

Washington Township Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 2 September 23, 2011

Page 1

Washington Township, Dauphin County
185 Manors Road Elizabethville, PA 17023
Phone: 362-3191 Fax: 362-4110
Email: washingtontownship@wtwp.org
Web Site: wtwp.org



Floods hit Washington Township in 2011

I say floods because twice this spring the Wiconisco Creek overflowed and temporarily closed Washington Township roads.

The spring floods caused extensive damage to Henninger Road and to the Henninger Covered Bridge parking lot as well as various culverts and berms.

The September flood was by far the highest levels the waters of the Wiconisco Creek have been since 1972. At one point the township had the following roads closed, Johns Street, Maple Street, Fisher Road, Matter Road, Henninger Road, Intersection of Henninger, Mill, North & Wolfe Roads, Schaffer Road, Mattis's Mill Road, Feidt Road and Shiffer's Mill Road. The following State Roads were also closed, Route 209 at Loyalton and Church Street.



Vickie's Valley Inn



Loyalton Park after the water level dropped by two feet

The high water is gone but cleanup and repairs continue. At this time all roads are open except Fisher Road, which will remain closed until repairs are made to safely travel the road. We are currently paving a part of Shiffer's Mill Road and a small section of Henninger Road that washed away during the flooding. We have many culvert and berm repairs on township roads that will take weeks to complete.

More flood photos later in the newsletter!

Washington Township
Trick or Treat Night
Monday, October 31st
(6-8 PM)
Be careful crossing the streets.
HAVE A GREAT TIME!

Washington Township Contacts:

Township Supervisors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Jim "Bull" Watson - Chairman	362-3247	12-31-15
Stacey Rudisill—Vice Chairman	319-5495	12-31-13
Dave Barder	362-3158	12-31-11
Benjamin Brown	571-4392	12-31-11
Ron Strohecker	362-9535	12-31-11

Board Secretary — Donna Sitlinger Office — 362-3191

Meeting Dates: First & Third Tuesday of the Month—7PM

Planning Commission Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Laverne Brown Sr. — Chairman	12-31-12
Harold Hoffman — Vice Chairman	12-31-13
Michael Lower — Secretary	12-31-11
Bill Mattern	12-31-11
Gerald Lettich	12-31-14

Contact Number: 362-3191

Meeting Date: First Monday of the Month—7PM

Planning Commission members are appointed by the supervisors and work with the township's engineer to provide advice and recommendations to the supervisors. Some of the duties include recommending Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance changes, review and recommend sub division/land development plans and other duties as outlined in the Municipalities Planning Code. The Planning Commission meets once a month. A member's term is four years. Our goal is to have a diverse board made up of homeowners, farmers, business leaders, etc. All meetings are public and you are encouraged to attend.

Zoning Hearing Board Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Steven J. Harman — Chairman	12-31-12
Steven C. Weller	12-31-11
Shirley Kenno	12-31-13

Vacancy — Alternate	12-31-13
Vacancy — Alternate	12-31-12

Contact Number: 362-3191

Meeting Date: As Needed

Zoning Hearing Board members are appointed by the supervisors as per state law, and their responsibility is to hear appeals to the zoning regulations or the Zoning Officer's decisions and make rulings on the appeals. All members serve three year terms.

Ron Stephens—Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer
Russ Walborn Sr.—Emergency Management Coordinator
Winifred L. Reed—Tax Collector—362-8382
Brian McFeaters—Sewage Enf. Officer—717-813-6492

Washington Township Recreation Board

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Andrew Warfel—Chairman	12-31-13
Kevin Hoch — Secretary	12-31-11
Matthew Stonerod	12-31-12
Terry Bowser	12-31-14
Vacancy	12-31-15

Meeting Date: Third Wednesday of the Month—7PM
 April through October—8PM

Elizabethville Area Authority

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Jeffrey Fetterhoff — Chairman	12-31-15
Dennis Henninger—Vice Chairman	12-31-12
Dominick Balsarick, Jr. (Twp Rep) - Treasurer	12-31-15
Richard Reed (Twp Rep) - Asst. Treasurer	12-31-13
Peggy Kahler—Secretary	12-31-13
Russell Snyder—Asst. Secretary	12-31-14
Ralph McAllister	12-31-11

Contact Number: 362-3582

Meeting Date: Fourth Wednesday of the Month—7:30PM

The Elizabethville Area Authority provides sewer service to Elizabethville Boro, Kocher Lane, State Drive and the following developments in Washington Township—Mountain View Terrace, Green Acres, Pine Acres, Blue Grass Estates and some surrounding homes. Two of the members, Richard Reed and Dominick Balsarick, Jr., are appointed by the Washington Township Supervisors, the remaining five members are appointed by the Elizabethville Boro Council. All members serve five year terms.

Washington Township Authority

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Charles Laudenslager Jr. — Chairman	12-31-14
Craig Smeltz — Secretary	12-31-13
Doris Kauffman—Treasurer	12-31-12
Matthew Buffington	12-31-15
Vacancy -	12-31-11

Contact Number: 362-3191

Meeting Date: Second Tuesday of the Month—7PM

The Washington Township Authority provides sewer service to the village of Loyalton. Members are appointed for five year terms by the Washington Township Supervisors.

ON LOT DISPOSAL SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The ordinance establishing the OLDS (On Lot Disposal Sewage) Management Program requires all on lot sewage disposal systems (also called septic systems) be pumped out by a qualified pumper/hauler one time every five years. This ordinance was established as part of DEP'S approval of the township's ACT 537 sewage plan.

In January of this year, notices were mailed to property owners whose property parcel **middle** number is either 7 or 10. Your property parcel number is included in the address block of this newsletter. *Example: 66-007-001- or 66-010-007.* The notice includes a listing of the property owner's responsibilities involving the requirements of the OLDS program and includes a pumper's report form to be completed and signed by the pumper/hauler of the property owner's choice. The Board of Supervisors asks all property owners to make sure your pumper/hauler completes and signs the pumper's report form and forwards the form to either the township office or you to submit to the township office. All documents for those properties designated to pump out their septic tanks this year are due at the township office by December 31, 2011. All property owners are encouraged to contact the township office on any questions you may have pertaining to this program.

On Lot Sewage System Question or Malfunction?

Call Washington Township's Sewage Enforcement Officer, Brian McFeaters, at 717-813-6492 and he will answer your sewage questions or assist you in resolving your sewage malfunction.

Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

It is fall clean up time. You have found some items that the township will not accept to dispose of during their clean up. Did you know that Dauphin County sponsors a free curbside collection of household hazardous waste to Dauphin County households one time per calendar year? Examples of materials collected include: weed killers, pool chemicals, auto fluids, oil and lead based paint only, old gasoline, antifreeze, etc. To inquire if that old container of material that you have been storing in the basement or shed for years and is taking up valuable space, is accepted for disposal in this program, call the Curbside Program at 1-800-449-7587 - or - submit your request online at curbsideinc.com; click on the residential section, and someone will respond to your request within one working day. In the event your material is acceptable, a collection date will be scheduled, a household hazardous kit will be shipped to your home, and your material will be picked up at your residence.

ZONING/BUILDING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Zoning Permits:

A zoning permit is required for individuals intending to construct any new building, enlarge an existing building, expand or change the existing use of a building. A zoning permit is also required for pools, sheds, decks, signs, temporary structures.

A zoning permit is not required for normal maintenance activities, minor repairs, or alterations which will not change the footprint of a building or structure. Zoning permit applications are available at the township office or website (wtwp.org) or you can call the township office to request an application be mailed to you. Zoning permit applications are reviewed and issued by the Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer who is appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Building Permits:

A building permit is required if you intend to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish, or change the occupancy of a building, or erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, mechanical (including gas and/or propane) or plumbing system regulated by the State Uniform Construction Code. Other projects that require a building permit are pools and spas, attached carports, attached decks or decks higher than 30" above grade, retaining walls over 4' high, fences over 6' high, sidewalks and driveways that are 30" above adjacent grade or placed over a basement or story below.

The State Building Code excludes building permits for carports, detached private garages, greenhouses, sheds - if the structure has a building area less than 1000 square feet and is an accessory to a detached single-family dwelling. Agricultural buildings defined under Section 103 of the UCC Act are excluded from state building code requirements. **These exclusions are not exempt from zoning permit requirements.** A zoning permit application must be filed with Washington Township for the above listed State Building Code exclusions.

Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. has been appointed by the Board of Supervisors to administer and enforce the provisions of the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act 45 of 1999, 35 P.S. §§7210-101-7210-1103. Building permits are issued through Light-Heigel. Any questions pertaining to and/or obtaining an application for a building permit, contact Light-Heigel at 1-800-257-2190 or e-mail permits@light-heigel.com. Building Permit applications are also available on Light-Heigel's website (www.light-heigel.com).

2011 Fall Road Report

Road Signs - Signs are a never ending issue as Penn Dot and/or MUTCD (Federal Requirements) seem to enjoy changing the sign regulations. In the future you will see all new street name signs will begin with a capital letter, then change to lower case letters. Some signs will have to be updated to minimum retroreflectivity requirements established in 2007. Street name and overhead signs must be updated by 2018 and other post mounted signs by 2015. We are also replacing many damaged signs throughout the township.

Drainage – The township replaced pipes & installed culverts on Oakdale Station Road in preparation for chipping this year. The road crew also cut berms to allow the water to drain along side of the roads. Over time dirt and anti skid build up along the roads, this includes rural roads, and roads without curbs in developments. Although this is an inconvenience, it is necessary for safe travel and to extend the life of our roadways.

Tree and Brush Trimming – Trees and brush in residential areas will be trimmed with saws. All trees and bushes, including those in developments, must be trimmed back four feet from the edge of the blacktop. If you do not want the township to trim your trees and bushes, please make sure your trees and bushes are trimmed four feet from the edge of the blacktop and the township will have no reason to trim your trees. Trees and bushes must be kept trimmed away from the roadway to maintain a safe traveling roadway for the public & so our snow removal equipment can plow the streets with out hitting the limbs.

Mail Boxes – On streets with curbs, the front of your mail box may not extend beyond the edge of the curb. On streets without curbs, the front of your mailbox must be four feet from the edge of the blacktop. This allows our snow plows to pass by and maintain a safe traveling roadway for the public. You may not put solid stone structures in the township right of way to hold mailboxes. Penn Dot has also issued safety regulations on the number of mailboxes that may be attached in a row. This is to avoid the row of mailboxes from becoming a projectile.

Surface Repairs - This year the road crew crack sealed the roads that were chipped and addressed various drainage issues. Oakdale Station, Part of Manors Road, Maurer and Ice Pond Roads were seal coated. We paved West Vicki Lane, but were not able to have Steve's Lane ready for paving this year due to the floods and the resulting damage we had to repair this year. We are planning on paving Steve's Lane next year. Due to the flooding this spring and this month, we had to repair various roads, berms and drainage. We are working to complete repairs from the last flood, which will probably take another month. In the spring Henninger Road was damaged and we rough paved and widened the road from the Covered Bridge to Henninger's Meat Market. This was rough paved because we will have this road on our chipping list next year. This last flood damaged a small part of the blacktop on Henninger Road and washed away a section of Shiffer's Mill Road which will be repaired as soon as possible. Fisher Road remains closed until repairs can be made so cars can safely travel it.

Guide Rails— No new installs this year.

Crack Sealing—The road crew will continue crack sealing in the fall.

Street Sweeping – The road crew completed street sweeping the week of April 18th to remove the antiskid from this past winter.

Street Right of Way – The township has a right of way for all township roads. All township roads have a 33' right of way except in developments built since 1970 and new subdivisions, where the right of way is 50'. Older developments and subdivisions have varied right of ways. Please check with the township office if you would like to know the right of way for the township road next to your property.

The purpose of the right of way is to contain the roadway, drainage area and utilities (ie electric, telephone, cable, water, sewer). The right of way also allows the township to keep foliage from growing on or near the roadway, this allows motorists to maintain their lane of travel on the roadway and keep a clear line of site so motorists can make safe turns onto other roads. Please keep this in mind when you plant trees, shrubs, or install a fence on your property. If possible stay out of the right of way, if the utilities need to work on their lines or equipment; or there is an obstruction to the roadway or line of site, your trees, shrubs or fence may need to be removed. If you have a question about installing something in the township's right of way, please call the township office.

This is an aggressive list for this year and we will try to accomplish all our projects. If we do not get to all the projects, they will be completed next year. If you have any questions regarding our road projects, please call the township office for up to date information. The road crew would like to thank the township residents for their patience during our road projects. We have approximately 29 miles of road to maintain and, as in the past, many of you were very helpful by letting us know where trees and limbs were on the roadways or when signs were damaged. Your continued help is appreciated!

We will be working own our road repair list for 2012 in the next few months.

Fall Clean Up

Saturday, October 1st

9 AM – 3 PM

It is that time of the year again. Clean Up Day for Washington Township residents! This is your opportunity to dispose of old, worn out items – or – items you no longer use, and spruce up your property. The township will be accepting:

Large articles & bulk junk: (examples: furniture, hot tubs, mattresses, appliances, exercise machines, fences, wash line posts, etc.)

Electronics: (computers, printers, televisions, etc.) The electronics collected will be delivered to the Dauphin County Recycling Center. All information on hard drives are destroyed by the county's recycler.

Bicycles: If a sufficient number of bicycles are received on Clean Up Day, they will be delivered to a recycler who will refurbish the bikes if needed. The bikes are then donated to disadvantaged children in the Harrisburg area.

Tires: will be accepted for a fee and must be paid at time of delivery. \$2 per tire up to 15"; \$3 per tire up to 17"; \$5 per tire up to 20"; \$12 per tire 21" and above. For tires mounted on wheels add \$1 to each tire.

Items not accepted include: batteries, chemicals, flammable and hazardous materials, household garbage, lawn and garden waste and liquid paints.



2011 Spring Clean up was one of the largest the township has had - 18 tons of disposables, two loads of tires, a truck & trailer load of electronics.

Items will be accepted on Saturday ONLY. Drive to the rear of the township building.

You will be asked to supply a picture ID and the last page of this newsletter that contains your address and parcel number for identification.

The township road crew will be on hand to assist township residents with unloading their items. To make it easier to unload, sort and load your items, in order, by these five categories: electronics, metals, tires, wood and all other items.

Clean Up Day is funded by Washington Township taxpayers and is intended for township residents to be able to dispose of hard to get rid of trash from their properties located in Washington Township. The township will not accept items from the following: individuals that do not own property or reside in Washington Township, contractors work trash, or commercial businesses. Township personnel have the right to reject any items they deem not acceptable for disposal or items from outside of Washington Township.

If you have questions prior to Clean Up Day, call the township office at 362-3191.

COMPLAINTS/REQUESTS "PENNSYLVANIA'S RIGHT TO KNOW POLICY"

The township office receives various complaints/requests from township residents throughout the year. We would like to inform township residents that complaints and requests received at the office are logged in, and are considered township records, which make them available for public inspection under Pennsylvania's "Right To Know Policy".

The Washington Township Board of Supervisors adopted an Open Records Policy as required by Act 3 of 2008. The "Right To Know Policy" is a state law that allows individuals to request copies of township documents deemed public records. All requests for public records must be submitted in writing on a "Right To Know Request Form" provided by the township, and submitted to the township secretary who was designated the Open Records Officer. A full copy of the township's "Right To Know Policy" is posted on the township bulletin board and on the township's website under township Information.

State Issues New Rules for Outdoor Furnaces to Reduce Emissions, Protect Air Quality

Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Township News

Outdoor wood-fired boilers, or OWBs, are becoming increasingly popular for heating homes and water for domestic use and swimming pools. These exterior furnaces are designed to burn clean wood or other solid fuels and are typically installed as stand-alone units or in sheds or garages.

The units are not always popular with neighboring homeowners, however. In fact, the state Department of Environmental Protection, responding to numerous complaints about smoke and other problems with the furnaces, recently published a new rule regulating their use. The regulation will ensure that only the cleanest burning units will be sold in the commonwealth, cutting down on harmful emissions and protecting air quality.

Hazardous smoke

Outdoor furnaces sound harmless enough. After all, people use wood stoves to heat their homes and sit around campfires roasting marshmallows. However, OWBs have proven to be a significant and growing source of fine particulate matter in Pennsylvania.

In 2006, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency amended the national standards for fine particulates, setting the standard at a maximum of 35 micrograms per cubic meter over a 24-hour period. Two years later, all or part of 23 counties in Pennsylvania exceeded the standard.

Fine particulates have been shown to contribute to serious health issues, such as lung disease, asthma, aggravation of respiratory and cardiovascular disease, and even premature death.

Tests conducted by the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management show that the average outdoor wood-fired boiler produces emissions equivalent to those from 205 oil furnaces or as many as 8,000 gas furnaces. Cumulatively, the smallest OWB can emit nearly 1½ tons of particulates each year. Of the estimated 155,000 outdoor furnaces sold nationwide, 95 percent have been sold in 19 states, including Pennsylvania.

Setting the rules

The DEP rule applies to anyone who sells, leases, or distributes an outdoor wood-fired boiler for use in Pennsylvania; anyone who installs an OWB in the state; and anyone who purchases, receives, leases, owns, uses, or operates an outdoor furnace in the commonwealth. The regulation states what kind of OWBs can be sold in the state, where they can be installed, and what can be burned in them.

The rule requires that outdoor furnaces sold in Pennsylvania after May 31, 2011, must be EPA-qualified Phase 2 units, which burn 90 percent cleaner than older units. They must also be installed at least 50 feet from the nearest property line and be equipped with a permanently attached smokestack that extends a minimum of 10 feet above the ground. The rule also dictates what fuels may be used in OWBs, including clean wood, wood pellets, and home heating oil, natural gas, or propane that is used as a supplemental starter fuel.

Non-Phase 2 furnaces purchased up to May 31 must be installed a minimum of 150 feet from the nearest property line and have a smokestack at least 10 feet high. Although DEP's rule does not impose restrictions on when OWBs may be used, townships may impose restrictions that are more stringent than the department's. "A township ordinance cannot be less restrictive than the state regulation," says Ken Reisinger, DEP's acting deputy secretary for air. "That would put the township in direct conflict with the state regulation. If the township ordinance is *more* restrictive, however, it is not in conflict with the state."

Paradise Township in Monroe County, for example, has an ordinance that requires new wood-fired boilers to be installed at least 150 feet from all property lines, rather than the 50-foot requirement in the state regulation.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

The township ordinance also limits the use of OWBs to the period between September 30 and May 1.

College Township in Centre County also has an ordinance that exceeds the state regulations, requiring a setback of 200 feet from property lines, a 15-foot smokestack, and operation limited to September through May. The ordinance restricts OWBs to properties of at least three acres.

Tunkhannock Township in Monroe County requires a 125-foot setback from any occupied dwelling, except those located on the property where the furnace is to be installed, and a 90-foot setback from any road right of way. It also requires a minimum smokestack height of 20 feet, unless the manufacturer recommends a different height.

Compliance and enforcement

Although penalties for violating the regulation can be imposed under the state’s Clean Air Act, the department’s intent is to encourage compliance, rather than inflict punishment, Reisinger says.

“Our first remedy is always to work with people to bring them into compliance,” he says. “Our focus with this new rule is not to ban outdoor furnaces but to make sure people are using the newest, best, and cleanest units. It still allows people to use a renewable, inexpensive resource to heat their homes.

“We’re doing everything we can in the commonwealth to encourage people to improve air quality,” he adds. “This is just another aspect of that effort.”

For more information, call Ron Gray, chief of the Division of Compliance and Enforcement in DEP’s Bureau of Air Quality, at (717) 772-3369. To download a PDF of the final rule for outdoor wood-fired boilers, log onto www.depweb.state.pa.us and type “OWB” in the search field.

** Please note that Washington Township currently does not have an ordinance regulating the use of OWB’s.*



Are you planning to move dirt, plant a tree or install a mailbox? As a property owner it is your responsibility to Dial 811 a few days prior to digging. Your call will be routed to the local One Call Center. Tell the operator where you’re planning to dig, what type of work that will be done, and the local utility companies that will be affected will be notified about your intent to dig. In a few days, your local utility representative will mark the approximate location of your underground lines, pipes and cables, so you will know what is below and be able to dig safely. Remember to call 811 at least three business days prior to the start of your digging project. You’ll avoid injury, expense, embarrassment and a very inconvenient day without electricity and water.

No New Date for County Bridge Repairs

As stated in the April Newsletter, three bridges were slated for repair in Washington Township.

The State bridge on Rakers Mill Road has been removed and replacement is proceeding.

No construction on the County bridges on Feidt Road and Matter Road has begun. The county has not informed the township of any new start time for these construction projects. When construction begins on these bridges, the bridges will be closed to all traffic until the projects are complete.

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTIES

Property owners in Washington Township who currently rent or lease residential properties located in the township are required to provide the township with the addresses of all rental units, and supply the names and addresses of all tenants 18 years and older residing at the rental property. The ordinance requires this information be reported to the township within 60 days of occurrence.

Property owners who currently rent or lease residential properties in the township and did not file a Landlord Report form, or need to update their information of their rental property, such as, any changes in availability of rental units, parcels, new tenants occupying rental property 18 years and older, contact the township office or tax collector to request a Landlord Report form.

Flood of 2011 in Washington Township



Route 209 Looking East into Loyalton



Covered Bridge on Henninger Road



Shiffer's Mill Road South of the Mill



Matter Road Looking East



Schaffer Road at Raker's Mill Road



Intersection of North, Wolfe Mill & Henninger Roads



Reliance Hose Co. #1

Serving Elizabethville Borough and Washington Township



Tropical Storm Lee

The National Weather Service has reported that nearly 14 inches of rain fell on our area between Sunday, September 4th and Thursday, September 8th. This created the worst flooding and road closures since Hurricane Agnes in 1972.

The fire company was requested for aid to provide traffic control and to check several flooded basements at 09:00 am on Wednesday. That was the beginning of an extended response to keep our citizens safe. The fire station had personnel in house continuously for 36 hours from Wednesday morning until late Thursday night. 25 members participated to answer fire & rescue calls while pumping water a total of 20 times from 13 different buildings. Additionally, the company kept track of roads that were closed due to high water and planned ways around those areas in the event of an emergency. At the height of the storm there were 8 roads closed.

Fire Prevention Week is October 9 – 15, 2011

Fire Crew members are preparing to make our annual Fire Prevention Presentations to our citizens. We annually make two visits to the Upper Dauphin Kindergarten classes, two Amish schools, and several visits to Day Care Centers. Additionally we are visited at the station by groups such as the Girl Scouts. Many of our members take vacation time from work to be able to present these programs.



Open House : Come out and meet the crew and see our equipment.

When: Thursday, October 13th

Where: The Fire Station is located at 333 West Main Street in Elizabethville

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 pm Equipment demonstration at 7:00

Refreshments will be available

Fire Safety is No Accident

1. Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
2. Smoke rises; install smoke alarms following manufacturer's instructions high on a wall or on a ceiling.
3. Replace batteries in all smoke alarms at least once a year. If an alarm "chirps," warning the battery is low, replace battery right away.
4. If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out. Never go back inside for people or pets.
5. Call 911 from a neighbor or a cell phone.
6. Draw a home escape plan and discuss it with everyone in your home. Practice the plan at night and during the day With everyone in your home, twice a year.
7. Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
8. Have an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.

Aluminum Cans

Don't forget to give us your aluminum cans. There is a red box for collection behind the station. We appreciate aluminum cans in bags only. Thanks for your support.

Board of Supervisors Update

Street Lights: If there is a street light in your neighborhood that is out, or cycles on and off, call the township office at 362-3191. The township will notify PPL to make the necessary arrangements for repair of the street light. You will need to furnish the township office with the following information: the "5-digit number" that is on a metal plate on the pole facing the street, and street address where the street light is located.

Web Site: Check out the township's web site at wtwp.org. The township's web site contains the entire Washington Township Code of Ordinances. The site also allows you to print permit applications and complete a search of the zoning district of your property.



Grass Height in yards: The Board of Supervisors asks that all property owners maintain the grass in your yard, to a length of 6 inches or less, as a courtesy to neighboring property owners.

Erosion Control: State laws now require individuals to use Best Management Practices on all disturbed land. This means if you are digging out for a driveway or shed, or clear cutting land you must use BMP's to prevent erosion of the land. This is a change from the past where only larger soil disturbances were covered under the states erosion control guidelines. If you are going to dig, please call the Dauphin County Conservation District at 921-8100.

Disposing of Clippings/Flower Pots in Culverts : Residents are reminded that you should obtain permission from any land owner before you dump limbs or grass clipping on their land. Your large piles of clippings will kill the crops or make it almost impossible to plant other crops without cleaning up, or spreading the clippings. **DO NOT** dump clippings or limbs in ditches or culverts. **We have had several culverts blocked by limbs, grass clippings, and flower pots.** This is a major problem on **Steve's Lane and West Bonnie Avenue and Dietrich Road.** Please show some respect for your neighbor and their land!

Recent Ordinances Adopted:

Oil and Gas Exploration: The Washington Township Board of Supervisors recently adopted an ordinance providing for the regulation of oil and gas exploration. The purpose of the ordinance is to provide for the reasonable development of land for oil and gas drilling while providing adequate health, safety and general welfare protections of the township residents.

Amendments to Chapter 27, Part 14 , Sign Regulations of the zoning ordinance. The ordinance amends maintenance and repair of legal non-conforming signs; and prohibiting certain signs,

including moving and flashing signs as defined in the ordinance; signs attached to utility poles, vegetation, or natural objects; portable signs except for a limited period of time for purely charitable or non profit purposes; establishing the size of signs existing on or before December 31, 1996 and documented by a township certificate of sign preexisting zoning as the continuing size for such sign.

Flood Maps: The Board of Supervisors are currently waiting to receive a final letter from FEMA notifying the new flood map is final. The final letter initiates the six-month adoption period. Washington Township must adopt or amend its flood-plain management regulations during this six-month period.

Development Plans:

The Townes at Abbey Meadows: Preliminary approval was given by the Board of Supervisors for a proposed ninety-eight (98) residential townhouse community located on SR 225 approximately 1/2 mile north of the square in Elizabethville east of Klinger Lumber. The start of construction is unknown at this time.



Pine Acres Development Extension: This development is located to the north of the Pine Acres Development. The start of construction is unknown at this time.

Abbey Meadows Development: This development is located on the east side of SR 225 approximately 3/4 mile north of the square in Elizabethville between Klinger Lumber and Mopac. The start of construction is unknown at this time.

Dauphin County Drop Off Recycling Centers: The following materials are accepted at the recycling bins located on the east side of the Lykens Valley Shopping Plaza parking lot: Newspaper/Inserts; Magazines; Catalogs; Telephone Books; Corrugated Cardboard; Aluminum & Bi-metal cans; Plastic Bottles/Containers (#1 & #2) Glass Jars & Containers (Amber/Clear/Green).

There have been many instances in the past year of the bins being full and individuals leaving their recyclable items outside the bins. The Board of Supervisors ask that you do not leave your recyclable items outside the bins. Meetings were held with officials from the office of Dauphin County Solid Waste Management & Recycling and various local officials to resolve this issue. No resolution to address this issue was presented at this time.

If you are unsure of the items that are acceptable for proper disposal or you need recycling information, contact Dauphin County at 717-982-6772. If you see illegal dumping activity taking place at the recycling bins, immediately report to Dauphin County's Enforcement Officer at 717-982-6772.

Halloween Parade Scheduled in Elizabethville Borough



Thursday, October 20, 2011 (7 PM)



Rain Date: Monday, October 24, 2011 (7 PM)

Cash Prizes are awarded in four categories

How is my Property Zoned? The answer is part of your address on this newsletter!

If you look at your address on this newsletter, the first set of numbers listed above your name indicates your tax parcel number. After the parcel number, you will notice a letter or letters that is representative of the zoning district that your property is located in. Multiple letters showing means that your parcel is currently in more than one district.

The letters represent the following districts: **A** Agricultural **R-1** Residential District (Low Density) **R-2** Residential District (Medium-High Density) **C** Commercial District **LI** Light Industrial **CN** Conservation District **F** Floodplain Management District **V** Village District **MR** Mineral Resource Recovery District

If your parcel does not have a letter on it, please call the township office for your zoning district, or if there is an **NL** - the county has No Location on their maps for this parcel.

You may call the township office for assistance or if you feel the zoning is listed incorrectly on this newsletter.

Stray or Problem Dogs?

A stray dog is on your property and won't leave, your neighbors dog is always in your yard, walkers are allowing their dogs to do their business on your yard, a neighbors dog is barking day and night. These are some of the complaints the township office receives from township residents. If you have an issue with a dog, the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement may be able to assist you with resolving your issue. State Dog Warden's will check licensing, conduct rabies checks, investigate dog bites, and investigate dogs that are not under reasonable control of the owner/handler. The State Dog Warden does not investigate barking dogs and will refer you to contact the municipality you live in. Washington Township does not have a dog enforcement ordinance and in most cases will refer you to contact the state dog warden or ask you if you contacted the owner of the dog to re-

Residents Needed to Serve on Various Boards

The Washington Township Board of Supervisors is currently seeking township residents to fill the following board vacancies:

- ❖ **Washington Township Authority** currently has one vacancy. The Authority serves the sewage needs of the Loyaltown area. The Authority meets the second Tuesday each month.
- ❖ **Zoning Hearing Board** currently has two vacancies for alternate members. The Zoning Hearing Board hears appeals to the township's zoning ordinance and Zoning Officer decisions. Hearings are held as needed.
- ❖ **Recreation Board** currently has one vacancy. The Recreation Board oversees recreation activities & sites in the township. The Recreation Board meets the third Wednesday each month.

Residents interested in serving on any of the above boards, are encouraged to stop by or call the township office at 362-3191 to obtain more information.

solve the issue. To register a complaint with the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement online go to www.agriculture.state.pa.us website and fill out a dog law complaint form. In order for your complaint to be properly investigated in a timely manner, complete all the information on the form. If you would rather speak to someone, the state dog warden currently assigned to Dauphin County is Natahnee Shrawder who can be contacted at 717-564-1680. In the event the dog warden is not available, contact the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement at 717-787-3062.

Pennsylvania Dog Law requires all dogs must be under reasonable control of you as owner or a handler. Dogs are personal property and owners are responsible for the damages incurred by their dog.





Washington Township,
Dauphin County
185 Manors Road
Elizabethville, PA 17023

Presorted Std. Mail
US Postage Paid
Elizabethville, PA 17023
Permit Number 8



Washington Township Municipal Building

Address Service Requested



**ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY
November 8, 2011**



The most important job as an “AMERICAN” - VOTE
Polls are open at the township building on Manors Road 7 AM – 8 PM