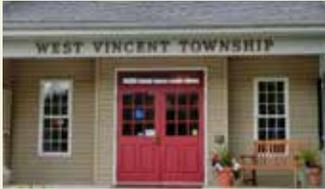


West Vincent CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of West Vincent Township | Chester County, PA

Spring 2018



Board of Supervisors:

Meetings held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of Month at 7pm

Planning Commission:

3rd Thursday of Month at 7:30 pm

Environmental Advisory Council:

1st Wed. of Month at 5:30 pm

Parks and Recreation Commission:

1st Wed. of Month at 7:30 pm

Sustainability Committee:

3rd Tuesday of Month at 7:30 pm

Zoning Hearing Board:

Hearings scheduled as needed

Open Space Review Board:

4th Tuesday of Month at 5pm

Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee:

Last Wed. of Month at 7:30 pm at Schuylkill Township Building

Historic Resources Subcommittee:

4th Monday of Month at 6:30pm

All meetings held at the West Vincent Township Building, unless noted otherwise.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John Jacobs, *Chairman*
Mike Schneider, *Vice Chairman*
Bernie Couris, *Member*

westvincentwp.org



Follow West Vincent Township and the West Vincent Police Dept. on Facebook & Twitter

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



Brought to you by the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Cow pie bingo, goat races, hounds, hunts, classic cars, hot air balloons, 4-H clubs, robots mixed with live bands, artists, demonstrations and food trucks offering locally sourced ingredients. *What in the world is this?*

West Vincent Township is celebrating our unique community.

In 1998, the Evan's family deeded their land to the Township for a park and we are celebrating it this year. A farsighted farmer who realized the Township was growing and wanted all residents to have a place to gather gave us our first park located between Conestoga Road and Malehorn Road. The Parks and Recreation Commission, along with a group of dedicated volunteers, have transformed our beloved Community Day into a fabulous festival, entitled, *Festival in the Park*. The event kicks off the Commission's Summer Picnic in the Park Music Series. These events are designed to celebrate and pay tribute to our unique community.

How much fun will it be to watch a goat race or maybe enter your goat, take a chance on cow pie bingo, have your children's face painted or have your family interact with a robot? Don't forget to bring your pet for our fun Pet Parade complete with prizes. Don't have a pet? There will even be pets available for adoption or just to cuddle. You will be able to cast your vote for your favorite antique car or tractor and take a stroll down our Artist's Alley. Bring your lawn chairs and stake out the best place to experience all there is to offer as we celebrate **West Vincent style.**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
INAUGURAL
Festival
.....
IN THE PARK
.....

**SATURDAY
JUNE 9TH
3-7:00 PM
EVANS PARK**

ADJACENT TO THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING ON CONESTOGA ROAD & ST. MATTHEWS ROAD

Join Us!
.....

We encourage our community to get involved!

Vendors • Artists • Sponsors • Non-Profits

Please visit our website for Registration & Sponsorship Forms

westvincentwp.org



WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP announces HERITAGE TREE RECOGNITION PROGRAM



EAC members will be at the West Vincent Festival in the Park on June 9th. Come by their table to hear more about this program and

★
PICK-UP A FREE TREE SEEDLING!

Nomination forms and guidelines of the program will be available.

Did you know that Pennsylvania means “Penn’s Woods”? Pennsylvania was a land grant issued to William Penn in 1681. Penn suggested “Sylvania” which is Latin for woodland or forest as part of the name for the new colony because of the beauty of the native forest. In the early days, West Vincent was a beautiful woodland. As settlers moved in, the forests were cleared for farmland. The wood had many vital uses such as heating and cooking, house, barn and furniture building, as well as supplying mills and furnaces.

By the early 1900’s, West Vincent was almost completely cleared of forest. Through the 20th century, as residents no longer needed wood products to survive, the woodland began to rejuvenate. What we see in West Vincent today is that new growth forest. There are still a few very old trees that have survived. Usually they can be found shading historic homes or along our country roads.

West Vincent’s Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is initiating a new community-wide program to recognize and celebrate these surviving trees in the township.

Heritage trees will be recognized in four categories:

- **Specimen** (exceptional size, form or rarity),
- **Historic** (age, association with a historic structure or event),
- **Landmark** (a notable landmark in the community) or
- **Collection** (a notable grove or avenue).

Property owners will be issued a small placard for display that designates their property as the home of a West Vincent Heritage Tree.

How can you help recognize trees in the township?

Pick up a nomination form at the Township building or email us at office@westvincentwp.org. Please put EAC in the subject line. You can nominate a tree or grove on your own property or a tree you have admired in your neighborhood. Also, any resident who would like to be involved is welcome to participate with the EAC Tree Recognition subcommittee.

The Environmental Advisory Council

is a seven-member advisory council appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

The EAC holds a public meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm.

WHEN IT COMES TO MULCH, LESS IS MORE

Spring is finally here and it’s time to get out in our yards.

The first thing most residents do is mulch around their trees and beds. Mulching has many benefits such as controlling weeds, conserving moisture, protecting tree trunks from lawn mowers and weed trimmers and adding organic matter over time. However, improper mulching can actually harm trees. Improperly applied mulch can cause moisture damage, fungus problems, tree girdling, and harbor insects and pests. Too much mulch can actually keep moisture from reaching the tree’s root system.

To make sure mulching your trees will have a positive effect, remember these simple guidelines **The Rule of 3’s.**

- Keep mulch **3 inches** away from the tree trunk and no more than **3 inches** deep.
- Mulch should be applied in a **3-foot circle** around the tree trunk. Mulching out to the drip line of the tree is even better.
- Mulch should be applied **every 3 years**. Add a light top layer every year for aesthetic reasons if you’d like, but do not add a thick mulch layer every year. Remember, your mulch should never look like a volcano or doughnut. Mulch should be relatively flat. *For your tree’s health, less is more!*

Information provided by the West Vincent EAC and Chester County Master Gardeners. Go to Penn State Extension at <https://extension.psu.edu> for more information.



COMING THIS SUMMER!



This summer the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association will be hosting the first Citadel Country Spirit USA Music Festival on their 33-acre horse show grounds, here in West Vincent Township.

The event will run three days, beginning at noon on August 24 and concluding the evening of August 26. Several popular country music stars will be headlining and 15,000 people are expected to attend daily. Traffic issues, parking and shuttle services are currently being finalized with the promoter. As soon as information becomes available it will be posted to the West Vincent Township Police Department and the West Vincent Township Facebook pages, the official West Vincent Township website, and sent to local news media outlets for distribution.

As an early reminder, if you reside near the Horse Show Grounds or plan to travel through the area that weekend, please plan accordingly. Expect heavy traffic from vehicles and pedestrians that may lead to extended delays on Routes 100 and 401.

The Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association has asked that anyone with questions or concerns about the festival to please contact them directly at:

ludwigshorseshow.com/country-spirit-usa-music-festival/

PICNIC IN THE PARK MUSIC SERIES RETURNS!

The Parks & Recreation Commission is excited to bring back the monthly **Picnic in the Park Music Series** starting Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Evans Park. On the third Thursday in the months of June, July, and August, residents and visitors are welcome to bring a blanket, chair, a packed dinner, and enjoy live music by the gazebo in our beautiful Township park.

We encourage you to gather up your neighbors and join us for a fun-filled, relaxing evening!



3RD THURSDAYS
JUNE • JULY • AUGUST
6:00PM
EVANS PARK

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.westvincenttp.org

Keep up-to-date with what's happening in our township: • NEWS • EVENTS • MEETING CALENDAR • STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION • DEPARTMENTS ...and more!

NOW OPEN!

COMMUNITY GARDEN SPOTS AVAILABLE

The West Vincent Township Community Garden is beginning its fourth season and is now open and ready for gardeners!



The garden is located along Westover Lane near the intersection with Fellowship Road. Prices for plots are as follows:

- 10 x 20 space = \$25.**
- 20 x 20 space = \$35.**
- 10 x 20 space w/raised bed = \$45.**

The mission of the garden is to provide a community space for residents and visitors to grow food, flowers, and other plants in a collaborative atmosphere.

If you are interested in renting a plot please contact Ruth McVey at rmcvey@westvincenttp.org

EVANS PARK FIELD



Enjoy the park!

Evans Park is 13 acres, located at the northwest corner of Conestoga Road and St. Matthews Road, adjacent to the Township Building. The park has a trail around it which is 2230 feet, or .45 miles. The fields are available to use for leagues by reservation. There is a Tot Lot at the upper end near the Malehorn Road entrance. A gazebo is also available for use by reservation or on a first come, first serve daily basis.

The reservation schedule for the play fields is available on the Township website. *We encourage the public to use and enjoy fields when they are not in use.*



★
 THE GAZEBO AND SPORTS FIELDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR
 USE BY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS.
 TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE GREAT SPACES!

To reserve the baseball field, soccer field, or gazebo please contact office@westvincentwp.org.

FELLOWSHIP TRAIL

The Township is pleased to announce construction of Phase I of Fellowship Trail is complete.

The Phase I Fellowship Trail is a multi-use asphalt trail which connects with an existing trail at the Weatherstone subdivision. The project also includes a new trail crossing at Fellowship Road, which further connects users to an existing trail located near the Vineyard Church on Conestoga Road in Upper Uwchlan Township.

The Township is planning to complete Phase II of the Fellowship Trail, further connecting the existing trail on Conestoga Road to Evans Park. *We look forward to seeing you on the trail!*



★
 SEE YOU
 ON THE NEW
 FELLOWSHIP TRAIL!

BRYN COED OPEN SPACE PROJECT

On April 16, 2018 the West Vincent Township Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to spend open space funds on the acquisition of 72 acres of property situated on St. Matthews Road, currently owned by Natural Lands, to serve as a Township park. The project is part of a larger effort of Natural Lands, a non-profit land conservation organization, to preserve and protect 1500 acres of land in West Vincent, West Pikeland, and East Pikeland Townships. The Township property will connect with the Natural Lands preserve and trail network.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE



★
 THE TOWNSHIP ROAD CREW IS GEARING UP FOR TOWNSHIP ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECTS INCLUDING CHIP SEAL AND PAVING OF TOWNSHIP ROADS.

In addition, the Road Department will be conducting regular roadside mowing, which allows for better sight distances for motorists. It is important the Township residents realize that trees and objects such as boulders and stones should not be put in the road right of way. These items are a potential hazard to motorists both on the road and to Township road equipment used to maintain the roadways. Generally, the right of way is the edge of your property along the roadway. Measured from the center of the road, its width varies from 33 to 50 feet wide. Township employees have the right to enter, use, maintain, and improve the right of way.

We appreciate your cooperation to keep our roads safe and well-maintained!

FREE! PAPER SHREDDING EVENT for West Vincent Residents



**Saturday, September 8
 9 to 11:30 am**

West Vincent Township
 Building Parking Lot
(Rain or Shine)

Papers will be securely shredded by

Proshred Security.

No businesses, please!

TOWNSHIP FINANCES

The Township's 2017 Audit and Financial Statements have been completed by Barbacane, Thornton, & Company, LLP, the Township's Auditing Firm and are available for view on the Township website. The Auditor provided the Township with a clean opinion with regard to the financial statements and further noted that the accounting procedures followed by the Township are in accordance with provisions of the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

TOWNSHIP SEWER SYSTEM SALE

As of April 25, 2018, the West Vincent Township sewer and water treatment system is now owned, operated, and managed by Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority, (BCWSA). BCWSA is a 54-year-old non-profit organization with over 100 employees, based in Warrington, PA. If you are a sewer customer and would like more information regarding billing, services, and BCWSA, please contact their office at 1-800-222-2068.

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Come on out for the Battle of the Badges to support your West Vincent Twp. Police Dept. and Ludwig's Corner Fire Dept.

**Thursday, July 12
 2 to 7:00 pm**

Ludwig's Corner Fire Dept.

To donate:

www.redcross.org/donate

For more information call

610.458.1601

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

★ **Kathy Shillenn** Township Secretary ★ **Michele Hogrelius** Township Treasurer



729 St. Matthews Road, Chester Springs, PA 19425

Call: 610.458.1601

Fax: 610.458.1603

email: office@westvincentwp.org

web: www.westvincentwp.org

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Festival in the Park 1
- Meeting Schedules 1
- EAC News 2
- Mulching Guidelines..... 2
- Country Spirit USA..... 3
- Picnic in the Park Series . 3
- Community Garden..... 3
- Evans Park Field 4
- Fellowship Trail 4
- Bryn Coed Open Space .. 4
- Public Works Update ... 5
- Finances..... 5
- Sewer Sale 5
- Free Shredding Event.... 5
- Blood Drive 5
- Welcome New Staff 5



IMPORTANT NOTICES

Spring 2018



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

West Vincent Township was recently named as a quarantined area where spotted lanternflies exist, and regulations are in place to prohibit movement of any living life stage of this insect. Spotted Lanternflies are an invasive, sap feeding planthopper, which cause plant and crop damage.

If you find a spotted lanternfly or suspicious looking egg mass, you should try to collect it and put it into a vial filled with alcohol to kill and preserve or it, or take a picture of it and report it to the **PA Dept. of Agriculture** by emailing badbug@pa.gov, or call the **Invasive Species Hotline** at **1-866-253-7189**.

DROP OFF FOR COVENTRY FOOD PANTRY

West Vincent Township is a drop off point for the Coventry Food Pantry.

They are always in need of canned goods, peanut butter, jelly, cleaning supplies, personal supplies, paper products, laundry detergent, diapers and wipes.

The box is in the lobby of the Township Building.