

# TOWNSHIP TIMES

News and Information for Residents of West Donegal

*Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*

Website: [www.wdtp.com](http://www.wdtp.com)

FALL/WINTER 2017



## Welcome Justin!

West Donegal Township would like to welcome the newest member of our Road Department.

Justin Barnes has been hired as an Equipment Operator. He resides in West Donegal Township with his wife, Shannon, son, Noah, and daughter, Larissa. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, and the outdoors.

His background includes operating farm equipment and working on a paving crew for 9 years. Also over the last 11 years, Justin has served with the Rheems Volunteer Fire Department with his current position as captain.

## BOARD OPENINGS

Would you like to be more involved in local government and your community? West Donegal Township is currently looking to fill two vacant board positions. If you are interested in either of the openings, please drop off your resume at the Township building or call 717-367-7178 with any further questions.

**Elizabethtown Area Water Authority Board Member** – There is a vacancy on the Elizabethtown Area Water Authority (EAWA) Board. EAWA's mission is to provide water in a safe, healthy, reliable manner, at a cost-effective rate, which ensures reasonable fairness for all parties and protects long-term investment and capital needs. The new board member would serve a 4-term. The meetings are held at 6:30 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at the Elizabethtown Area Water Authority building. The member must be a resident of West Donegal Township. For more information about this position, please visit our website.



**Planning Commission** – As of January 1, 2018, the Township will have a vacancy on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is responsible for reviewing new plans for developments coming into the Township, updating the Zoning Ordinance, and attending meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Township building. This is a 4-year term. The member must be a resident of West Donegal Township and willing to participate in the meetings, events, and decisions of the Planning Commission.



### WEST DONEGAL TOWNSHIP

One Municipal Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022  
Phone (717) 367-7178 • Fax (717) 367-8982

**OFFICE HOURS** - Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



## Trick or Treat



Tuesday,  
October 31, 2017  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

## The Summer of Detours

By the time you receive this newsletter, the majority of road and bridge work by the Township and State contracts will be completed. We thank you for your patience and understand the frustrations of the summer as we also waited in traffic and detours.

The Township has one project which will be completed in late September or early October. A surface treatment will be placed on Bossler Road from Maytown Road to Bainbridge and Amosite Roads to Turnpike Road. The same surface treatment will occur on Amosite road from Bainbridge Road to Bossler Road



## Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)

West Donegal Township has completed the MS4 permit application with a submission in September to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). A permit from DEP is anticipated in spring of 2018 and will extend 5 years. The purpose of the MS4 plan is to reduce impacts of sediments, nitrates and phosphorus in local streams. The reduction of impacts to local streams also provides reduction in the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. West Donegal Township will provide reductions of the pollutants with a stream bank restoration project during the 5-year permit period.

Information will be available from the Township providing landowners recommendations for participation in the required reductions of the pollutants. Together we can meet the requirements of the permit and provide protection of our stream channels.

If you have questions or desire to see the prepared plan, contact the Township office.



## Winter Weather

Winter will be here before we are ready. The Road Department is fully staffed, subcontractors in place, ready for ice or snow storms that occur this winter. The following rules and guidelines apply during storm events.

- \* During snow removal operations the removal of vehicles from streets and cul-de-sacs allow safety for employees and less items to avoid during the clearing operation.
- \* During snow removal operations, it is unlawful to deposit snow or ice on Township roads/streets, whether or not such road/street has been plowed. Large piles of snow from driveways and sidewalks hinder snow plowing operations.
- \* As winter approaches, please remove trailers, campers, boats, unregistered vehicles and basketball hoops and poles that are currently on Township roads/streets. The reduction of hazards on the streets should be the goal of all residents.
- \* Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks shall occur within 12 hours after a storm ends. A path shall be cleared at least 30 inches in width. In the event that the snow and/or ice on a sidewalk becomes so hard that it cannot be removed without damage to the sidewalk sand or other abrasive material shall be placed to make travel reasonably safe as soon as weather permits. The Township will continue to enforce this regulation. Any violation will involve a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,000 and will include the costs of prosecution. These fines will be accrued **per day**.
- \* Should the Township or State close a road based on weather conditions, we ask that all motorists follow and obey whatever we are asking you to do. The signs were put there because in this portion of the roadway there is a safety issue and we need to keep motorists off the road. If you see a road closed sign, please do **NOT** remove the sign or go around it. Find a safer route to get wherever you are going. It may be an inconvenience for you, but think safety - keep you, your family and other motorists and roadway workers safe.

The Road Department would like to remind residents that the Township roads are plowed in the following order:

1. Main Roadways (Snow Emergency Routes)
2. Secondary Roadways
3. Developments
4. Cul-de-sacs



If you have any issues/questions regarding snow removal on Township roads call the Township office at (717) 367-7178.

PennDOT is responsible for plowing the State-maintained road. If you have any issues regarding winter weather conditions/operations on these roads, contact PennDOT at (717) 299-7621 with any problems or concerns. The following roads are maintained by PennDOT:

- \* Anchor Road
- \* Bainbridge Road (Route 241)
- \* Maytown Road (Route 743)
- \* Harrisburg Avenue
- \* Turnpike Road
- \* Market Street (North & South) (Route 230)



What happens if a plow or truck damages my mailbox while plowing the roadways? If your mailbox is damaged by a Township plow or truck, contact the Township office. Your request will be reviewed by management. Do keep in mind that the Township is not responsible for any mailboxes damaged by snow flying off the plow.

We appreciate your continued cooperation in helping us keep everyone safe during our winter weather operations.

## West Donegal Township Past to Present Part 8

(An ongoing saga of West Donegal Township by Mary Conrad)

In 1738 the old Harrisburg to Lancaster turnpike was bringing prosperity to the Donegal Township area. Good roads were very important. Roads were crucial for businessmen shipping goods and farmers taking produce to market. Commerce depended on transportation networks.

In 1810 another turnpike was built from Falmouth to Elizabethtown, just below Falmouth on the Susquehanna River, boats could not navigate the Conewago Falls and continue down river with their goods. Freight was unloaded from boats and placed on wagons which traveled the new turnpike to Elizabethtown and on to other markets. Business was very good. For the next few years, lines of twenty to thirty Conestoga wagons and stage coaches could be seen along the turnpike.

Newville was laid out by Paul Yentz after completion of the turnpike. Newville was located two miles west of Elizabethtown and in the vicinity of an old trading post built circa 1732. This



was the first building to be built in the Newville area. Fifty years prior to the new turnpike, trading with the Native Americans took place here until the Native Americans decided to resettle in the Shamokin area for better hunting.

Paul Yentz laid out 252 lots (circa 1810). After this tract was plotted, building operations began but only lasted a few years. In 1814 this highway was practically

abandoned due to the construction of a canal on the east side of the Susquehanna River. The success of the canal system all the way to the Chesapeake Bay took the river trade away. The turnpike was little used.

The 1864 Bridgen's Atlas of Lancaster County lists Newville as consisting of 25 houses, barns and other buildings. In time the country through which the road passed became settled and the practically deserted turnpike became of service again. We now call this route Turnpike Road.



### Trimming Trees

Trees and bushes are wonderful additions to any property, but it is important that they don't become safety hazards to vehicles and pedestrians. To help keep sidewalks and roadways safe, please follow the specifics listed below when trimming trees and bushes on your property.

- There must be at least **14 feet** of clear space between the lowest branches of the tree and the surface of the **street**.
- There must be at least **8 feet** of clear space between the lowest branches of the tree and the surface of the **sidewalk**.
- No tree or bush may encroach the sidewalk or street and block travel. All branches must be trimmed back beyond the edge of the sidewalk or street.

### Mandatory On-Lot Septic Pumping

A part of the Act 537 Plan approval by DEP, West Donegal Township has implemented a mandatory on-lot septic pumping and inspection. The pumping and inspection of an on-lot disposal system on a regular basis will help extend the life of the system.

Property owners in Pumping District No. 1, the area north of Turnpike Road must comply with the regulations regarding on-lot pumping and inspection by August 1, 2018. A letter and the required form were mailed to each property owner. If you believe we missed your property or you require a form, please contact the Township.

Starting August 1, 2018, Pumping District No. 2 will have one year to comply with the requirements. The property owners will be notified via a letter and required form. If you have any questions on this regulation, please call the Township office.

### Daylight Savings Time

**Don't forget to change your clock back 1 hour as daylight savings time ends on November 5, 2017 at 2:00 am.**





# Clip & Save



## White Goods & Tire Curbside Pick Up

Saturday, October 14

All white goods and tires must be tagged and placed curbside the night before collection. Tags cost \$12.00 per white good and \$3.00 per passenger car or motorcycle tire and must be purchased at the Township office. If you have tires larger than a passenger car or motorcycle tire contact the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority at (717) 397-9968 for disposal of these items.



## Woody Waste and Yard Waste Collection

Woody Waste and Yard Waste will be collected every other Tuesday or Wednesday from April 11 through October 11 with four collections in the fall through December 6. The Township will continue to pick up yard waste along with leaves. Again, all items must be in brown biodegradable Kraft bags and placed curbside the night before collection. Kraft bags are available at the Township office free of charge. Woody Waste should be bundled with biodegradable twine, not longer than 4' in length and not more than 6" in diameter. These items should be placed curbside the night before collection with your regular trash but will be collected by a separate recycling truck.

**Reminder:** Grass clippings are NOT yard waste. And larger branches are considered woody waste and shall be bundled as specified above. Please use the Kraft bags for only yard waste and leaves.

**Remaining Woody Waste/Yard Waste/Leaf Collection Days are:**

September 12 & 13, 26 & 27  
October 10 & 11

**The Township will be offering four (4) yard/woody waste/leaf collections in the fall:**

October 24 & 25  
November 7 & 8  
November 21 & 22  
December 5 & 6



## Holiday Trash Schedule

**Thanksgiving:** Tuesday, November 21 & Wednesday, November 22

**Christmas:** Wednesday, December 27 & Thursday, December 28

**New Year's Day:** Wednesday, January 3 & Thursday, January 4

## Reminder:

Trash must be in 32-gallon trash bags or cans and weigh less than 30 lbs (**3 bag or can limit**). Plastic containers and bottles include water, juice and soda bottles; plastic clamshells; yogurt containers; and plastic containers and bottles. Also recycle all glass containers, aluminum cans, newspapers, all small cardboard boxes such as cereal, shoes, etc., paper towel rolls (anything similar made out of cardboard), books, magazines, and junk mail. Large cardboard boxes should be flattened and brought to the Township's cardboard recycling roll off dumpster located in the parking lot to the right of the municipal building.



If your trash, recycling or Kraft bags are missed, call the Township office as soon as you know you have been missed, at the latest before 10 a.m. the next business day or preferably leave a message on Wendy's voice mail after 4 p.m. the day of trash pick-up. When you leave a message regarding a missed stop, be sure to include your name, address, and phone number where we can reach you and what was missed.

## White Goods/Tire Pick-up

**West Donegal  
Township's Bi-Annual  
White Good/  
Tire Pick-up**



**Saturday, October 14**

**White Good Tag \$12.00**

**Passenger Car or Motorcycle Tire Tag \$ 3.00**

**All items must be tagged and placed curbside the night before collection.**

**Tags are available at the Township office.**



## News from the Elizabethtown Public Library

Summer was an exciting time at Elizabethtown Public Library, with activities and events for all ages! Miss Jennifer and Meghan had a blast representing the Library at the West Donegal Township National Night Out. They saw a lot of friends from the library (though some didn't recognize Miss Jennifer in her sunglasses) and met some new ones, ate lots of popcorn, played a beanbag toss game, and gave out books. Along with the Second Friday Block Party, it was a great way to wrap up the Summer Reading Program and to celebrate the 1,287 readers who participated.

The warm weather didn't slow things down at Elizabethtown Coffee Company. Customers enjoyed a variety of iced coffee drinks and sweet blended beverages. In addition to offering delicious coffee and snacks, The Coffee Company is a welcoming space to gather with friends. We noticed one group of local gentleman in particular who meet each morning to share coffee and conversation.

There is always something fun happening in Youth Services, and this summer was no exception. Some of our most popular activities were Toddler Time story time and Touch a Truck visits. Toddler Time story time continues this fall and includes motion songs, take home activities, and stories and a craft. Afterwards, the children have time to free play with toys and blocks, while the grown-ups have a chance to chat and mingle. The Library's Touch a Truck program ran from June 13 to August 8 with a different vehicle visiting every Tuesday morning. Participants got to explore the vehicles and talk with real community helpers, like Mike, the EMT who brought the ambulance to visit.

As much as we enjoyed our summer activities, we're so excited for what's coming up! The Library resumes our

school-year Saturdays with hours 9am - 4pm and our year-round weekday hours of Mondays Noon - 8pm, Tuesday - Thursdays 9am - 8pm, and Fridays 9am - 1pm. The Library will also be open from 5:00pm - 8:00pm to join in the Second Friday festivities through the new year. December marks the return of the Train Guys' Holiday Train Display, and Miracle on Market Street, a Christmas Shoppe especially for children ages 4 - 12. Remember to check our calendar - you can find it on our website [etownpubliclibrary.org](http://etownpubliclibrary.org) for information on all upcoming activities and events!

The change of season also means the ExtraOrdinary Give is just around the corner on November 17, 2017. Starting at midnight through 11:59 pm your gift given online at [extragive.org](http://extragive.org) will be stretched by the very generous stretch pool made possible by the Lancaster County Community Foundation, Rogers & Associates, the S. Dale High Family Foundation, and others. You can support the Library at any time from our website or at the Library. Your investment in Library services is income-tax deductible and makes a huge difference in helping people *make their dreams come true!*



**717-367-0355**  
**GetintoGEARS.org**



### Programs & Services Available

Recreation • Child Care • Senior Center • Community Center

 <b>Saturday, Dec 4</b> <b>4 pm</b>	<b>2-Person Scramble</b> <b>Golf Tournament</b> <b>Friday, Oct 6</b> <b>8 am</b> <b>Dauphin Highlands</b> <b>Golf Course</b>	 <b>Saturday, October 28</b> <b>10 am-2 pm</b> <b>E-town Fairgrounds</b>
<b>Senior Center</b> <b>Gift Basket Bingo</b>  <b>Saturday, September 9</b> <b>2 pm</b>  <b>Fall Bazaar &amp; Pancake Breakfast</b> <b>Saturday, Nov 11</b> <b>7 am-1 pm</b> <b>GEARS Community Center</b>		<b>Kids Center</b> <b>For ages 3-12</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preschool</li> <li>• Kindergarten</li> <li>• Summer Camp</li> <li>• Before &amp; After School</li> </ul> <b>717-367-0119</b>
<b>EGGSTRAVAGANZA</b> <b>Save the Date !</b> <b>Saturday, March 31, 2018 @ 10 am</b> <b>E-town Community Park</b>		 <b>Call or go</b> <b>online for</b> <b>details</b>



## Welcome Officer Bergmark



In March 2017, Officer Carl Bergmark was hired fulltime with the Northwest Regional Police Department. Officer Bergmark is a graduate of Elizabethtown

College. Officer Bergmark completed the Municipal Police Academy in 2014 and after graduation worked at Susquehanna Regional Police Department. Officer Bergmark is an outstanding addition to the police department.

## National Night Out

The Northwest Regional Police Department would like to thank everyone who joined us in our annual National Night Out event on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. We look forward to next year's event scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

The Northwest Regional Police Department would also like to thank Cocker's Towing for once again sponsoring the fireworks display at our National Night Out event. The fireworks display ends the event and this year's display was spectacular.



## WE HAVE MOVED!

**The Northwest Regional Police Department has relocated to 8855 Elizabethtown Road. This building was formally the Fairview Elementary School.**



## Rheems Fire Department

The members of the Rheems Fire Department have begun to plan what will be their 100<sup>th</sup> Centennial in 2020. We are looking for any old photos, stories, memorabilia that you or your family members may wish to contribute to our "story." Please reach out to [wfaust@rheemsfire.com](mailto:wfaust@rheemsfire.com) with any information you may be willing to share.

The Fire Department is happy to announce the following dates for our upcoming public events. Autumn Fest will be held Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 4-6pm. The Holiday Fun Fest will be held Friday, December 8, 2017 from 6-8pm and our Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held March 24, 2018 from 10 am to 12 Noon. Keep an eye out for future blood drives as well! You can find out more information about these events on our website at [www.rheemsfire.com](http://www.rheemsfire.com) or you can locate us on Facebook.

Interested in volunteering? In addition to needing firefighters/junior firefighters, there are still needs for assistance in any areas that could include IT, accounting/finance, marketing, legal, community event planning, and more! Contact us at 717-367-1569 for more information!

The Rheems Fire Department is in the Village of Rheems in West Donegal Township, Northwestern Lancaster County. We are staffed at every level 100% volunteer.

## Back to School Safety Tips

### Sharing the Road with School Buses

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

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

- Never pass a bus from behind – or from either direction if you're on an undivided road – if it is stopped to load or unload children
- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus
- Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks

### Reminder for your kids:

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

- They should cross the street with an adult until they are at least 10 years old.
- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Never run out into the street or cross in between parked cars.
- Make sure they always walk in front of the bus where the driver can see them.





## PPL: Don't Fall for Scammers

Phone scammers who impersonate PPL Electric Utilities give themselves away by doing two things the utility doesn't.

The scammers claim they'll cut off power in an hour or two if they don't get paid, and they often pressure you to pay them with prepaid cards. (In reality, PPL gives plenty of notice when there's a possible risk of shutoff, and the company doesn't pressure anyone to use specific payment methods.)

If you get one of these calls, you can always check your account status by logging on at [www.pplelectric.com](http://www.pplelectric.com) or hang up and call 1-800-DIAL-PPL to verify the call.

If you receive a suspicious or threatening call that claims to come from another company – like a gas utility or a bank – do the same thing: Hang up and contact the company directly using a trusted method, like the phone number on your monthly statement or from the company's website.

At PPL, service termination always is a last resort. The utility works with customers to set up payment plans or to enroll customers in income-eligible programs whenever possible. When termination does occur, it's preceded by a formal notification process that involves a letter and phone call, as well as a door posting at the address in question.

Please share this news with your family members and friends, so that they can also watch out for phone scams.



## Fire Prevention Week

October 8-14, 2017

<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week>

**In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.**

That's why this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Here's this year's key campaign messages:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.



## Municipal Primary Voting

- October 10: This is the last day to register to vote before the Municipal Primary Election. Voter registration forms must be received the County Voter Registration Office by this date. Call (717) 299-8293 for more information.
- October 31: Absentee ballots picked up or mailed to requested individuals.
- November 3: All absentee ballots must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than 5:00 p.m. this day.
- November 7: Municipal Election —polls are open continuously between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

The 4 polling places located in West Donegal Township are as follows:

- 1-D Rheems Fire Department  
350 Anchor Road
- 2-D West Donegal Township Municipal Office  
One Municipal Drive
- 3-D Masonic Village  
Freemason Cultural Center
- 4-D Lifegate/Cedar Hill Community Church  
5636 Bossler Road



Your voter registration card should have one of the above codes (ex. 1-D, 2-D, 3-D or 4-D) after West Donegal Township's name to designate the polling facility where you go to vote. If you are a registered voter and unsure of which polling facility to vote at please contact the Voter Registration Office at (717) 299-8293.



**WEST DONEGAL TOWNSHIP**

One Municipal Drive  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022  
Phone (717) 367-7178

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LANCASTER, PA  
PERMIT NO. 1746

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION** **MEETING DATES**

**TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**

- Roger Snyder, *Chairman*. . . . .(717) 367-4416
- Doug Hottenstein, *Vice Chairman* . . . . .(717) 361-9829
- John Yoder III, *Treasurer*. . . . .(717) 682-6367
- Phil Dunn, *Secretary* . . . . .(717) 653-0649
- J. Clair Hilsher, *Member* . . . . .(717) 367-3111

**TOWNSHIP OFFICE**

**Phone: (717) 367-7178**  
**Fax: (717) 367-8982**

**Address: One Municipal Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022**

**Website: [www.wdtp.com](http://www.wdtp.com)**

**TOWNSHIP STAFF**

- Gene Oldham, *Township Manager/Engineer*
- Jennifer Rabuck, *Office Manager*
- Wendy Cain, *Trash/Recycling Coordinator/Administrative Asst*
- Todd Garber, *Roadmaster*
- Wayne Miller, *Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer*

**ELIZABETHTOWN REGIONAL SEWER**

**AUTHORITY (ERSA)** Phone: (717) 367-5947  
235 ERSA Drive, Elizabethtown Fax: (717) 367-4622

**ELIZABETHTOWN AREA WATER**

**AUTHORITY (EAWA)** Phone: (717) 367-7448  
211 W. Hummelstown St, Elizabethtown Fax: (717) 367-7496

**NORTHWEST REGIONAL LANCASTER COUNTY**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** Phone: (717) 367-8481  
8855 Elizabethtown Road, Elizabethtown Emergency: 911

**Board of Supervisors:**

- Regular Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday @ 7 p.m.
- Workshops – 4<sup>th</sup> Monday @ 7 p.m.

**Planning Commission:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 7 p.m.

**Zoning Hearing Board:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.

**Northwest Regional Police Dept.:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 7 p.m.



**Christmas Tree Pick Up**

Christmas tree pick up will be January 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, respectively, depending on your scheduled pick up day. Please place your tree curbside **the night before** collection. Since the trees will be recycled, they must be free of lights, tinsel, ornaments and bags. And, no artificial trees.