for all payers, agencies must raise the remaining funds through municipal contributions (taxes), membership programs, donations, fundraisers, and grants.

The days of EMS and Fire Companies being self-sufficient are over, and solutions must come soon through community involvement, local government support, and legislative action.

**If Pennsylvania doesn't find real remedies soon, the day is not far away when someone calls 911 for help, and no fire company or EMS responds.**

We must make sure that never happens. Our volunteer fire companies and EMS services are simply too important to lose.

Support your local fire and EMS departments by volunteering, giving financially or by sending them a word of encouragement. **To learn more or sign up to volunteer, visit [www.becomeafirefighter.org](http://www.becomeafirefighter.org).**

Credits: PSATS Township Today Quarterly Newsletter. For more information visit: [www.psats.org](http://www.psats.org).



LOOKING TO MAKE A REAL  
DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY?

### Volunteer with a Lancaster County Fire Company!

YOU can save lives and property, bring calm to chaotic fire and accident scenes, or lend your talents back at the fire station.

You bring the desire to help others. We provide the free training and the apparatus and equipment you'll need.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities or to fill out a volunteer application:

Visit [www.BecomeaFirefighter.org](http://www.BecomeaFirefighter.org)  
Call 888-914-JOIN



## Yard Care for Water Quality

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 or run into creeks and streams polluting our waterways. During heavy rains, blocked storm drains and ditches can cause flooding. Leaves and grass clippings that make their way to local streams and rivers release 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.

### Autumn Leaves

**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.

**\*\*\*Penn Township does not have a yard waste disposal site, however Manheim Township allows non-residents to bring yard waste to their facility. Contact the Manheim Township office before bringing items to the facility. Fees apply. PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL. DO NOT BRING TRASH OR ITEMS NOT PERMITTED TO THE COMPOST PARK.**

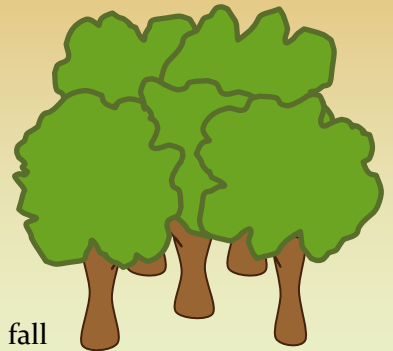
Garden residues, shrubbery and tree prunings, sod, leaves and grass (fees apply)  
Manheim Township Compost Park  
2775 Oregon Pike, Lititz, PA 17543  
Ph. 717-569-6406 ext. 1129

**For more information visit [www.manheimtownship.org/1009/compostpark](http://www.manheimtownship.org/1009/compostpark).**

## **Fall is a Great Time for Planting – Native Trees, Shrubs and Perennials**

It's easy to forget that fall is the best time for planting – planting in the spring seems so much more appealing after being cooped up during the long winter months. However, here are some reasons why fall is the best time for planting:

- The soil is warm and the air is cool - Our native plants love warm soil and moderate temperatures that occur during fall.
- Less insect pest and disease pressure – Many insect species, bacteria and fungi are most active in spring and can easily stress-out new plantings.
- Less water stress- It's easier to keep new plants watered when temperatures are lower and when plants are not growing as fast.
- Plants will be ready for next spring – Your new plants will spend the fall and winter rooting into the soil. By next spring, they will be ready to get growing - deeper root systems make plants better able to withstand drought.
- You can pay less - Many local garden centers put their inventory on sale in the fall to reduce inventory.



## **Don't Forget these Seasonal Tips to Protect Water Quality**

- Leaf Collection – Never dump leaves or yard waste into a stormwater management facility such as storm inlets, swales, or detention basins. The leaves and debris can prevent stormwater flows from moving downstream and cause localized flooding. Also, if you have a storm inlet near your property, please keep the top grates cleared of trash, leaves and debris.
- Fertilizer – Fall is a great time to fertilize your yard and landscape but only if it needs it! Before applying fertilizer, take a soil sample to see if your soil needs more nutrients to support plant health. Excess fertilizer can travel into the stormwater system and pollute our streams.

# Plants & pollinators: Can't have one without the other

Plants, like animals, must create offspring for the next generation.

Seeds develop when pollen is transferred between flowers of the same plant species. Pollination is the act of transferring pollen grains from the male part of a flower, the anther, to the female part, the stigma. About 80% of all plants are pollinated by pollinators, such as bats, birds and insects. The remaining 20% are pollinated by wind and water.

Plants and pollinators have physical characteristics that make them more likely to interact successfully. Different plants have developed to flower at different times throughout the growing season. This decreases competition for pollinators and provides pollinators with a constant supply of food.

The pollinator benefits from its adaptation to a particular flower type by ensuring that it will be able to find important food resources — nectar and pollen. The flower's shape, color, odor, nectar and structure varies by the type of pollinators that visit them.

One out of every three bites  
of food you eat is there  
because of pollinators.

Pollinators provide services to more than 180,000 different plant species and more than 1,200 crops. That means that one out of every three bites of food you eat is there because of pollinators. In addition to the food that we eat, pollinators are needed for a majority of the native plants that provide food and habitat for other wildlife and are the foundation for healthy ecosystems.

Many pollinators are declining due to the loss of feeding and nesting habitat. Pollution, misuse of chemicals, disease and changes in climate are contributing to shrinking pollinator populations.

What can you do? Create a pollinator-friendly habitat with native flowering plants that supply pollinators with nectar, pollen and homes. To find out what native plants are best for your area, visit [Pollinator Planting Guides](#) and type in your zip code. Or, download [The Bee Smart™ Pollinator Gardener app](#) on your smart phone.

Here are a few common characteristics of flowers and the pollinators they attract.

## Birds

- Color: Orange, red, white
- Scent: None
- Shape: Large funnel-like or cups

## Bees

- Color: Bright white, yellow, blue
- Scent: Fresh, mild, pleasant
- Shape: Shallow, with landing platform, tubular

## Butterflies

- Color: Bright, including red, purple
- Scent: Faint but fresh
- Shape: Narrow tube with spur, wide landing pad

## Moths

- Color: Pale, white, and dull red, purple, pink
- Scent: Strong sweet; emitted at night
- Shape: Regular, tubular without a lip

## Beetles

- Color: Dull white, green
- Scent: None to strongly fruity or fetid
- Shape: Large, bowl-like



## Flies

- Color: Pale, dull to dark brown or purple flecked with translucent patches
- Scent: Putrid
- Shape: Shallow, funnel-like or complex & trap-like

CONSIDER THIS... Penn Township properties currently release over 820,000 lbs of sediment, 1,000 lbs of phosphorus and 43,000 lbs of nitrogen per year into creeks and streams. As a result, our waterways are extremely unhealthy. To improve the health of these waterways, we are required to reduce sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen by 10%, 5% and 3% respectively. The Township cannot do it alone. We need your help! If you have a creek, stream or farm on your property, funding is available to assist in reaching these goals.



# MANHEIM COMMUNITY LIBRARY

LEARN. CONNECT. GROW.

15 East High Street, Manheim, PA 17545  
717.665.6700 manheimlibrary.org

## HOLIDAY HOURS

### CLOSED

September 2  
October 14  
November 28 & 29  
December 25  
January 1, 2020

### CLOSING AT 1 PM

October 9  
November 27  
December 24  
December 31

**For an up-to-date listing of Library programs and events, please visit [manheimlibrary.org](http://manheimlibrary.org).**



Friends of the  
**MANHEIM  
COMMUNITY  
LIBRARY**

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Fall Book Sale

November 7 - 9

Details coming soon to [manheimlibrary.org](http://manheimlibrary.org)

#### Book Donations

Book donations are currently being accepted at the Library. Donations should be items that are in good condition (you would be proud to give it to a friend). For a list of acceptable items, visit [manheimlibrary.org](http://manheimlibrary.org).

#### Friends of Manheim Community Library

Enjoy a special preview sale on Wednesday, November 6th.



### Holiday Crossings

December 7 - 8

Manheim Historic Train Station

Enjoy the warm, cozy atmosphere cheerfully decorated to remind us of holidays gone by.

Photos with Santa. 1930s Manheim miniature train display of Manheim in the 1930's. Basket raffle. Locally crafted items and holiday gifts. Book Nook bargains of gently used Christmas themed books for all ages. Christmas carols by the Trust Trio, a strolling a capella trio in period costumes. Delicious menu at the Cozy Café.

#### Friends of the Manheim Community Library

Stop at the hospitality table to pick up your Stiegel Glassworks membership ornament.

**42<sup>ND</sup> Annual Pretzel Twist**

**Saturday Sept. 21<sup>ST</sup>**

POST REGISTRATION AT 7:00AM RACE START AT 8:00AM

KIDS MARATHON AT 7:45AM

KIDS FUN RUN • 5K RUN • 5K WALK





# Penn Township Sustainability Park



Soon after the water treatment plant was built in 2012, Penn Township created an educational center for the public at the facility.

Examples of permeable pavement, a rain garden to handle stormwater, wildflower meadows and a riparian buffer are among the items located at the Penn Township Sustainability Park at 306 Doe Run Road. These examples can assist residents especially when projects that are submitted for review don't meet the ordinance requirements. By revising the plan with examples shown, the project may be able to be

approved so the project can move forward.



**Visit the Sustainability Park at 306 Doe Run Road to learn more!**



This year, grants were obtained to restore the rain gardens at the park. The Public Works crew planted a variety of native plants including a variety of grasses, wild flowers, trees and shrubs. These plants will grow and help to reduce sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen in

our creeks and streams. Learn more about ways to protect the earth in which we live by visiting the park.

## Get Involved with your Local Watershed Organization!

The land area in Penn Township drains into three major streams: the Chiques Creek, Lititz Run and the Little Conestoga Creek. Each of these streams has a group of volunteers working to improve water quality and they need volunteers! Consider attending a meeting or participating in an activity! You can find more information at their websites.

Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance - <http://chiquescreekwatershed.org/>

Lititz Run Watershed Alliance - <http://lancasterwatersheds.org/associations/lititz-run-watershed-alliance/>

Little Conestoga Watershed Alliance- <http://littleconestoga.org/>



# PENN TOWNSHIP

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

97 N Penryn Rd, Manheim, PA 17545

\*\*\*NOTE: Want to receive the quarterly newsletter? Send your e-mail address to [secretary@penntwplanco.org](mailto:secretary@penntwplanco.org) with the subject "Newsletter"



## SAVE THE DATE:

Trick or Treat will be held  
Thursday, October 31  
6pm-8pm

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairperson-Ben Bruckhart  
Vice Chairperson-Jill Groff  
Treasurer-Ronald Krause  
Supervisor-Gary Stevens  
Supervisor-Richard Landis  
Secretary-Mark Hiester

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairperson-Linda Brown

Vice Chairperson-Stephen  
Engle

Secretary-Fred Hammond  
Member-Mark Compton  
Member-Leroy Stoltzfus  
Alternate-Cullen Ketcham

### ZONING HEARING BOARD

Chairperson-Gerald Wolfe  
Vice Chairperson-Dale Rohrer  
Member-Steven Bushey

Member-Aaron Kopp  
Member-Bill Postel

### NORTHWESTERN LANCASTER COUNTY AUTHORITY

Chairperson-Herbert Mattern  
Vice Chairperson-Barb Horst  
Treasurer-Robert Kurtz  
Member-Phil Donmoyer  
Member-Cullen Ketcham

### NORTHERN LANCASTER COUNTY REGIONAL POLICE

Chief-David Steffen

### TOWNSHIP STAFF

Manager-Mark Hiester  
Planner-Jennifer Brady  
Zoning Officer-Matt Reeser  
Finance-Connie Weidle  
Receptionist-Barbara Grable  
Public Works Director-Daryl  
Lefever

Foreman-Neil Fittery  
Maintenance Worker-Keith  
Ihle  
Maintenance Worker-Shannon  
Martin  
Maintenance Worker-Dave  
Newcomer

### SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

SEO-Len Spencer, III