MANOR UPDATES

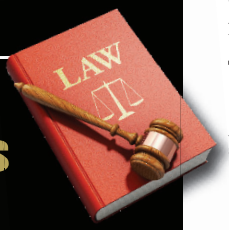
NEWSLETTER For the Residents of Manor Township

SPRING 2017 Vol. 26 / No. 1

ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS

Manor Township receives frequent calls, letters, emails, and verbal complaints about possible Zoning Ordinance violations within the Township. Among these are many anonymous complaints, of which the staff will **NOT** investigate.

If a complaint is to be submitted, one must provide the address and/or tax parcel number of the property with the alleged violation. In addition, complaints that are mailed in or presented at our Township office must be signed and provide contact information. Complaint forms are available at the Manor Township Administrative Office.



NEW ORDINANCES FROM 2016

- **ORDINANCE 4-2016**
  LCSWMA Text Amendment.
- **ORDINANCE 5-2016**
  Codification of Township Ordinances.

JOB OPENING!

Manor Township is hiring a permanent part-time Secretarial position. Responsibilities include all duties typically associated with this field. Adobe, Publisher, Word Press and general marketing skills are a plus. Hours are Mondays and Fridays 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, and Wednesdays from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM with flexibility to fill in additional shifts from time to time and covering one evening meeting per month. Interested persons should send a resume and cover letter to Manor Township, 950 West Fairway Drive, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Lancaster County Reassessment 2018*

HISTORY:

In 1997, Lancaster County Commissioners passed a resolution requiring reassessment of properties every eight (8) years. The last reassessment was effective as of 1/1/2005.

The reassessment scheduled for 2013 was postponed four years until 2017 because of the unpredictability and instability of real property values during the economic recession. In late 2015, it was voted to delay the reassessment for another year (2018) to ensure technology was in place to provide accurate assessment values.

All property parcels in Lancaster County will receive an updated assessment which represents an estimate of your property's fair market value. It will be effective as of 1/1/18 for Municipal taxes and 7/1/18 for School District taxes. Tax Assessment staff members will not visit your property or seek access to your house. Current records are already on file as appraisers have maintained regular property visits and updated property records through construction permits received from boroughs and municipalities over the years.

Assessments are important because disparity in values can be created if too long of a period passes between them. Reassessment equalizes all assessments and current fair market values at 100% and ensures similar property types and neighborhoods are assessed fairly and uniformly.

TIMELINE:

- A preliminary notice of your property's new assessment will be mailed to you **this March**.
- The County will have staff members at the **Park City Mall Community Room** from **March 13th through March 31st**, for those who want to review information concerning their property and confirm that the information is correct. Residents may also contact the County Assessment Office at 717-299-8381 during that time for the same reasons. If there are inaccuracies in your property information, you may provide current information and the County will evaluate it prior to issuing the final notice described below.

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A family-fun event to benefit the Trust Lancaster Farmland Trust

TURKEY HILL® COUNTRY CLASSIC 2017

Lace up those running shoes and gear up for the annual **Turkey Hill Country Classic**. In its 18th year since inception, there will be three different running events to choose from including a 5K Run/Jog/Walk, 10K Run and Half Marathon. Please note that ALL half marathon runners will need to be off the course by 10:00 AM, due to the impending bike races. All event registrants will receive a goody bag and t-shirt (while supplies last).

The family fun-filled event taking place on **Saturday, May 6th** at Central Manor Church (387 Penn Street, Washington Boro) features food, vendors, kid's activities and entertainment for all ages and will benefit the Lancaster Farmland Trust. Since 1988, the Trust has preserved 476 farms and over 29,014 acres of the richest agricultural soils in the country located here in the heart of Lancaster County. To date, nearly $175,000 has been raised.

Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top 5 overall male and female finishers and medals will be given to the top 3 male and female finishers in seven different age categories for all three running events. A chip timing system will once again be used to secure the most precise results. For more information or to register for any of these events, visit: www.turkeyhill.com/countryclassic. Admission and parking is free.

5K Run/Jog/Walk ■ 10K Run ■ Men's & Women's Bike Races
Half Marathon ■ Baby Derby (up to 14 months) ■ Food ■ Entertainment
Prizes ■ Youth Run (ages 12 and under) ■ Games

HELP US IN PRESERVING PRECIOUS LANCASTER COUNTY FARMLAND!

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

On Saturday, May 6th residents can expect temporary road closures and delays on Blue Rock, Anchor, Hostetter, Prospect, Gamber, and River Roads due to the 18th Annual Turkey Hill Country Classic. Drivers can also expect a higher level of pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the Central Manor area during this time as well, so please **DRIVE SAFELY**. We apologize for any inconvenience and **THANK YOU** in advance for your cooperation.

SPRING COMPOST

It's been 26 years since Manor Township opened a leaf compost facility. Located at 2783 Charlestown Road (between South Centerville Road and Manor Boulevard), the site also receives leaves from neighboring municipalities and boroughs.

Once leaves are brought there, they are placed in rows for composting. Naturally occurring microorganisms found on leaves are primarily responsible for their composting. However, there are several other factors that affect the rate of composting which include temperature, moisture and air. Moisture is regularly monitored and maintained. The rows are turned based on the temperature of the leaves, allowing more oxygen through the piles, which is necessary for decomposition. Typically, leaves are finished composting in 8 months.

Once composting is complete, it is screened to remove any objects that have not been composted. The finished product is then offered to the general public at **$10/cubic yard** on the scheduled dates below.

SATURDAY'S: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
April 1st, 8th & 22nd
May 13th & 20th

WEDNESDAY'S: 3:00 PM-6:00 PM
March 29th ■ April 12th & 26th
May 3rd

Township Website

Manor Township's website has a brand new look. Check us out at:

www.manortwp.org

Due to the Half Marathon, the Enola Low Grade Rail Trail will be closed from dawn - 11:00 AM on May 6th.

SPRING PROJECTS

Did you know that Manor Township has one of the largest municipal road systems in Lancaster County? Our Public Works Department maintains 110 miles of roads. In order to continually improve this road system, there are several projects planned for 2017.

Several paving projects have been planned for this summer. The following roads are scheduled to receive a new paved surface including Charlestown Road (between Donerville Road and Manor Boulevard), Hershey Mill Road (between Columbia Avenue and Fieldgate Drive), Manor Boulevard (between Williamsburg Road and the four-way stop at Monticello Lane), West Fairway Drive and all of the streets in the Leaf Park development.

Seal coating is one of the best maintenance and cost effective applications available to Public Works Departments. The application of bituminous material that is coated with clean stone provides an excellent skid resistant surface while sealing the existing roadway. To prepare roads for this maintenance application, side gutters will be cleaned to improve the drainage system. Stormwater pipes will be inspected and replaced if needed on roads that are scheduled to be seal coated. The following roads have been scheduled to receive this application this summer: Catherine Street, Habecker Church Road (between Forrey Road and Donerville Road), Herr Street, Hostetter Road, Park Street, Prospect Road (between Blue Rock Road and Anchor Road), Second Street, Willow Alley, and North Street.

The Township is also planning to continue the road-widening program that improves the width of narrow rural roads. Widening is planned for Coffee Street, and Indian Run Road (between Coffee Street and Stehman Church Road).

Do Your Part, Be Septic Smart:

The Do's and Don'ts of Your Septic System*

Learn these simple steps to protect your home, health, environment and property value:

Protect It & Inspect It:

DO:

- Have your system inspected by a licenAsed contractor and have the tank pumped. Residents must use a pumper approved by Manor Township. This list may be found on our website at www.manortwp.org. Residents with on lot septic systems must pump out every 3 years. However, ONLY upon Manor Township receiving notification, residents with only 3 individuals residing at the home may opt to pump out every 4 years and those with only 2 individuals or less can opt to pump out every 5 years. Please update us at 717-397-4769 with household changes that may occur.

Think at the Sink:

DON'T:

- Pour cooking grease or oil down the sink or toilet.
- Rinse coffee grounds into the sink.
- Pour household chemicals down the sink or flush them.

DO:

- Eliminate or limit the use of a garbage disposal.
- Properly dispose of coffee grounds and food.
- Harden grease in a container before discarding it in the trash.

Don't Overload the Commode:

DON'T:

- Flush non-degradable products or chemicals, such as feminine hygiene products, condoms, dental floss, diapers, cigarette butts, cat litter, paper towels, pharmaceuticals.

DO:

- Dispose of these items in the trash can.

Shield Your Field:

DON'T:

- Park or drive on your drainfield. The weight can damage the drain lines.
- Plant trees or shrubs too close to your drainfield because roots can grow into your system and clog it.

DO:

- Consult a septic service professional to advise you of the proper distance for planting trees and shrubs, depending on your septic tank location.

Don't Strain Your Drain:

DON'T:

- Concentrate your water use by running multiple sources such as a dishwater, shower, washing machine and toilet at the same time. All that extra water can really strain your septic system.

DO:

- Stagger the use of water-generating appliances. This can be helpful especially if your system has not been pumped in some time.
- Become more water efficient by fixing plumbing leaks and consider installing bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators and water-efficient products.

Information courtesy of SepticSmart. For more tips, visit www.epa.gov/septicsmart.

**This information applies to residents within Manor Township who have on lot systems only. If you are on a public system, please disregard.*

BLUE ROCK PARK

Manor Township will debut its 13th park this spring with the unveiling of **Blue Rock Park**.

Located at 3000 Blue Rock Road in Lancaster, it will feature a playground that was formally stationed on the old Hambright Elementary School property. The equipment was removed and reinstalled by our Public Works Department. There will be plenty of amenities for community members to enjoy including natural areas, walking paths, a fishing area and a picnic pavilion, which was also built by our Public Works Department. At this time, reservations for the pavilion will NOT be accepted.

The property, which was purchased from the Blue Rock Fire District in 2015, consists of 6.5 acres along the Little Conestoga that could eventually be connected to the natural area owned by the Township along the Springdale Farms and Manor Oaks Developments.

Manor Township plans to develop a canoe/kayak launch in the park as well. We hope you plan to visit this beautiful park in the next couple months.

Free Yard Waste Program

Did you know Manor Township offers a FREE yard waste pass for Manor Township residents? We partnered with the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) to help our residents manage their yard waste. Examples of yard waste include small limbs and twigs, garden clean-up, bush and shrub trimmings, grass clippings and leaves. Landscape timbers are not permitted. Manor Township residents may take their yard waste to the Frey Farm landfill (located at 3049 River Road in Conestoga) free of charge under the following conditions.

- Residents must pick up a pass at Manor Township, located at 950 W. Fairway Drive, Lancaster, PA, 17603.
- The program is for residential yard waste only. Regular charges apply to commercial loads.
- All loads must be properly secured and tarped.
- The pass is non-transferable (only to be used by the owner of the property).
- The pass is good from year to year.

Residents will present their pass at the LCSWMA scale house and follow the marked route to enter into the drop off area where they will leave their material.

We want to reiterate that all trailers and trucks taking loads must be tarped while traveling to any LCSWMA facility and remain tarped until arriving at LCSWMA'S designated untarping areas. Refusing to do so can result in debris falling on roads and residential areas and also create hazardous driving conditions.

We also ask that residents traveling to the Frey Farm Landfill drive safely and abide by traffic indicators.

EARTH DAY

In 1970, **Earth Day** (April 22nd) was first recognized as a day to teach Americans about the environment and how to protect it. There are many ways residents can help improve our environment in Manor Township.

Service groups, families, businesses and individuals can partner with us by adopting segments of our roads to clean up along the roadsides. For more information about our Adopt-a-Highway program, contact our office at 717-397-4769.

Residents can also purchase leaf compost at our compost site for $10/cubic yard. The compost is recycled from leaves that are collected curbside and can be used in gardens and flower beds as top dressing on lawns. Please see page 2 for sale dates.

Did you know that 71% of the earth's surface is covered by water, and of that coverage, only 2.5% is fresh water? The Township is bounded by the Susquehanna River and the Conestoga River. The Little Conestoga and the West Branch of the Little Conestoga also flow through the Township. Below are several ways you can help improve water quality and keep these waters, streams, and tributaries clean.

- Keep storm drains clean.
- Participate in storm drain marker installation projects to remind residents that "Drains are for Rains."
- Reduce the use of fertilizer and pesticides on your lawn. A soil sample test is recommended before applying fertilizer to your lawn.
- Build a rain garden to reduce stormwater runoff.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your vehicle on the lawn.
- Clean up after pets and properly dispose the waste.
- Never dump paint, oil, or antifreeze into storm drains.

CHILD SAFETY SEATS:
A Matter of Life and Death

The American Automobile Association (AAA) reports that motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and injury for children. Children that are properly restrained are less likely to be injured in the event of a sudden stop, swerve or crash.[1] According to Parenting Magazine, booster seats can decrease serious injuries by 45% because they place children in a position so the shoulder portion of the seat belt can actually do its job.[2]

Pennsylvania's primary child passenger safety law (CPSL) requires that children under the age of four must be properly restrained in an approved child safety seat anywhere in the vehicle.[3] Children from ages four up to eight must be restrained in an appropriate booster seat. In June 2016, Pennsylvania enhanced the CPSL be requiring infants and children to be secured in a rear-facing car seat in the rear of the vehicle until the age of two, or until the child outgrows the maximum weight and height limits designated by the car seat manufacturer.[4]

Many parents, especially first-time parents, are concerned about the proper installation of both child safety and booster seats. Across the Commonwealth, child seats can be installed and examined by certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. All Pennsylvania State Police stations have Troopers trained to perform this service. The safety of your child is as easy as making an appointment with Sergeant Kim Geyer from Manor Township's Police Department, who is a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. To make an appointment, call her at 717-299-5231. Other resources are available on the Safe Kids website at: www.safekids.org.

The cost of seats is another concern for many parents. The average price for an infant safety seat can range between $75 to as much as $300 depending on the manufacturer. However, in many counties across the state, there are loan programs that provide child safety seats to families in need. The programs offer a variety of seats including infant seats, convertible seats, and booster seats. To locate a loan program near you, please visit: www.PAkidstravelsafe.org.

[1] AAA. Why are car seats important? AAA.com. Retrieved on 11/02/2016 from http://safeseats4kids.aaa.com/faqs/why/why-are-car-seats-important/.

[2] Dreisbach, S. The importance of booster seats. Parenting.com. Retrieved on 11/02/2016 from http://www.parenting.com/article/the-importance-of-booster-seats.

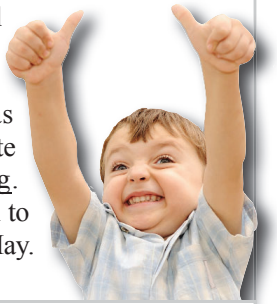
[3] 75 Pa.C.S. § 4581

[4] Pennsylvania enacts rear-facing requirement for children younger than age 2 traveling in vehicles. PAkidstravelsage.org. Retrieved on 11/02/2016 from http://www.pakidstravelsafe.org/news-events/news/item/836-pennsylvania-enacts-rear-facing-requirement-for-children-younger-than-age-2-traveling-in-vehicles.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND IN THE PARK

Manor Township is proud to offer a fun-filled summer day program at Manor Township Community Park and Greider Park. **Playground in the Park** is open to children entering 1st grade through 6th grade who DO NOT have to be Township residents to enroll. The 7 week drop-in program begins in June and occurs Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. We staff excellent counselors that engage children in a wide range of activities, games and crafts in a safe, organized setting. Weekly field trips are also taken to a variety of fun Central PA locations.

Brochures with a registration form featuring additional information will be available early May at our Township office as well as on our website at: www.manortwp.org. Discounts will be given to those who register in May.



GREEN ADDRESS SIGNS

Often times responding police, fire and EMS units have difficulty locating addresses because they are not easily marked and are unreadable from the street, especially at night. It is suggested that residents mark their homes with numbers that are large and reflective. The sooner these crews can find your house, the safer you will be. Reflective signs may be purchased through Blue Rock Fire Rescue at 717-872-9345. They also perform the installation as well.

Coffee with COPS

The Manor Township Police Department will be hosting additional **"Coffee with COPS"** events throughout 2017. This free community forum is open to Manor Township residents where they will have an opportunity to talk to the Police Chief and other officers over coffee and doughnuts. They will answer questions and listen to your concerns about important issues affecting our Township. **"Coffee with COPS"** will take place in the meeting room of our Township building (located at 950 West Fairway Drive in Lancaster). We hope you will take advantage of this great program. Please visit the Manor Township webpage at: www.manortwp.org for dates and times. Questions may be directed to Sergeant Kim Geyer at 717-299-5231.

Manor Township
Board of Supervisors
950 West Fairway Drive
Lancaster, PA 17603

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

Printed on recycled paper

MANOR TOWNSHIP UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

Full details of all programs can be found at www.manortwp.org or by calling 717-397-4769

Lancaster County Reassessment 2018*

(continued from pg. 1)

■ The County will mail a final notice establishing the assessment for your property on or about **June 1st, 2017**. Dissatisfied residents have the right to file an appeal within 40 days of the mailing date of the final notice. More information about filing an appeal may be obtained by contacting the County Assessment Office by visiting: www.co.lancaster.pa.us/ta.

An increased assessment doesn't necessarily mean a tax increase. All taxing bodies must adjust their current millage rate to attain revenue neutrality. Generally, some property owners will see a tax decrease while others will see an increase or stay the same. Individual tax bills will be dependent on the percentage increase of your individual assessment compared to the average percentage increase in your taxing jurisdiction.

Visit: www.co.lancaster.pa.us/ta and click on Quick Links for additional information on *"Taxpayers Guide to 2018 Reassessment."*

**Information provided by the County of Lancaster Property Assessment.*

BLUE ROCK FIRE RESCUE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Did you know Blue Rock Fire Rescue (BRFR) provides fire and rescue services to all of Manor Township and Millersville Borough? There's always a need for firefighters, but they have several other ways to become involved including the areas of:

■ Community Public Education ■ Fire Police
■ Quick Response Service (QRS)

BRFR has a fire protection district that includes eight miles of the Susquehanna River and they also provide water rescue services. Three boats are located at their Washington Boro (Station 907) and Highville stations (Station 903).

There are a number of unique services for interested firefighters consisting of:

■ Collapse Rescue ■ Decon Team ■ Vehicle Rescue

Blue Rock Fire Rescue pays for trainings and provides their volunteers with the latest fire protection equipment. Their modern fleet of fire apparatus features four engines (new engine coming in 2018), one rescue engine, three tankers, one heavy rescue, one brush truck, three boats, two collapse rescue trucks, one QRS unit, six squad trucks and numerous other support vehicles.

Interested individuals may learn more by attending one of their monthly membership meetings at 7:00 PM in the headquarters building located at 26 East Charlotte Street in Millersville or may stop by of their other stations as well. They are located at 1697 Temple Avenue in West Lancaster (Station 901), 11 Charlestown Road in Washington Boro (Station 907) or at 3079 River Road in Highville (station 903). For more information, go to: www.bluerockfire.com.