



**PENN**  
**TOWNSHIP**

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

# Township News

## Summer 2020 Edition

97 N. PENRYN ROAD MANHEIM, PA 17545

717-665-4508 (p) ♦ 717-665-4105 (f)

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

### TOWNSHIP OFFICE SUMMER CLOSINGS

May 25: Memorial Day

Sept 7: Labor Day

### Penn Township Offices

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

Municipal Office ..... 665-4508

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

Building/Zoning ..... 665-4508

Sewage Enforcement..... 989-8439

Police Department ..... 733-0965

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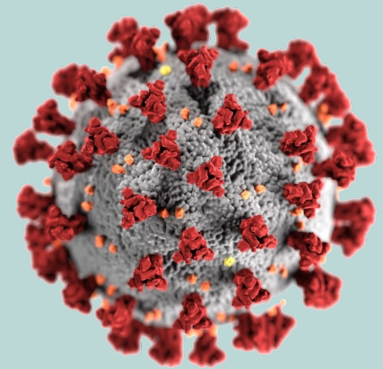
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### COVID-19

What do we know? Where are we now?

The coronavirus is a novel or new virus and there is no vaccine. To protect the health and safety of everyone, we need you to do your part.

Lancaster County continues to have some of the highest rates of infection. By limiting your exposure and wearing protective gear, you can make a difference in helping to limit the opportunity for the virus to spread.



#### What can I do?

- ✓ **Stay home** - While this may be inconvenient and different from ones normal routine, staying away from others limits you from being exposed to the virus. Keep you and your family safe!
- ✓ **Shop for necessities once a week** - Shop with a list. This saves you time, money and anxiety allowing you to provide for your family in the lean times.
- ✓ **Wear a mask** - Masks are uncomfortable but are vital to helping limit the spread of the coronavirus. By wearing a mask, you limit the amount of droplets you disperse helping to prevent your family, neighbors and community from getting the virus. A mask also reminds you not to touch your face.
- ✓ **Stay 6 feet from others** - Like masks, this helps to limit the amount of droplets you inhale and helps to keep you and your family safe.
- ✓ **Wash hands often** - The virus often enters our bodies as a result of contaminated hands. By washing your hands, you reduce the opportunity of contracting the virus.

Remember, while many have minimal symptoms, many do not. This is not the flu.  
**PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY FROM GETTING SICK!**

**Everyone Counts. Complete the Census. It's the law. It's important now more than ever. It determines funding for your community, the State, hospitals, schools, roads and more. It also determines our representation in government. We need you! Complete the Census!**



For more information, visit:  
**PA.GOV/CENSUS**

**Shape your  
future in PA**



## GREEN SATURDAY

June 20, 2020

9:00 – Noon

Pleasant View Retirement Community

544 N Penryn Road

Manheim, PA 17545

Event will be held outside in main parking lot (look for the digital sign)

The following organizations will be present:

**SHRED IT** – anyone attending may bring any documents for shredding sponsored by Manheim Borough, Rapho Township and Penn Township

**LCSWMA** – Nicole DiGiorgio will have a table set up with information about recycling. She will answer any/all questions that attendees may have about the Recycling Crisis.

**Manheim Central Food Pantry** – Jim Hershey – will deliver his pick-up truck and attendees may place their non-perishable food donations directly into truck

**PSPCA** – Rachel Golub – will have a table set up with information, as well as a dog in attendance. Attendees may donate towels and blankets – NO comforters. Any washed/used food bowls and toys. All items should be placed in garbage bags for Rachel to place into her box truck.

This event is open to the public.

## Do you want to know more about the Township Zoning regulations?

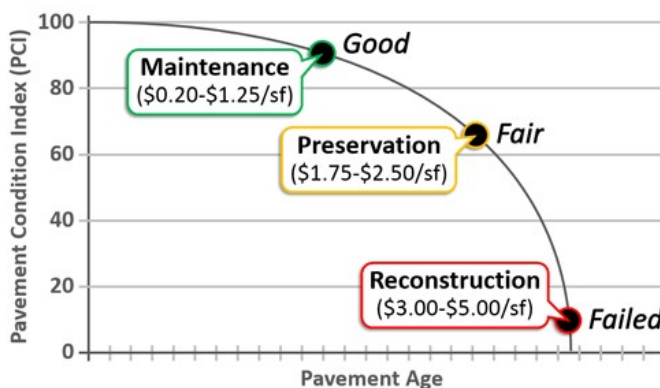
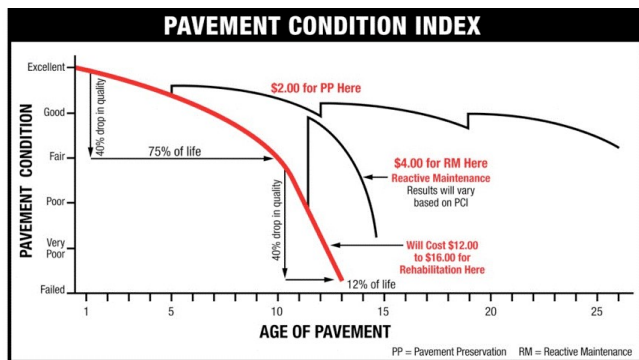
The Township is revising and re-writing the Township Zoning Ordinance. Meetings are open to the public. Once a draft ordinance has been created, the Township will be requesting public comment on the revised ordinance. The draft ordinance will be posted on our website at [www.penntwplanco.org](http://www.penntwplanco.org) when it is ready for comment.

## Township meetings during COVID-19

All Township meetings are open to the public. Meeting times and dates are listed on our website. During the coronavirus, the Township is offering folks to participate via Zoom. If you are interested, contact Jennifer Brady at [planner@penntwplanco.org](mailto:planner@penntwplanco.org).

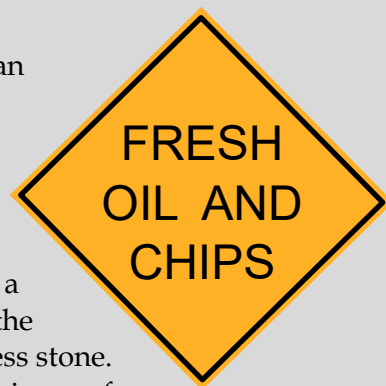
## Why Do We Crack Seal Roads?

Because it saves maintenance costs over time. Our friends at LTAP (PA Local Technical Assistance Program) find that putting \$2 per square foot of pavement preservation in the early part of a road's life can save multiple times that amount later. It extends the life of the road, limiting when the road will next need to be resurfaced. It is less costly over time to put a few dollars into a good road than to wait until the road deteriorates and have to put much more money into it. The township has a road maintenance program to do just that. So, next time you see us work out there, please keep this in mind. And do us all a favor by driving safely.



## Oil & Chip Road Surfacing – Saving YOU money!

The Township uses oil and chip surfacing because it costs about 10 times less than resurfacing with asphalt or concrete. Oil and chip is used on lower-traveled and lower speed roads. Oil and chip resurfacing is approved by PennDOT for these kinds of roadways. It typically takes about two days for the loose stones to become embedded in the road surface. Until then you may want to travel slower on that road. The oil and chip provides a protective wearing surface to prolong the road's service life. This process typically adds 5-7 years to the life of a road and will provide a safe, skid-resistant surface. The contractor applies only the amount of 'chip' stone needed and guarantees a maximum 'whip-off' of 2% excess stone. The whole process has dramatically improved over the years with the better efficiency of techniques and equipment.



## Septic Pumping

Every year notices are sent out to property owners to have their septic systems pumped. It is required that properties be pumped and inspected a minimum of every 3 years. A pumping manifest must be submitted to the Township.

If your property has more than one septic system, all systems on the property must be pumped at the same time. To contact an approved septic hauler visit <https://penntwplanco.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Registered-Septic-Haulers-2019-1.pdf>.

## TRASH

The Township is not responsible for picking up your trash. As a homeowner, you are responsible for contacting an approved hauler and setting up service. Payments and complaints are to be directed directly with your trash hauler.



## Primary Election Day

**Rescheduled to June 2 , 2020**

**Poll Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Last day to register: May 18, 2020

**Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot: May 26, 2020**

You can now register to vote through the Pennsylvania Department of State's online application. Before you begin, be sure to have your Pennsylvania driver's license or PennDOT ID card handy. If you don't have either of these, there are other options. Once you submit your online application, it will be forwarded to the appropriate county voter registration office for processing. Visit [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com) for more information.

## COVID-19 Update from PPL Electric Utilities

**WE'RE FACING THIS PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE TOGETHER.**

***During the pandemic, we know our customers have questions and concerns about their electric service, how they can get bill payment assistance, electrical safety and energy efficiency information, and more. We have our customers' backs and are here for them.***

- We continue to maintain and keeping power flowing for everyone during times of crisis and beyond.
- Safety remains a top priority for employees and the public. Stay away from down power lines and remain at least 10 feet away from crews—for your safety and theirs.
- PPL has suspended service terminations for non-payment and began waiving late fees on bills as of March 16, 2020.
- We continue to provide payment assistance programs and other bill services like budget billing, changing a bill due date and more.
- Operation HELP eligibility guidelines have been extended so customers with income up to 250% of the poverty level can benefit from grants.
- Many customers are paying more for electric generation than you should. Make sure you are getting the best price possible. Visit [www.papowerswitch.com](http://www.papowerswitch.com) to shop.
- Visit [www.savewithppl.com](http://www.savewithppl.com) and click "tips to save" to find low-cost or no-cost ways to save electricity.
- No matter what the situation, staying safe around electricity is important. Mistakes can be deadly.
- Before doing projects, call 811 at least three business days before you dig.



For the latest information, visit [ppl electric.com/coronavirus](http://ppl electric.com/coronavirus), to apply for assistance or report downed power lines, call 1-800-DIAL-PPL or 1-800-342-5775.

**PPL Electric Utilities**

## Unused or Unwanted Prescription Medication

Is your medicine cabinet full of expired drugs or medications you no longer use? Your medicine is for you. What's safe for you might be harmful for someone else. Don't be the dealer and be liable for lost, stolen, misused drugs or worse, death. You can dispose of your expired, unwanted, or unused medicines through a drug take back program or by using a Rx DropBox located near you.

Medication should not be flushed or be put in the trash. When you do, they become part of the environment either through the water supply, ground or plants. Deer and fish then consume the contaminated water or plants that can lead to changed behaviors in wildlife. We then consume water from these streams and eat fish and wildlife that have been altered by the contaminated plants and water because medication was improperly disposed.

Local locations which accept unused/unwanted RxDrugs:

- **Manheim Borough Police Department:**  
211 North Charlotte Street, Manheim, PA 17545 Ph. 717-665-2481
- **Northern Lancaster County Regional Police Department:**  
860 Durlach Road, Stevens, PA 17578 Ph. 717-733-0965 M-F 8am-4:30pm
- **Lititz Borough Police:**  
7 Broad Street, Lititz, PA 17543 Ph. 717-626-6393 M-F 8am-4:30pm



Due to COVID-19, many offices are closed to the general public even if they are providing services during this time. Please contact them before assuming they are open for the services you wish to use. This includes, but is not limited to Township or police offices, summer camps, rec centers, Shred-it events, etc.

# SUMMER CAMPS

## ARE COMING

**AGES 3-13**  
**SPORTS**  
**ART & SCIENCE**  
**DIGGERS & PRINCESS**  
**BOULDER**

[WWW.LITITZREC.COM](http://WWW.LITITZREC.COM)

**SIGN UP**  
**EARLY**  
**SAVE \$8**



# Weedy or Not? *Here I Come*

Summer is quickly approaching the Susquehanna River Valley. Bees have begun buzzing, flowers are flourishing, summer grills sizzling; and in some of our yards, parks, parking lots, and along our road shoulders, summer also brings the task of maintaining our stormwater best-management practices (BMPs).

A stormwater BMP can be a variety of things. You may have noticed your neighbor installed a **rain garden** in their yard. A local developer may have implemented a **vegetated swale** in a subdivision development. Still others may establish a **green roof** at their business location. Every BMP is different, and every BMP requires maintenance. Like regular maintenance on a vehicle, when a BMP is maintained regularly, it not only functions properly, but saves money in the long run!

**Rain gardens** may appear somewhat messy, or *weedy* as this article is titled, but within it is a thriving, well-functioning ecosystem. The cover from native plants provide nesting for song birds and small wildlife. The blooms attract butterflies and bees. The best way to maintain a rain garden is to keep an eye out for invasive weeds. Examples can include Canadian thistle, Japanese knotweed, or poison hemlock. When maintained and kept properly these rain gardens can even increase property values!

- ✓ Take care to remove the root system of invasive plants
- ✓ Remove any trash or debris
- ✓ Best time to prune or trim = Autumn



**Vegetated swales** can look very different depending on where they are located, but they provide a similar function – help reduce pollutants, (think extra fertilizer that may have been carried by a rain storm) and slows and lets water filter back into the ground. Some swales have a pipe underneath for drainage, others incorporate small rock dams to aid with large rain events. Swales are usually dry, but may remain wet for a period after a rain event.

- ✓ Remove trash or debris
- ✓ Keep mowing to a minimum – 3-5 inches is a good length
- ✓ Remove weeds, saplings or invasive plants
- ✓ Remove any grass clippings (this leads to clogging and can be an expensive fix)
- ✓ Avoid fertilizers and pesticides. Remember, the point of the swale is to allow the water to slowly drain back into the ground.

These tips can help you save money, time, and energy down the road if you do them when you notice there are issues. But if structural maintenance and/or serious failures occur such as sink holes, or ground collapse, or standing water for more than 5 days, you should contact a professional to assess the situation.

Resources: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/WildPlants/InvasivePlants/InvasivePlantFactSheets/Pages/default.aspx>  
<https://www.westlampeter.com/DocumentCenter/View/562/Homeowners-BMP-Maint-Guide?bidId=>  
<https://penntwplanco.org/stormwater/>

## Giving the Lanternfly our very Pest and telling it to *bug off*

As Lancaster County continues into summer, so does our action against the invasive spotted lanternfly. Research has recently come out that we may have another, very promising tool to help us combat this destructive critter that not just leaves playground equipment and outside decks sticky, but also endangers our thriving agricultural economy here in Penn Township.

A **fungus** called *Verticillium nonalfalfae* has been found to **naturally** kill the tree of heaven, the most popular host of spotted lanternfly. This fungus is currently undergoing EPA approval as a naturally occurring pesticide that also has natural and minimal effects on neighboring flowers, trees, or creatures.

**Tree of heaven** may be showing the symptoms of *Verticillium* fungus if:

- Yellowing leaves
- Premature leaf drop
- Necrosis or death of the tree
- Rapid onset of wilting

This fungus is another **emerging** tool in our toolbox against the tree of heaven and thus the spotted lanternfly. The USDA Forest Service has released information on this promising, new tool.

If you see tree of heaven showing any symptoms: Report the infected tree to the USDA Forest Service for assistance, and contact the PA State Department of Agriculture for more information about the control of the tree of heaven and spotted lanternfly.

### What you can do now:

- Scrape egg masses
- Use tree traps to catch nymphs
- Remove host plants such as tree of heaven (which is also invasive!)

When you travel in and out of the quarantine zone (Lancaster County), check your car and any outdoor items you are moving (grills, outdoor furniture, landscaping supplies, mowers, etc.). Check for egg masses from September through June. Remember that egg masses may be underneath your car or in your wheel wells. During all other times of the year, check for nymphs and adults, and keep your windows rolled up when you park. Don't store things or park under infested trees, and don't move firewood.

These recommendations are current as of May 2020 and may change as we learn more. We encourage you to stay up to date by visiting the Penn State Extension Spotted Lanternfly page. Check for the newest version of this fact sheet and always look for the most up-to-date information. When using any pesticide, follow the pesticide label for directions, application rates, methods, and appropriate protective equipment.



This tree is showing signs of wilted, or dying leaves because of the fungus. Wilting will occur rapidly if the tree of heaven as been infected.



An adult Spotted Lanternfly next to a new egg mass.



This tree of heaven is showing signs of *Verticillium nonalfalfae*—other signs include the leaves completely dropping from branches and death of the tree.



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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"

## INTRODUCING... LCSWMA @Home



### Welcome to LCSWMA's NEW online virtual learning hub!

Whether you're a teacher, parent, professional, resident or community leader, you'll find **fun, free, interactive resources** to learn how LCSWMA transforms waste into a resource to protect and benefit our community.

We invite you to discover more about recycling, waste-to-energy, sustainability and a host of other environmental topics without leaving home. Visit <https://www.lcswma.org/learn-and-discover/lcswma-at-home/> to learn more.

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Chairperson-Ben Bruckhart  
Vice Chairperson-Richard Landis  
Treasurer-Ronald Krause  
Supervisor-Thomas Walsh  
Supervisor-Gary Stevens  
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-Barbara 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 Lehle  
Maintenance Worker-Shannon Martin  
Maintenance Worker-Dave Newcomer

#### **SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Len Spencer, III, SEO