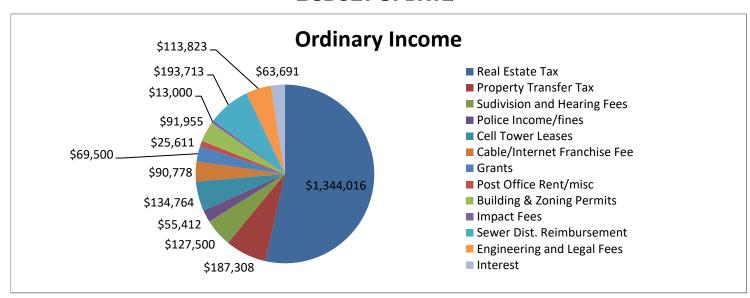
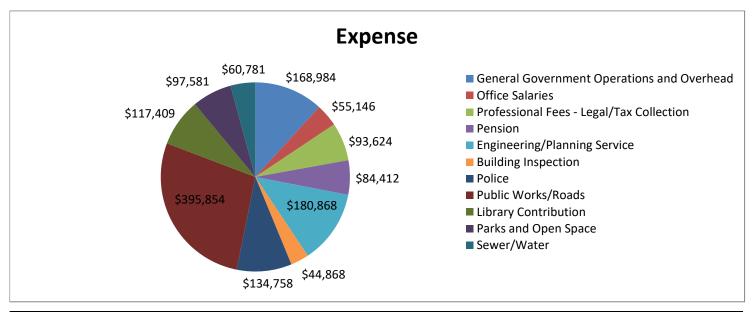


721 Unionville Road Kennett Square, PA 19348 Office Hours: 8:30-12:00 Monday - Friday

Fall 2019 Vol 1, No 2 www.eastmarlborough.org

#### **BUDGET UPDATE**





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## TOWNSHIP UPDATE



A number of commercial redevelopment projects are underway along the Route 1 corridor. A Citadel Bank has been built at the site of the old Burger King which greatly improves the appearance of that section of the road. While residents sometimes voice frustration over the number of banks that are located in East Marlborough, zoning allows for their use in that district and the banks must be profitable, otherwise the companies wouldn't build them!

Between Orchard and Pennock Avenues, at the former Phillips Mushroom site, construction is well underway for a quick service auto repair business which will handle breaks, tires, oil changes etc. In addition, there will be a Mattress Warehouse retail store located on the same property.

The former Sears Store is also getting new occupants. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia office will be assuming approximately 1/3 of the square footage of the space. The owners of the property have also received Conditional Use approval to open a Dollar Tree store and a personal service shop in the remaining space.

At 802 E. Baltimore Pike (directly across from the Fulton Bank), developers have received Conditional Approval to build a multi-use project which will include a Royal Farms gas and convenience store, a bank (yes, another one) and a medical office building. The development will coincide with the widening of Route 1 so the completion date for the project is yet to be determined.

The PennDot project to add additional lanes in the stretch from McFarland Road to Greenwood Road is anticipated to start in mid-2020. The project calls for adding a lane on the northbound side and extending the turning lane on the southbound lane until the exit for Kennett Square. The project should help the

congestion that occurs immediately after the merge with the by-pass and continues past Longwood Gardens.

In Unionville, the township is renegotiating the lease with the US Post Office to keep the office in its current location. Later this fall the area around the Post Office will undergo a transformation to improve the appearance and traffic flow going into the Unionville Park. While the park remains open year-round, the pavilion bathrooms will be winterized in late October and closed for the season.

I encourage you to visit the East Marlborough Township website to get updates on these project and other happenings around the township at www.eastmarlborough.org.

Laurie Prysock, Township Manager

# Supervisor's Spotlight

East Marlborough Township continues to place a premium on fiscal responsibility and this year we have strengthened our efforts to run an efficient, cost effective Township. Some of the highlights include the following:

- Cell Tower Leases through tough negotiations, we were able to recover almost \$250,000 in owed co-location revenue and tightened the leases on the four cell towers located on Township property.
- Bond Refinancing The Township issued Municipal Bonds in 2009 to finance the sewer system expansion in the Cedarcroft area. The bonds were refinanced in 2014, and now due to favorable market conditions, we refinanced again and achieved almost \$450,000 in savings over the life of the bond. One of the reasons we will see such significant savings is our AA credit rating, the highest a Township of our size can obtain.
- Grant awards the Township has received grants totaling over two million dollars for infrastructure improvements and planning. The projects include replacement of the E. Locust Lane Bridge, traffic calming on Route 82 and updating the Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan. Next summer you will see a large road improvement project in front of the high school. We obtained a large grant for construction with help from our staff/manager. This is designed to improve safety and traffic calming.
- Efficient Personnel Management the Township maintains a small full-time work force and a number of part-time employees who provide essential services to the residents. We are fortunate to have dedicated employees, many of whom are also first responders, who work for East Marlborough. Our Public Works Department always has a staff member on call to assist residents with sewer alarms and road issues. Our Police Department provides community-based patrolling on a part-time basis as well as providing support to County Detectives and the State Police. Our small administrative office processes permit applications, responds to public inquiries and manages the finances of the Township.

As we head into the fall and winter, please know that the Township is working to prepare our fleet so the roads can be kept clear and drivable. We are also updating our technology to make interacting with the Township easier and more user-friendly for the residents. Please feel free to share with us your thoughts on how we can work to serve you better.

John Sarro, Chairman, East Marlborough Township Board of Supervisors



# ◆ Ordinance Updates

There are three new Ordinances that were drafted to address concerns in the Township; they deal with Solicitation, Open Burning and Sidewalk Maintenance. Copies of these Ordinances can be found on the East Marlborough Township website at <a href="https://www.eastmarlborough.org">www.eastmarlborough.org</a>.

The Solicitation Ordinance was passed in June after the Township's ban on solicitation had been legally challenged. The new Ordinance requires commercial solicitors and peddlers to register with the township and provide a background check for each person who will be working within the township. Additionally, the solicitors must wear a highly visible license that is issued by the East Marlborough Police Department. Non-profit, religious and political canvassers are exempt from this requirement. Solicitation and Peddling are only permitted between 9:00 a.m. and 30 minutes past sunset. Property owners can prevent solicitors and peddlers from gaining access to their property by posting "No Soliciting" signs at their mailboxes or near their front doors.

The Open, Outdoor Burning Ordinance was passed in July in response to the Department of Environmental Protection's requirement to institute residential leaf waste collections or adopt an Ordinance on burning. The Ordinance prohibits burning leaves and rubbish but allows for recreation and land-management fires. Please be mindful of your neighbors and don't allow smoke to leave your property in a way that negatively impacts the community.

A Sidewalk Maintenance Ordinance will require property owners along Route One to keep the sidewalks clear and in safe, passable condition.

The Environmental Advisory Council and the Township Planning Commission completed their review of the comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and the Supervisors forwarded recommended changes to the County Planning Commission. The Supervisors will continue to review the proposed changes and the County's recommendations.





## PENNSYLVANIA'S SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

Keeping Children Safe

## PENNSYLVANIA'S SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

- When you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you MUST STOP.
- ❖ When you approach an intersection where a school bus is stopped with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you MUST STOP.
- ❖ You MUST STOP at least ten (10) feet away from the school bus.
- You MUST WAIT until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm has been withdrawn before moving.
- ❖ DO NOT MOVE until all the children have reached a place of safety.

## KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- ❖ 1.5 million children are transported on Pennsylvania roads each day.
- ❖ These children are transported approximately 400 million miles to school each year.
- Every year, children are needlessly injured or killed by drivers passing stopped school buses.

# If In Doubt, STOP!

Website: http://www.dot.state.pa.us/Public/DVSPubsForms/BDL/BDL%20Publications/Pub%2097.pdf

#### HOW TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER AT YOUR LOCAL FIRE STATION

Fire stations across Chester County are in need of volunteers who are ready to help save lives and protect property right in their own backyard. That's why last year the Chester County Fire Chiefs Association launched <a href="HelpFightFire.com">HelpFightFire.com</a> to help make it easy to understand the many volunteer opportunities available. There is also a volunteer inquiry form you can fill out that will allow members of your local fire station to contact you about your interest in becoming a volunteer and answer any questions you may have.

There are several ways to serve your local station, with open positions that will perfectly match your talents:

- **Firefighters**: As a volunteer firefighter, you'll learn skills such as how to advance a hose line, perform search-and-rescue operations, and position ladders strategically. We'll give you the training and equipment needed to stay safe at no cost to you.
- EMTs: Our volunteer EMTs help save lives by transporting the sick and injured to the hospital. You'll be there to respond to specialized calls like auto accidents, carbon monoxide alarms and other rescue calls. Again, the training and equipment will be provided for free.
- **Fire Police**: Help keep an emergency situation safe by directing traffic and crowds and providing general assistance to other first responders.
- Junior Firefighters: Teens at least 14 years old can gain experience around a fire house as a junior firefighter. You'll lend a hand and begin fire training that will prepare you to become a full member at 18 years old. Volunteering as a junior firefighter is also a great way to secure community service hours and looks great on a college resume.
- Administrative Volunteers: Non-emergency volunteers can also play a huge role. They help teach fire safety, assist in fundraising events, help with bookkeeping, human resources, website maintenance and other responsibilities. Whatever your skill set, we can use it!

By joining our team, you'll help make us stronger and your community safer. So what are you waiting for? Go to <u>HelpFightFire.com</u>. Volunteer today. Chester County lives depend on it.



# **Upcoming Community Events**

October 12<sup>th</sup> – 2019 Chester County Household Hazardous Waste Event. Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19380. <a href="https://www.chestercountryswa.org">www.chestercountryswa.org</a>

October 19th – Chester County CLEAN ENERGY Open House Tour. The East Marlborough Township Building will be part of the tour. The Township installed solar panels to offset our electric usage in 2010. More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.nationalsolartour.org/localtours/chester-county/">https://www.nationalsolartour.org/localtours/chester-county/</a>

October 19th – UHS Marching Band's March on the Brandywine. The Unionville High School Marching Band proudly presents: March on the Brandywine on October 19 starting at 6 pm. One spectacular night featuring 15 amazing marching bands.

**November 2 – Mushroom Cap Half Marathon**. More information can be found on the website <a href="https://www.mushroomcaphalf.com/">https://www.mushroomcaphalf.com/</a>

**November 5**<sup>th</sup> – **Election Day.** Patton Middle school is the polling place for Precinct 355, Kennett Square Missionary Baptist Church is the polling place for Precinct 356 and Willowdale Chapel is the polling place for Precinct 360.

**November 13**<sup>th</sup> – East Marlborough will host a public meeting to discuss the Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan update. The plan will help prioritize how the township allocates resources for acquiring Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Protection. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building.

#### **Longwood Gardens Fall and Winter Events.**

A Longwood Christmas: November 22 – January 5 www.LongwoodGardens.org

stThese events may involve road closures or have a significant impact on traffic within the Townshipst

#### **TOWNSHIP MEETINGS**

The **Board of Supervisors** usually meet on the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the township meeting room. Dates may change based on holidays.

The **Planning Commission** usually meets on the last Tuesday of the month but always the Tuesday prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting at 7 p.m.

The **Historic Commission** will meet on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

The **Environmental Advisory Council (EAC)** will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 8 a.m.

The **Zoning Hearing Board** meets as needed and **Conditional Use Hearings** are scheduled as necessary.

All Township meetings are held at the Township office. For accurate meeting dates, call the Township or check the website.

#### SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board meetings are held on the third Monday of the month starting at 7:30 pm. Locations vary. Find more information at www.ucfsd.org/board.



## **Public Input Needed!**

Over the next 12 months, East Marlborough Township will update our Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan. The plan will create a roadmap to follow for preserving Open Space, providing recreational facilities, including pedestrian and bike trails, and protecting our resources. The Brandywine Conservancy and Recreation and Parks Solutions were awarded the contract to update the plan with the help from a Vision Partnership Grant from the Chester County Planning Commission. The public is invited to participate to help set the township's priorities in the plan. The first public meeting will be held on <u>Wednesday, November 13th</u> at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. Topics will include the use of the 26 acre parcel that is being donated to the Township by Toll Brothers, the need for trails and where they should be located and setting criteria for purchasing Open Space. More information on the Plan update can be found at <u>www.eastmarlborough.org</u>.

# Environmental Advisory Council (EAC)

On April 2, 2018, the Board of Supervisors voted to establish an Environmental Advisory Council, or EAC, comprised of local residents to advise them, the Planning Commission and other Township organizations when they make decisions that may affect environmental values. An EAC is an official body authorized by the Pennsylvania Environmental Advisory Council Act. That law charges EACs with (1) identifying environmental issues and recommending plans and programs to protect and improve environmental quality; (2) making recommendations for use of open land areas; (3) promoting a community environmental program; (4) keeping an index of open space and environmentally sensitive areas; and (5) advising local government agencies on property acquisition. For more information on EACs: <a href="https://eacnetwork.org/eac-handbook/">https://eacnetwork.org/eac-handbook/</a>.

East Marlborough is fortunate to have a wealth of environmental professionals. On December 6, 2018 the Supervisors appointed Josh Farkas, Andy Jenkins, Rob Daniels and Burling Vannote to the EAC, as well as Cuyler Walker and Bobby McKinstry as the Planning Commission and Supervisor representatives. The designated Chair is Josh Farkas. The EAC meets at 8 am on the third Wednesday of every month.

The EAC got right to work. It advised the Township on the specifications for a comprehensive revision to the Township's Open Space, Recreation, and Environmental Resources Plan and the selection of a contractor. The EAC suggested revisions to the scope of work for the selected contractor, the Brandywine Conservancy, and will continue to advise on the plan's preparation.

The EAC's next task was to assist in a comprehensive revision of the Township's ordinances to improve environmental protection. The EAC sent a package of proposed revisions to the Planning Commission and Supervisors for their

consideration and preliminary approval at their September meetings. These include revisions to the Township Zoning Ordinance and Land Development and Subdivision Ordinance to provide greater protection for environmentally sensitive features, reduce permitted impervious surfaces, provide greater protection for forests, and encourage the installation of solar and alternative energy and energy efficiency measures throughout the Township as well as installation of electric vehicle charging stations. The package includes a proposed ordinance to implement the Township's constitutional duty to act as an environmental trustee by requiring that the environmental impact of all actions and approvals be identified and adverse effects avoided or minimized. This package will be submitted to the County Planning Commission for its review while the Supervisors continue their review.





Bobby McKinstry, Vice Chairman, East Marlborough Township Board of Supervisors

# **Public Works**

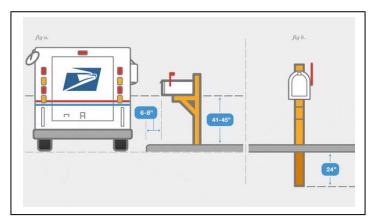
It's never too early to start planning for the winter season. The public works crew has been addressing drainage issues on the roads to keep the water off the road. Standing water on the roadway creates a hazard for hydroplaning during the warmer months and creates icy spots during the winter months.

You can do your part to help prevent water from running onto the road by making sure any water from your property is not diverted or flowing onto the roadway. Water that accumulates at the end of most driveways is usually the result of the grass and dirt build up higher than the swale at the end of the driveway creating a dam. This problem can usually be resolved in a matter of minutes by removing the accumulated dirt and grass with a shovel to allow the water to continue to flow freely downhill, as it was originally designed and constructed.

Snow plowing is a long and tedious operation that requires patience and cooperation from the public. Please don't park on the street or place trash cans in the street when snow is forecasted. The two most common complaints received are knocking over mailboxes and dumping snow in the driveways. Now is the time to start planning ahead to assist with eliminating those complaints by checking the condition of your mailbox post and supports. The heavy and often very wet snow coming off the end of the snow plows, can wreak havoc on mailboxes and other fixed objects on the side of the road. Check the condition of the mailbox post and supports to make sure they are sturdy and secure, not rotten or weak, rusty fasteners, cracked plastic, etc. Is the mailbox installed within the U.S. Postal Service recommended guidelines, 6-8" behind the curb or edge of pavement? Or does it hang out over the edge and into the road where it's susceptible to being struck by a passing vehicle or mirror on a summer day?

The Township is not responsible for damage caused by snow or ice that comes off the end of the snowplow blade. Standard mailboxes and posts are replaced by the Township if they are actually struck by the snowplow or the truck, and if they were installed to the U.S.P.S. guidelines. If you believe your properly installed mailbox was struck by a Township vehicle, contact the road department at 610-444-1375 so it can be investigated as soon as possible.

When clearing the snow from driveways, place the snow on the opposite side of the driveway from the approaching direction of travel of the plow trucks. You may also want to clear an area on the approach side of your driveway, to allow the snow coming off the plow trucks to empty before it gets to your cleared driveway opening, as illustrated on the drawing. If you have plantings or other obstructions in this area that prevent the plows from emptying snow before reaching your driveway, you may want to reconsider relocating those obstructions to minimize the amount of snow that gets pushed into the driveway.



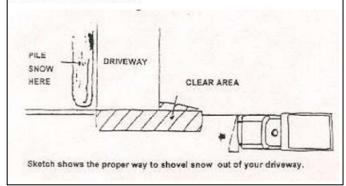
### Snow Shoveling Tips

PennDOT offers tips on shoveling your driveway to avoid being plowed in.

After a snowstorm, how many times have you shoveled your driveway only to have it plowed in?

PennDOT suggests that you clear an area to the right of your driveway (as seen in the diagram below) to give the snow on the blade of the plow a place to empty before it gets to your driveway. This way you won't have to do the same job twice.

PennDOT also reminds you that it is illegal to push snow from a parking lot or driveway onto a state highway.







When using the **Unionville Park**, please remember:
We love dogs, but PLEASE be in control of your pet at all times, keep them leashed and clean up after them. We have doggie clean-up bags stationed throughout the park for your convenience. **Please be a responsible and thoughtful pet owner when at the park. Thank you!** 

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

John Sarro, Chairman Robert McKinstry, Jr., Vice Chairman Buzz Hannum, Julia Lacy, Bruce Jameson

#### Administrative: 610-444-0725

- Laurie Prysock Township Manager
- Susan Beach File Clerk
- Hannah Christopher Sewer Account Manager/Webmaster
- Tina Mahoney Accounts Payable/Receivable

#### Public Works: 610-444-1375

- Jeff Simpson Public Works Director
- John Chambers Roadmaster
- Michael Hicks
- Michael Wells
- Dan Hoover
- Brad Edwards

#### Police Department: 610-444-5075

- Robert Clarke Chief of Police
- Officer Errol Galloway
- Officer Luke Fidler
- Officer Kevin Urbany
- Officer Eric Ruggeri
- Daniele Whittaker Administrative Assistant