



TOWNSHIP NEWS

Dear Residents:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I hope that this message finds you and your families in good health and spirit. As we head into the fall, activities abound across the Township. The Township's 9th annual Family Fun Day returns this year and will take place on Saturday, October 2nd from 12-3pm at the upper parking lot of Strath Haven Middle School. Volunteers are always welcome and are still needed. I hope to see you at this ever-popular event!

The Township is once again hosting a Halloween decorating competition. Get into the spirit of Halloween by decorating the outside of your house and your yard. Prizes will be awarded for the best-decorated houses in the Township. The spookier the better! On a less scary note, construction of the much-anticipated East Possum Hollow Road sidewalk is scheduled to begin in October. This project will greatly improve pedestrian access between Providence Road, the Wallingford Train Station and the Furness Park trail.

As the leaves begin to fall, the Township's public works department will begin its curbside leaf pickup program. This year, the Township has instituted a leaf pickup schedule in an effort to provide residents with more certainty about when to expect leaf pickup. More information about leaf collection follows in this newsletter. Please give a big thanks to your public works employees who brave the elements to keep our streets clear.

The Township is fortunate to have two 100% volunteer fire companies--Garden City Fire Company and South Media Fire Company. Please watch your mailbox for their annual fund drive letter. Your support is greatly appreciated!

I would like to extend a special acknowledgement to the CAT (Citizens Against Trash) Club of Nether Providence. The CAT Club is a volunteer group working towards a litter free community. Thank you for making a noticeable difference in the cleanliness of our town!

Lastly, the Board of Commissioners meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The Board welcomes questions, comments and suggestions from residents on all issues.

With kind regards,
Matthew Garson
Vice President, Nether Providence Township Board of Commissioners



In this newsletter:

Township News

Park Updates

In The Community

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Environmental Advisory
Committee

Township Business

Board of Commissioners

TOWNSHIP EVENTS

Family Fun Day

Mark your calendars for a day of family fun! October 2nd 12pm-3pm
Strath Haven Middle School.

Click the link to sign up to volunteer:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044da4a723a6fd0-9thannual>
Volunteer time will count for "service hours" for teens!



2nd Annual

The Nether Providence Halloween Decorating Contest



Calling all Halloween fans! Show us your love for Halloween by decorating the outside of your house, yard, etc. Prizes will be given for the best-decorated houses in the Township. The spookier, the better!

Judging will take place the week of October 25th. Winners will be notified by letter by October 30th. *

1st Prize: \$100 gift card

2nd Prize: \$50 gift card

3rd Prize: \$25 gift card

*Must live within Nether Providence Township. We'll try to find all locations, but to be sure we'll see your house, send a note to mprice@netherprovidence.org.

**Get in the
Halloween
Spirit and
win!**

TOWNSHIP EVENTS

Township Building Dedication: Gary Cummings

At the July 22nd Board of Commissioners Meeting, former Township Manager, Gary Cummings, was honored for his many years of dedicated service to the Township. Mr. Cummings retired in 2020, and he was instrumental in many changes to the Township over the last 40+ years, including the acquisition of open space for Furness and Houston Parks. To honor Mr. Cummings, the Township's administrative offices have been named after him.

We're grateful for his time and service, and we wish him a very enjoyable retirement!



PARKS UPDATES

Furness Park Dedication

Thank you to everyone that came out and celebrated the dedication of Furness Park. If you haven't walked this beautiful trail, check it out! As you walk, please notice the handmade benches by local Boy Scouts as you enjoy the lush green scenery.



Martha Burton Park Dedication - July 31st

What a beautiful sunny day it was for the Martha Burton Community Park Dedication. We're proud that Martha Burton was able to attend. She made a significant impact on the community, and we thank her for all she has done for the community.

Thank you to everyone that helped make it a special day.





The Thomas Leiper House

The Township's historic 1785 Thomas Leiper House is open Saturday and Sunday afternoons, 1 to 4 p.m. into December. Guided tours show you a beautifully restored and furnished home and tell you about the Leiper family's influence in Nether Providence through the generations. Suggested donations - \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for children. No reservations needed. Just stop in.

Located at 521 Avondale Road in Wallingford, there is a parking lot next to the property. We hope you'll be able to stop in for a visit to see some of the Township's history firsthand!





Helen Kate Furness Free Library

Fall events and programs:

Remembering 9/11: Twenty Years Later (all ages)

The exhibit is located on the upper level and will be available through the end of September.

Dungeons & Dragons: Ramp Up Your DM Skills (teens)

Music on the Lawn: Last Chance (all ages)

Toddler Tales: Autumn Series

Preschool/Kindergarten Stories: Autumn Series

PAWS for Reading in Person! (6 and up)

Book Date with Helen Kate (adult book discussion)

For more information please visit

<https://www.hkflibrary.org/programs/>



PUBLIC WORKS

Leaf Collection Schedule

Beginning in fall 2021, the Township will implement a scheduled leaf collection. In the past, Public Works completed leaf collection on every street approximately once every two weeks. That afforded Township employees flexibility to deal with emergency needs, weather delays, and varying leaf volume. But that process left residents guessing when their leaves would be picked up. The new schedule builds in buffers to manage disrupting factors while allowing residents to better plan their leaf clean-up and curbside disposal. The 2021 leaf pickup schedule is below.

A graphic titled "New curbside leaf collection schedule" with a background of autumn leaves and a tree trunk. It contains a list of collection weeks and wards, flanked by two red maple leaves.

New curbside leaf collection schedule

Please have leaves out by 7 AM on the Monday morning of your collection week. Collection will take place during that week.

- Week of 10/18 – Wards 2,3,4
- Week of 10/25 – Wards 1,5,6,7
- Week of 11/8 – Wards 2,3,4
- Week of 11/15 – Wards 1,5,6,7
- Week of 11/29 – Wards 2,3,4
- Week of 12/6 – Wards 1,5,6,7
- Week of 12/13 – final pass through all wards (1,2,3,4,5,6,7)

Thank you in advance for your patience as the Township works to implement the schedule. There will be miscalculations and mistakes along the way. We will learn from them. Please thank your Public Works Department employees who brave the cold, rain, and snow to collect leaves.

Yard Waste

Yard Waste (except grass clippings, vines/ivy, and weeds), leaves in biodegradable bags (NO PLASTIC BAGS) and bundled sticks will be collected by the Township Public Works Department the second Tuesday of each month. You MUST call the Township in order to get on the list to have your yard waste picked up. Simply call 610-566-4516 Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM and provide your address. Call early as pick-ups can fill up! Drop-offs will be permitted from 8 AM to noon on the first Saturday of the month and Mondays and Tuesdays from 8 AM to noon each week.

POLICE/ PUBLIC SAFETY

Accreditation

David M. Splain Chief of Police

July 21, 2021



It is with great pride to announce that the Nether Providence Township Police Department recently earned the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission's "Accredited Status" at the 108th annual Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Education and Training Conference on July 20th. The "Accredited Status" is the culmination of more than five years of hard work and dedication on the part of the men and women of the Nether Providence Police Department. With this recognition, the Nether Providence Police Department becomes the 5th police department in Delaware County (42 Departments) and the 133rd police department in the State of Pennsylvania (1117 departments) to be awarded "Accredited Status".



Nether Providence Township Fire Department Annual Fund Drive

For Nether Providence Township and Rose Valley Borough Residents



Please watch your mailbox for our annual fund drive letter in support of Nether Providence Township Fire Department - Garden City and South Media Fire Companies. We are 100% volunteer, 100% of the time. We appreciate your support. For more information or to donate, go to npfire.org.

FIRE SAFETY MONTH

**Fire Prevention Week is October 3-9,
2021!**

Click for more helpful information and video's



Put your Halloween
Costume on, grab a bite to
eat and help support
Garden City Fire Company!
October 23
12-4 PM

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE- EAC



Composting 101

The Nether Providence Township Environmental Action Committee (EAC) encourages everyone to compost, but if you've never done it before, it can be intimidating and confusing. Here's a few thoughts to help get you started.

What is composting?

We all recycle already - cardboard, plastics and more, so it seems kind of strange that the food and organic material inside those items doesn't get recycled too. That's essentially what composting is, recycling the organic matter that comes in the containers you recycle too! Everything that grows decomposes - the leaves in our backyard, the apples on the trees - and becomes the fertile, nutrient rich soil we use to grow more things. Composting reinserts ourselves into the process.

Does it smell?

Nope! At least if you are a little careful about what you put into it. No meats, no oils, no dairy. As long as you stay away from those things, it won't smell and you won't attract pests.

Why Compost?

According to the EPA food scraps and yard waste make up more than 30 percent of what we throw away! Composting is great for our planet, our gardens and our community. Some of the many benefits to composting include:

- Reducing Household Food Waste
- Reducing methane emissions in landfills
- Creating nutrient rich soil (out of waste!)



Getting started

There are a number of easy ways to get started - from a simple tumbler bin in your yard to a curbside service like Kitchen Harvest. The township will post some links on their website that will help guide you to the best ways you can get recycling. Some of us have been composting for years and there are lots of easy ways to get started that take little or no work - maybe just a little bit of care - and it will go a long way to helping our community reduce waste and improve our community.

The next Delaware County Household Hazardous Waste
Drop off is Oct 16th at

Upper Chichester Municipal Bldg

8500 Furey Rd. Upper Chichester 19061

ALL EVENTS WILL BE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY-

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

<https://delcohhwevents.eventbrite.com/>

ENVIROMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE- EAC

Green Advisors from Swarthmore College on EAC Committee:

GA program Info:

Swarthmore College's Green Advisor (GAs) program is a student-led effort that connects the student population with the college's sustainability goals. Students in the program become community leaders who collaborate with faculty or external partners to work on projects concerning environmental and ecological sustainability. Throughout their tenure, GAs strive to lead by example in hopes of achieving a more sustainable version of Swarthmore College and the community around it. Nether Providence's EAC is excited to work with two students:

Justin Chai:

Justin Chai is a sophomore double majoring in Engineering and Economics with a focus on environmental impact. Hailing from Los Angeles, he's been involved in multiple green energy programs including the University of Michigan-Dearborn's URISE program and UC Irvine's COSMOS, where he worked on renewable energy alternatives in electric vehicles and water filtering, respectively. On campus, Justin is the treasurer of the Swarthmore Questbridge chapter as well as a former intern for the First-Generation Low Income Administration. He enjoys playing basketball, swimming, playing video games, and taking care of his succulents.



Anastasia Erley:

Anastasia is a sophomore on the pre-med track with an intended major in Neuroscience and an intended minor in Environmental Studies. From right around the corner, Anastasia grew up in Garnet Valley where she is working on implementing more sustainable measures within the community (such as informing residents and providing information about composting). On campus, she is a member of the varsity swim team and varsity outdoor track team, is working as a GA, is working as a lifeguard, is finishing up work from her Research Assistant position in the Biology Department from the summer, is interning in a Biology and Psychology lab this fall, is working on starting a club (with a 2 others) that promotes wellness (mental and physical) among athletes, and is partaking in the Chester Semester Program which has an engaged scholarship internship component where she can work directly with residents of Chester to focus on addressing environmental justice issues. She also is a certified EMT and hopes to work as one in Swarthmore Borough when more of her schedule clears up! Some of her other interests include lifting, "petting every dog she sees", hiking, and music. She is very passionate about nature and the environment and is beyond ecstatic to work with us in Nether Providence.



RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE

Ward 1 & 7	Thursdays
Ward 2	Wednesdays
Ward 3 & 4	Tuesdays
Ward 5 & 6	Wednesdays

STORMWATER MANAGMENT

For Cleaner Creeks, Save Fertilizer for the Fall.

tips for stormwater management on your property

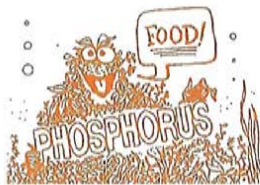
DID YOU KNOW:

- Fertilizers contain nitrogen and phosphorus which wash or leach into our streams and ponds.
- Even small levels of these nutrients can overload ponds or streams, and result in undesirable weed and algae growth. Algae depletes oxygen, killing fish and limiting the diversity of what lives in our streams.

To minimize the impact of lawn fertilization on our streams:

1 Fertilize in the fall.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection discourages spring application of fertilizer because it creates excessive top growth of grass. DEP recommends instead that homeowners **fertilize lawns around Labor Day** and use a second application in late October if needed. Fall fertilization promotes vigorous root growth and prevents fertilizer from leaching into streams and ponds in the spring.



2 Do a soil test and consider phosphorus-free fertilizers.

Phosphorus is typically the limiting nutrient in algae growth. If your phosphorus levels are already adequate, select a phosphorus-free fertilizer. If your property drains to a stream, pond, or reservoir, do not use phosphate fertilizers. Mail-in soil test kits are available from your County Extension Service.



3 Use slow-release and organic alternatives.

Select fertilizers with "slow-release" forms of nitrogen which release more slowly into the soil and are less likely to leach. Choose organic rather than chemical-based fertilizers.



4 Limit application amounts to designated levels, and recycle grass clippings.

Lawns typically require 2.5 - 3 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per year. Recycling grass clippings on your lawn can meet between 25% and 50% of nitrogen needs.

5 Avoid stream edges and stormwater conveyances.

Do not fertilize stormwater basins, or drainage swales leading to basins, or within 25 feet of stormwater basins or streams.

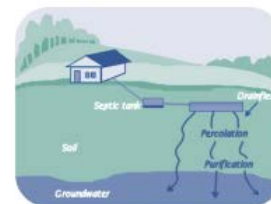
This message is brought to you by your municipality and Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association, www.crcwatersheds.org.
Sources: PA Department of Environmental Protection "Grasscycling: It's OK, to Let it Lay."



TIPS FOR SEPTIC SYSTEM OWNERS

One source of bacterial pollution to our local creeks appears to be pollutants leaking from septic fields. Here is an important checklist for septic system owners to review:

- Do not connect foundation sump pumps or other "clean water" discharges to your septic systems.
- Inspect your septic tanks and any distribution pumps every year. Measure the level of sludge build-up and inspect the baffles for scum. Pump your septic tank at least every 3 years (or sooner as indicated by your annual inspection of the tank).
- Avoid using a garbage disposal.
- Do not pour old medicines or strong cleaning agents down the drain. They will kill beneficial bacteria that break down the waste in your system.
- Keep trees and shrubs at least 35 feet away from your field to prevent roots from plugging or breaking pipes.
- Route surface water drainage and snowmelt away from your absorption field to avoid inundation of your field.
- Locate your absorption field as far away as possible from surface water to reduce its potential of becoming a source of contamination.



Source: Lake Notes, PA Association of Conservation Districts



Township Projects Update

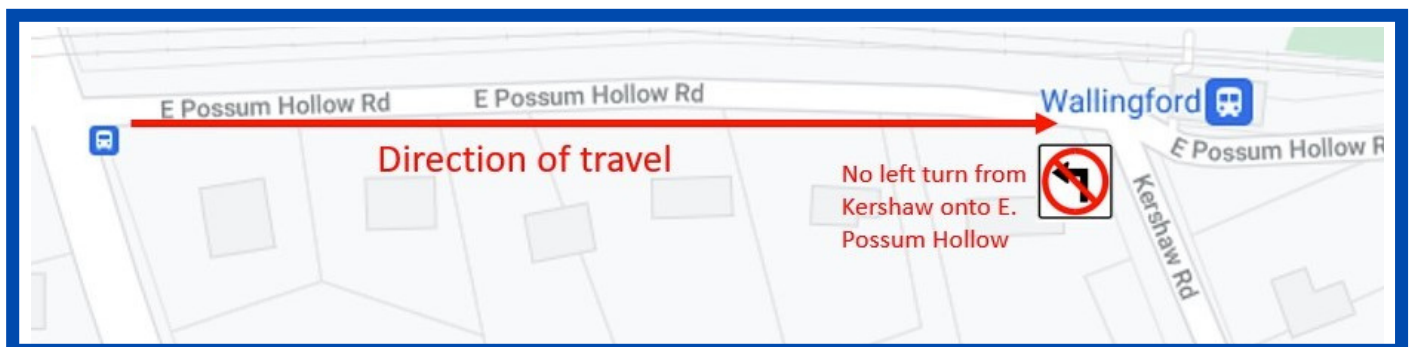
East Possum Hollow Sidewalk Project

The Township will be installing a PennDOT-funded sidewalk on the train-track side of East Possum Hollow Road from Providence Road (Rte. 252) to the Wallingford Train Station. This project will make it safer for people to access mass transit. The project will start on **October 11th and during** the project, East Possum Hollow Road will be one-way. Traffic will only be able to travel eastbound from Providence Road towards the train station and Kershaw Road. The contractor's working hours will be from 7 AM to 3 PM, Monday through Friday. The detour will be removed during the winter months, and it may be necessary for it to be reinstalled in the spring for a month or so. The general construction plan is:

- October 11th – mid-December: sidewalk, curbing, and stormwater pipe installation. Materials and weather depending, the guiderail may be installed.
- March 18th – late April: traffic signal adjustments, ADA sidewalk ramps, and guiderail (if not completed in the fall).

There will be a temporary pedestrian walkway in place during the construction, which is part of the reason for the necessity of the detour.

We know this detour will be an inconvenience, but there will be many long-term benefits to safety and accessibility.





Township Projects Update

East Rose Valley Sidewalk Project

The Township's Engineering Company has been working with PennDOT on the plans for the East Rose Valley pathway project. Unfortunately, PennDOT is requiring several last minute changes, which will mean another design resubmission to PennDOT. Since it is a State funded project on a State Road, the Township has to comply with PennDOT's review comments. This is frustrating as it will push the construction's start date into early 2022. We appreciate everyone's patience, especially the residents along East Rose Valley Road.

The project, which is grant-funded by the State, will extend the existing path near Osborne Lane up to Providence Road. This will create a connection to the Leiper-Smedley Trail for a safer and more walkable area for the residents.

Streambank Restoration - Gouley Park

Nether Providence Township has received grant funding from the State's Watershed Restoration and Protection Program to perform streambank restoration in Gouley Park (the former Summit School). The Township, like all municipalities in PA, is required to prepare a plan to reduce the amount of sedimentation that is going into the streams. This impacts water quality and pollution in the area. Fortunately, this grant will help offset those costs.

The Ambient Group, LLC of Williamstown, NJ was the low bidder for the project, and their work included the clearing of vegetation from the stream, grading and stabilizing the streambank, and the planting of 60 new trees. This will prevent erosion of the streambanks. The erosion of the streambanks is what leads to sedimentation getting into the streams.

Board of Commissioners

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The Board of Commissioners meetings will be live-streamed on YouTube. The stream can be found by searching for "Nether Providence Township" on YouTube or by using this link: [Nether Providence YouTube](#). The meeting also can be watched on TV (channel 5 for Comcast, and channel 37 for Verizon.)



Meetings will be held the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month.



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