

WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP

"Between the Brandywines"

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER published by THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Township Begins Trash & Refuse Collection

IN OUR SUMMER NEWSLETTER WE INFORMED YOU that the Township will be taking over the collection of trash and recycling from our contracted hauler. Our staff will launch the new program October 1. You'll get to know the new trucks – they are white with the Township logo on them. We have new employees whose first priority is service to our customers and safety on the road.

For the remainder of the year, while we are working out the kinks in the operation not much will change for our residents. Your collection day will stay the same and your trash and recyclables must be out by 6:00am on the day of collection. This is critical, as the Township may not travel the route the same way as was done in the past.

We may arrive at your home at a different time than in the past or change our collection times



Above: WBT's New Trash & Recyclable Haulers

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Marshallton Streetscapes Update

THE RESIDENTS OF MARSHALLTON AND THE TOWNSHIP continue to work towards preserving the streetscape and calming the traffic through the village. In meetings held this spring and summer a general consensus was reached on the types of traffic calming improvements that a majority of residents would like to see.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF DESIRED IMPROVEMENTS:

- Pursue a raised intersection at Strasburg Road & Sugars Bridge Road;
- Pursue raised crosswalks at two other locations where sidewalks will exist;
- Pursue lane narrowing physically - by installing curbing, neckdowns at intersection approaches, and providing on-street parking where needed. Pursue lane narrowing through perception – by adding street trees, lane striping, adding appropriate signage, and installing village entrance gateways; and
- Establish upright curbing and establish a uniform width, consistent sidewalk system along both sides of Strasburg Road, where feasible.



Marshallton Streetscapes
SEE MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 6

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Township Begins Trash & Refuse Collection

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as we move forward. Next year we will begin to look at providing more services and being more efficient in our collection process. This may include collecting cardboard, having a spring yard waste collection, and/or a different type of large item collection program.



Above: West Bradford Township's New Trash & Recyclable Haulers

We ask you to bear with us during our startup process as we learn how to serve you best. Any suggestions are welcome as well.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Any issues with or questions on the program or your service should be directed to the Township Office.

Phone: (610) 269-4174

Web: www.westbradford.org

SEE PAGE 7 FOR MIXED PAPER RECYCLING INFO & TIPS

Township to Distribute Curb Carrier "Hookers"

OUR NEW REFUSE DIVISION employees will soon be delivering yellow curb-carrier "hookers" to you. The curb carriers are used to hook your recycling bin onto your trash toter when wheeling it to the street. The curb carriers were provided to us by the County through a State grant. Since the Township has several types of trash toters in use the carriers may not be ideal for use with all of them.

To use them you must tilt your toter up, place the yellow carrier onto the center bar, and then put the lip of the recycling bin onto the hook.



Left: Examples of the curb-carrier "hookers" that will be distributed to Township residents. The curb carriers are used to hook your recycling bin onto your trash toter when wheeling it to the street.



Please remember that the carriers are not meant to be left at the curbside and that you should place your recycling bin at least 3 feet away from your toter.

As part of a reorganization effort, the County's recycling website has moved. Please note the new address:

www.chestercountyswa.org

Did You Know?

IN THE EARLY 1800's, a business in the Township was known as an exporter of what type of fine domestic equipment?

See page 7 for the answer

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars to participate in upcoming events.

Family Fun Night
Saturday, October 21st
6:00pm
 Broad Run Park

West Bradford Day 2007
Sunday, May 20th
 Make sure to mark your calendar so you don't miss next year's festivities!



— WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP —
Board of Supervisors and Staff

John A. Haiko	Chairman
Bruce W. Laverty	Vice Chairman
Mark J. Blair	Member
Jack M. Hines, Jr.	Township Manager
Vincent M. Visoskas	Assistant Township Manager
Douglas R. Jones	Public Works Director
Gary O. Schmidt	Parks Director
Nancy L. Althouse	Finance Director

1385 Campus Drive
 Downingtown PA 19335
phone (610) 269-4174
fax (610) 269-3016
email wbradford@westbradford.org

We welcome your input and suggestions!
 Feel free to call, fax, email, or drop by anytime.
 We're open Monday through Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.



*Events & Points of Interest
Throughout the Township*



Election Day:

Tuesday, Nov 7th

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

GENERAL ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH. This is the first General Election where the County is using new voting machines. 🍃

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

To read more about the voting machines or general election procedures, see these websites.

Pennsylvania Department of State:

Web: www.dos.state.pa.us/voting

Chester County Voter Services:

Web: www.chesco.org/election

PA League of Woman Voter's

Chester County:

Web: <http://www.palwv.org/chesco>

New State Senator

WITH THE PASSING OF OUR LONG TIME STATE SENATOR BOB THOMPSON, former County Commissioner, Andy Dinniman has been elected to fill the remaining term of office. 🍃

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Senator Dinniman's office is located at One North Church Street, West Chester PA 19380 beginning on October 16th. For constituent issues, use the following contact info.

Phone: (610) 692-2112

Web: www.andydinnimanpasenate.com

We Want You!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO FILL VACANT POSITIONS ON VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. We currently are looking for volunteers to serve on the Township's Historical Commission and Planning Commission.

Even if you may not be interested in serving on a standing committee, there are always opportunities to serve the Township on a volunteer basis. We currently need volunteers to assist with West Bradford Day and participate in the roadside trash cleanup on Glenside Road. 🍃

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Contact us if you would like a further description of any of the volunteer opportunities.

Phone: (610) 269-4174

Web: www.westbradford.org

Refuse/Sewer Fee Auto Pay Option

The Township is always considering options that may result in better service to our residents and make for a more efficient way to do things. We would like your input on whether you would like the Township to set up a direct debit, auto-pay option from bank accounts for the payment of refuse, sewer, and hydrant fees. 🍃

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!

If you think this option is a good idea and would use it, please e-mail us at wbradford@westbradford.org. Put "Auto-Pay" in the subject line. If we get enough positive responses we will explore the option further.

State Police Reminder

The officers of the Embreeville State Police Barracks have asked us to remind you to always lock your car doors and close garage doors – even when you are home. There has been an ongoing rash of thefts through out the Township. These can be considered thefts of opportunity because a majority of them have occurred when residents have left their car doors unlocked and garages open. 🍃

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please note that the State Police Barracks has a new phone number. For emergencies you may still dial 911. For non-emergencies you may call:
Phone: (484) 340-3241

Plant Native Trees

Native trees are plants that have evolved over thousands of years in a particular region. They've adapted to an area's climate, hydrology, and geography. PA native trees are accustomed to our native soil and weather. They provide shelter and food for native wildlife and they promote biodiversity. 🍃

Some commonly used native trees in Southeastern, PA include:

- Red Maple
- Shagbark Hickory
- White Oak
- Flowering Dogwood
- Eastern Hemlock
- American Sycamore
- Sugar Maple
- American Beech
- Red Oak
- White Pine
- Eastern Redbud
- Sassafras

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF NATIVE TREES & SHRUBS:

Phone: (610) 269-4174

Web: www.westbradford.org

WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP

"Between the Brandywines"

Fall & Winter Fireplace Safety

OVER THE PAST YEARS the West Bradford Fire Company has responded to numerous fires resulting from placing hot ash from fireplaces into trash receptacles.

Your trash toter is made of plastic and will catch fire quickly. Please remember to allow adequate time for the ashes to cool prior to removing them from the fireplace. Keep in mind that a well built fire takes hours to burn out completely and cool. This can be as long as twelve hours—even if the top layer of ashes appear to be cooled. It only takes one hot ember to kindle other combustible material in your trash to ignite a fire that could potentially cause injury to occupants and/or destruction of personal property. ♪



On the topic of fireplaces, when was the last time you had your chimney swept or inspected?

The National Fire Protection Association recommends annual inspection and cleaning of chimneys to prevent excessive build-up of creosote and to ensure safe operation of your fireplace and chimney.

Fall Curbside Leaf Collection

THIS YEAR'S LEAF COLLECTION DATES WILL BE ON FRIDAYS. Four pick-ups are planned for township residents only.

LEAF BAGS WILL BE PICKED UP CURBSIDE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- Friday, Nov. 3rd
- Friday, Dec. 1st
- Friday, Nov. 17th
- Friday, Dec. 15th

Your bags must be out by 6:00am on the scheduled dates. Leaves must be placed in special biodegradable bags purchased from the Township. Bags may be purchased at the Township Administration Building, 1385 Campus Drive, during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm). They will also be available for sale in November on Tuesday evenings when Township meetings are held. The one exception is Tuesday, November 7, Election Day when Township Offices are closed (bags will be sold on Monday, November 6), when no public meetings are scheduled.

Bags are provided to residents at cost, 3 bags for \$1. The fees for the actual collection are already factored into your refuse and recycling bill.

Leaves will be picked up only in the special bags sold by the Township. Do not use your toter, recycling bins, other municipality's bags, or any other bag or container. Leaves in other bags, containers, or your toter will not be collected.



To avoid damaging the equipment used to compost the leaves, the leaves need to be free of plastic, trash, and other debris. Please do not include grass clippings or other yard waste.

Yard waste and larger brush cannot be placed in your regular trash. Shrubbery and tree trimmings up to 6" in diameter may be taken to the Lanchester Landfill in Honey Brook for composting or shredding. There is a charge for this. Please call the landfill at (610) 273-3771 for more information.

You may compost your yard waste yourself instead of placing it out for pick up.

We encourage all of our residents to compost or mulch their yard waste if they can. This reduces the amount of waste that has to be collected and helps the environment. Yard waste includes leaves, clippings, grass cuttings, and even food and vegetable scraps and coffee grounds. Compost can be used as fertilizer and mulch around your yard. ♪

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

If you would like further information on composting, contact the Chester County Health Department, Division of Solid Waste Management
Phone: (610) 344-5937
Web: www.chesco.org



LOOKING FOR A FUN TRIP IDEA?

The Downingtown Area Recreation Consortium (DARC) has several upcoming bus trips. Among the bus trips are four opportunities to visit the Radio City Christmas Show:

(November 9th and 25th and December 7th and 16th)

They also have a bus trip to see Mary Poppins on Broadway!
HURRY TO SIGN UP... IT MAY FILL UP BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!



WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
"Between the Brandywines"

Downingtown Area Recreation Consortium

The Downingtown Area Recreation Consortium (DARC) Fall Brochure has been mailed and includes details for programs that will run until mid-December. Some of the programs offered this fall include: After School Science clubs, various exercise classes, online courses, yoga, scrap-booking, crochet, dance, as well as numerous youth sports programs (basketball, beginner golf lessons, ice skating & ice hockey).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH:

DARC will be offering a Breakfast with Santa at Old Country Buffet (Brandywine Square, Downingtown) on Saturday, December 9th. First seating will be at 8:30am and the second seating is 10:00am. Pre-registration is required. Contact the DARC office for more info at 610-269-9260 or visit their website at www.darcinfo.com where you will find a copy of the brochure and registration form.

SKI AND SNOWBOARD TICKETS:

Pull those skis and snowboards out of your closet and dust them off because winter is just around the corner! DARC offers discount lift tickets to Pennsylvania ski areas including Jack Frost/Big Boulder, Bear Creek, Camel Back, Blue Mountain, and many more! Look for these tickets to become available early to mid-December. Call ahead for availability.

Also, discount amusement park tickets are typically available mid-May through Labor Day. Look for them next summer! ☺

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Phone: (610) 269-9260
Email: darc@kennett.net
Web: www.darcinfo.com

Township Park & Recreation Update



Fall's here and we're gearing up for new activities! The Downingtown Area Recreation Consortium (DARC) and West Bradford Township have a lot of events scheduled for the Fall and Winter. We're also planning for fun in 2007 – Check our website often for updates and additions.

WWW.WESTBRADFORD.ORG

West Bradford Youth Association (WBYA)

For 25 years WBYA has and continues to serve WBT families and the surrounding area with recreational sport programs for children in kindergarten through grade 12. This past year has been a very eventful year for WBYA including installation of a snack bar at the Embreeville fields, Fall Sports Opening Day plus 5K Run/Walk, and a new summer volleyball program. WBYA's long-term goal of improving the Embreeville fields is moving forward.

Sports offered by WBYA are Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Indoor Soccer, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Street Hockey, and Volleyball. We'll see you on the fields!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

PO Box 98, Downingtown, PA 19335
Phone1: (610) 486-0525
Phone2: (610) 344-9444
Fax: (610) 486-0487
Email: wbya@icdc.com
Web: www.wbya.org

West Bradford Park Schedules

All West Bradford Township parks are open from sunrise to sunset. Those persons not using the lighted facilities must leave the parks at sunset. However, both Broad Run and Shadyside Parks have lighted tennis courts, hockey rinks, and basketball courts. People using any of these lighted facilities may do so until the activity lights go off. At that time the park is closed for those activities as well. The tentative schedule has the lights at those facilities remaining on until 9:30pm (April–November) and until 7:30pm (December–March). These times are subject to change due to weather conditions.

Summer & Fall Events 2007

The WBT Recreation Commission is planning more than a dozen events for 2007—look for information on our website early next year. To continue to provide these events free of charge to everyone—residents, families, and friends—the Recreation Commission is currently seeking sponsors to help offset the costs to the Township. **We'd like to thank the following groups that helped to sponsor the 2006 events: Comcast, PA Council on the Arts, Commerce Bank, VisionQuest, PECO/Exelon, Haverford Systems, On-Site Marketing, Mr. & Mrs. Jack M. Hines, Jr., and the Nappi Family.**

IS YOUR COMPANY OR FAMILY INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR?

Please contact the Parks Director.
Phone: 610-269-4174
Web: parks@westbradford.org


West Bradford Day 2007

Mark your calendars now for West Bradford Day 2007 on Sunday, May 20, 2007.

Marshallton Streetscapes Update

Continued from Cover

The remaining meetings on the project will be spent discussing the “look” of these improvements and how to fit them into the village. Actual design work will then begin along with the application for grant monies to undertake the work.

Much of the success of, and timeline for, the project depends on the availability of grants and ultimately the cooperation of PennDOT—who owns the main roads in the village. 



Above: Various Improvements from around Marshalltown

What is Your Sign?

ALMOST WEEKLY THE TOWNSHIP STAFF RECEIVES A REQUEST FROM SOMEONE TO HAVE THE TOWNSHIP INSTALL A SIGN ON A ROAD IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD. These requests include everything from stop signs, school bus signs, various speed control signs, and signs for animal crossings. Everyone believes that if they request a sign it can appear and be placed as they wish.


Actually, there is a process to follow and decisions must be made in the placement of any sign along a street. Often the decision can be made only if certain conditions exist. If every municipality determined the rules for street signage individually, particularly traffic signs, it would be impossible for motorists to follow the signs. Because of this there are uniform manuals for street signage. These State manuals manage the size, use, placement and color of street signage. When the manuals are followed the expectation is that motorists will have a better understanding of the use of the sign wherever they go.

For example, stop signs are hexagonal in shape, red in color, can only be used to stop traffic before it enters a through street. They must be a certain width based

upon the type of road it is located on, and must be a certain height. Stop signs cannot be used for speed control and, if a 4-way stop is proposed, it must meet certain criteria. Those criteria for a 4-way stop cannot be met at all intersections. All other signage must meet similar regulations.

Too many signs on a street are just as harmful as not having the proper signs. Many times motorists do not pay close attention to signage when they are familiar with a road. Recently a study was initiated in a major city to remove all traffic control signs from a section of roadways so that motorists will have to think for themselves and thereby pay more attention to what they are doing. Early results show that the test is working.

Only after review and study, as well as following prescribed regulations, will signs be erected after a request is received. A careful balance must be made between doing what someone believes will be helpful and doing something that has proven to be helpful (and follows prescribed methods for use).

Safety is an important concern of our citizens, our elected officials and our employees; and making sure that additional signage will not have an effect that is opposite what is desired is paramount when making decisions on new or additional advisory or traffic control signage. 

Mechanics' Liens in Pennsylvania— What You Need to Know

MECHANICS' LIENS were first established in Pennsylvania in the early 20th Century. They were intended to be a way for a tradesman to secure payment for unpaid work (labor and materials) that was done to a property. They allow for a lien to be placed on a person's property who has not paid for improvement work that has been completed. The lien can then be executed, sometimes resulting in seizure of personal property to pay the claim holder.

Due to unusual nature of the law, the fact that it's rarely used and that customary lien filing procedures differ from those of mechanics' liens—many honest residents can run afoul of it. Instances have occurred where a homeowner has paid the contractor for work completed, but the contractor hasn't paid his subcontractors or materials suppliers. The subcontractors or materials suppliers then have used the law to put a lien on an unsuspecting property owner. A claim can be filed against a property before the owner is provided written notice. Once this legal process gets started it is very difficult, costly, and time consuming to resolve.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO LIMIT THE POSSIBILITY OF A MECHANICS' LIEN BEING FILED AGAINST YOU WHEN HAVING WORK DONE:

- 1 | Select a reputable contractor and verify his/her references;
- 2 | Make arrangements to pay the contractor's materials suppliers and subcontractors directly; or
- 3 | Request that the contractor and/or their subcontractors sign a written, legal waiver stating that they will not file a lien.

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**MIXED PAPER
RECYCLING TIPS:**

- 1 | Keep a container next to your computer for unwanted paper. If you have to sort it or take it to another location you are not likely to recycle it.
- 2 | Keep a paper bag next to your trash can to place paper for recycling when placing other items for disposal.
- 3 | Be familiar with the items that can be recycled and tell other family members what they are.
- 4 | Ask one of your children to be the recycling monitor so that they can help everyone to recycle properly.

Recycling Mixed Paper

What is mixed paper and how should it be handled for recycling?


MIXED PAPER IS INCLUDED WITH THE ITEMS THAT ARE PICKED UP FOR RECYCLING AT CURBSIDE.

Mixed paper includes newspaper and the following items: phone books, magazines, catalogues, brochures, mail (including junk mail), envelopes (with windows is acceptable), paper bags (clean and empty and without a plastic bag over them), books (as long as any hard cover is removed), light cardboard such as cereal boxes, macaroni, spaghetti and similar boxes (do not include any boxes that are corrugated), office paper (includes miscellaneous home, office and school paper; such as copy, fax, computer, tablet, construction paper, post-it notes, flyers and folders).

Corrugated cardboard is not an item that is presently picked up at curbside. It cannot be placed with your paper for recycling. It can be taken to Accurate Recycling at the corner of Boot Road and Rt. 322 in Downingtown to be recycled. If you do not recycle cardboard (corrugated), you can place it in your toter for disposal. This may require some dismantling or cutting of the box.

With West Bradford Township doing the collection of refuse and recyclables in the very near future, we are working to provide a curbside collection of cardboard. However, that is not in place at the present time. Please watch the newsletter or our website for details of when and how a corrugated cardboard collection program will be started and operated.

Place paper for recycling in brown paper bags. Tie newspapers with string if not in a paper bag. Paper is placed at curbside either next to or on top of the other items in your recycling bin. The paper is separate from all of your other recycled items. If there is a plastic bag over the brown paper bag when placed at curbside, please remove the plastic bag and place it in your trash container or save it for return to the supermarket.

Items that are unacceptable for paper recycling are: Tissues, towels, napkins, wax paper, milk cartons, juice boxes, food-contaminated paper, frozen food boxes, pet food bags, carbon paper, hard covers of books, photographs, plastic envelopes (Tyvek), plastic bags, disposable diapers and other non-paper items. 



Did You Know? [Answer]

from page 2:


JOHN SUGAR HAD A SPINNING WHEEL "FACTORY" near the current day intersection of Hall Road and Downingtown Pike.

His clients included many notable West Bradford residents and some from Downingtown and West Chester.



Above: Sugar's "spinning wheel factory" was located just north of Sugar's Bridge crossing the East Branch of the Brandywine. Part of the foundation could still be seen during the 1940's.

Continued from Page 6

Pennsylvania's Mechanics' Lien Law of 1963 can be found at Purdon's Pennsylvania Statutes Annotated, 49 P.S., Section 1101-1902. This is available at the Chester County Law Library in West Chester or a copy can be read at the Township Building. This article is not intended to provide legal advice but rather to inform our residents about a little know law that may affect them if they are not careful. 

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WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP

"Between the Brandywines"

Municipal Calendar

— OCTOBER —

Stems to Remember

MARK YOUR ITEMS OF INTEREST IN THE BOX TO THE LEFT

— NOVEMBER 2006 —

Stems to Remember

MARK YOUR ITEMS OF INTEREST IN THE BOX TO THE LEFT

— DECEMBER 2006 —

Stems to Remember

MARK YOUR ITEMS OF INTEREST IN THE BOX TO THE LEFT

OCTOBER			NOVEMBER 2006			DECEMBER 2006		
3	Planning Commission Work Session	8:00pm	3	Leaf Collection Day 🍁		1	Leaf Collection Day 🍁	
7	Hazardous Household Waste Collection (HHW & Computers) Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester	9:00am-3:00pm	6	Planning Commission Work Session	8:00pm	5	Planning Commission Work Session	8:00pm
10	Board of Supervisors Business Mtg	8:00pm	7	General Election Day	Closed	12	Board of Supervisors Business Mtg	8:00pm
12	Historical Commission Mtg	7:30pm	9	Historical Commission Mtg	7:30pm	14	Historical Commission Mtg	7:30pm
16	Recreation Commission Mtg	7:30pm	14	Board of Supervisors Business Mtg	8:00pm	15	Leaf Collection Day 🍁	
17	Planning Commission Formal Session	8:00pm	17	Leaf Collection Day 🍁		18	Recreation Commission Mtg	7:30pm
24	Board of Supervisors Subdivision Mtg	8:00pm	20	Recreation Commission Mtg	7:30pm	18	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Mon Customers	
25	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Weds Customers		21	Planning Commission Formal Session	8:00pm	19	Planning Commission Formal Session	8:00pm
26	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Thurs Customers		23	Thanksgiving Holiday	Closed	19	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Tues Customers	
30	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Mon Customers		27	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Mon Customers		25	Christmas Holiday	Closed
31	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Tues Customers		28	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Tues Customers		26	Christmas Holiday	Closed
			28	Board of Supervisors Subdivision Mtg	8:00pm	27	Board of Supervisors Subdivision Mtg: [Tentative]	8:00pm
			29	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Weds Customers		27	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Weds Customers	
			30	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Thurs Customers		28	Refuse/Large Item Pickup: Thurs Customers	