

WORCESTER



TOWNSHIP

At the Center Point

of Montgomery County



Days Gone By

To provide public transportation from Norristown to Worcester, Skippack, Lederach, Harleysville, and Souderton, a sixteen-mile-long trolley road was incorporated in 1902, as the Souderton, Skippack and Fairview Electric Railway Company to run from Trooper to Souderton and came to be known as the Montgomery County Rapid Transit Company and finally as the Montgomery County Traction Company.

It never reached Souderton. There was little resistance to the building of this line, but it was the slowest built in the County. The first car left Main and Swede Streets, Norristown to Center Point on July 20, 1907. The line to Skippack was not completed until July 4, 1908. Harleysville, only four miles farther, was not reach until 1912. Residents fondly called it the "Wogglebug." The service was discontinued in June 1925 after a car ran into an open switch and launched into another car, which put both cars out of commission.

Source: *A History of Worcester Township*



KIDS TENNIS EVENT

Penn Suburban Community Tennis Association is hosting a tennis tournament for children who have taken a tennis class with them at any of their four sites: Upper Gwynedd, Lansdale, Whitpain, or Worcester Township.

June 24, 2023 | 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Upper Gwynedd Township

1 Parkside Place

North Wales, PA 19454

Email pscta10s@gmail.com to register.

No cost and first 60 children receive a free t-shirt!

Ask Mary Ann

When the telephone rings at the Township Building, and the resident on the line asks a question, Receptionist extraordinaire Mary Ann always has the answer. Here's one of questions that Mary Ann often fields, and her answer...

RESIDENT: "Where can I find out how my property is listed for Zoning?"

MARY ANN: "You can go to our website, www.worcestertwp.com and under Departments, Click on Planning & Permitting and under More and Planning in Permitting click on Zoning Map."

Branch and Leaf Drop-Off Location - Nike Park!

The branch drop-off site is open at Nike Park, 1575 North Trooper Road, just south of



Potshop Road will be open two days a week Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 10am to 2pm from March-October. The location will be open on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm (except when there is holiday, the drop-off will be Wednesday) from November-February.

The Township chips tree branches and makes the mulch available to Township residents at no cost. The mulch, and other materials are available for pick-up at the compost bins that are located near the Public Works Building 24/7 and at our new branch drop-off location during hours of operation. Please note the mulch must be self-loaded.

For more information and the most up to date schedule, please visit www.worcestertwp.com/departments/public-works/branch-drop-off-site/.



Variety Farm Cart

Back Tuesdays This Summer!
June 20 - August 8
10AM - 12PM
--
2950 Potshop Road
Worcester, PA 19490

Items for sale include
Variety-grown vegetables,
baked goods and handcrafted
items.

No pre-orders.

Cash, check,
Venmo and PayPal accepted.



SUMMER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Stay fire safe this summer - follow these grilling safety tips:

- Only use your grill outside. Keep it at least 3 feet from siding, deck rails and eaves.
- Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill. This will keep kids and pets safe.
- Open your gas grill before lighting.
- Keep your eye on your grill, fire pit or patio torches. Don't walk away from them when they are lit.
- Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.
- Place the coals from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.



Source: www.usfa.fema.gov



WORCESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

In first quarter of 2023, the men and women of the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department **logged 2,985 hours** conducting drills and responding to calls for help. If the Township were to employ a full-time paid fire department this cost would top \$2 million per year, or about \$180 for each person now living in Worcester! Our volunteer firefighters may not be paid, but maintaining a dependable volunteer fire department isn't free. The Worcester Volunteer Fire Department is always looking for persons who can help protect our community. But if you don't have the time to volunteer, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to those who are willing to put themselves in harm's way to keep our families safe.

Send your contribution to:

Worcester Volunteer Fire Department
1725 Valley Forge Road, Post Office Box 1, Worcester, PA 19490

Join the Ladies Auxiliary and help support the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department!

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department (LAWVFD) is looking to welcome new Members. The LAWVFD was formed in 1960 to assist and support the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD), their firefighters and our Worcester community. We host various fundraising activities, including our Spring and Fall Craft Fairs. For over 60 years, LAWVFD has made a great contribution to the success of the WVFD and serving our community. We meet the first Monday of every at 7:30 PM at the WVFD Meeting Room.



Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ladiesauxiliary83 or our website www.worcesterfd.com/ladies-auxiliary. For membership application, please contact us at lawvfd@gmail.com. 📧



Recycling Leaf & Yard Regulations

Last year, the Worcester Township Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 2021-286, which enacted recycling requirements, specifically leaf and yard waste, in order to make sure the Township is fully compliance with recycling requirements as mandated by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for municipalities with populations over 10,000.

Your trash hauler is required to have a monthly curbside collection of leaf and yard waste. The leaf waste should be bagged in biodegradable bags in order to be picked up. Some haulers may accept branches and other yard waste items. The Township has placed the information received from each of the trash haulers that service our community and the schedules for the monthly curbside collection on our website.

For more information on the recycling requirements and information for each of the haulers that service our community, please visit our recycling page on our website at www.worcestertwp.com.

TIPS ON WAYS TO CONTROL STORMWATER ON YOUR PROPERTY



Turn Around, Don't Drown

Some motorists approach road-closed signs and think, "I don't see anything dangerous, so I'll keep driving down the road." It's a decision that can cost lots of money, and lives.

Did you know...

- six inches of water will knock the strongest person off their feet
- six inches of water can cause a car to lose traction
- twelve inches of water will float most cars

In Pennsylvania drivers who are caught disregarding road-closed signs are assessed two points on their driver's license and a fine up to \$250. This fine increases to \$500 if the vehicle gets stuck and requires emergency rescue services.

So before driving around a road-closed sign, think twice about the risks. It's just not worth it!



Pavilion and Gazebo Rentals

Spring is the perfect time to reconnect with friends and family! If you are looking for a new place to host a gathering, we have you covered. Heebner Park is home to two pavilions and one gazebo that are available for rental. These facilities can be reserved seven days a week, sunrise to sunset, in four-hour increments.

Visit our website or call Mary Ann at (610)584-1410 for more information.

Here are some tips from the Penn State Extension to consider when you trying to control the stormwater on your property:

- **Downspout Disconnect/ Redirect** - If your downspouts are directed onto a paved or concrete surface or are directly connected to the storm drain system, look for opportunities to redirect them to lawn and garden areas. Just be sure that all downspouts are directed away from foundations to avoid basement flooding.
- **Rain Barrels** - Rain barrels capture and hold water until it can be used or slowly released into planted areas. For rain barrels to be effective at controlling stormwater, it is important to have a plan for using the water before installing one.
- **Planting Trees** - Planting trees are a great way to reduce stormwater runoff. If you have a stream on your property, planting trees along the stream can be the best thing you do for water quality and the trees will help prevent the stream from eroding away your property. The more trees the better, but aim for a forest that is at least 35 ft. wide. At the very least don't mow your lawn directly up to the edge of the streambank. Let the grass grow some roots!
- **Meadows** - If trees aren't an option on your property, adding other types of plants is a good substitute. Any areas where lawn can be replaced with ornamental grasses, flowers, and shrubs will have a positive impact on controlling stormwater on your property. Meadows, whether large or small, increase the ability of the land to absorb water. Meadows can be a great way to reduce the amount of time you spend mowing the grass and can be placed in the areas that are the most difficult to mow.
- **Rain Gardens** - One of the best options for managing stormwater on your property is to install a rain garden. A rain garden is a bowl-shaped garden that can capture and hold water until it is able to be absorbed into the soil.
- **Pervious Pavers** - Pervious pavers can look very similar to a traditional brick or stone patio, sidewalk, or driveway. The difference is that they are installed with a thick stone base that provides space for water to be stored until it soaks into the ground. They are great for converting hard surfaces that usually make a lot of stormwater, into a surface that absorbs, manages, and reduces stormwater runoff. 🐾



HOW MUCH CANDY IS IN THE FISHBOWL?

There is a fish bowl in the lobby of the Worcester Township Building. And in this fish bowl there is yummy candy! If your guess is closest to the actual number, you'll win the candy, and sweet bragging rights!

Submit your guess at the Township Building, or by e-mail to mmurray@worcestertwp.com, **before 4:00 pm on August 4th, 2023**. One guess per person please. The winner will be announced in our next newsletter.

And congratulations to **Robert Jones**, who guessed the exact number of candies in the fishbowl in our last contest (120 to be exact!). Robert, don't forget to share!

The candy is kindly contributed by the employees of Worcester Township, who are not eligible to submit a guess (sorry folks!). 🍬





2023 Road Improvement Program

This year, Worcester Township will continue implementation of its annual road improvement program. This program is designed to maximize the useful life of infrastructure through an aggressive maintenance plan and appropriately-scheduled capital improvements. The program, which includes a maintenance plan and a capital plan, allows the Township to maintain more than fifty-five miles of roads in good condition.

The maintenance plan includes pothole repair, street sweeping, roadside brush trimming, roadside swale maintenance and patch milling. The capital plan includes the replacement and installation of culverts and stormwater pipes, and the resurfacing and reconstruction of roads. On average, the Township resurfaces and/or reconstructs between three and five miles of roadways each year.

This summer the following roads will be resurfaced:

- East Adair Drive
- Defford Road
- Defford Circle
- Clyston Road
- Clyston Circle
- Bayton Road
- Bayton Circle
- Highview Drive
- Merion Way
- Landis Road

The work is scheduled to get underway in June, and will conclude by mid-August, weather permitting. Motorists using the above-noted roads may experience delays during construction. The Township thanks residents for their understanding and patience as we work to improve our community's roadways.

PHILADELPHIA METRO WILDLIFE CENTER

Philadelphia Metro Wildlife Center is a hospital run by licensed wildlife rehabilitation professionals. We treat all species of injured or orphaned wildlife. We DO NOT treat pets or remove/admit "unwanted" animals of any kind.

You must speak to a member of staff prior to bringing an animal.

- Most often, people observe normal wildlife behaviors which require no intervention, and the animal(s) should be left alone.
- If an animal needs help, please know you are responsible for transporting the animal to us in Norristown/Worcester Township, Montgomery County, PA. We will advise you about animal transport safety.

**PHILADELPHIA METRO
WILDLIFE CENTER**

Preserving Pennsylvania's wildlife
through rescue, rehabilitation, and
education

Admissions by appointment, only
open daily 9am-6pm

(267) 416-9453

www.phillywildlife.org

FARMER'S UNION HORSE COMPANY

Thanks to all who came out for the Farmers Union Horse Company 83rd Annual Horse Show!

Our next show will be our Fun Show on October 7, 2023, at Heyser Field, we hope to see you there! For more information on all of our horse shows and how to become a member of this 189-year-old organization, check out our website, farmersunionhorsecompany.org and make sure to mark your calendars for the first Saturday in June, June 1, 2024, for our 84th Annual Horse Show. 🐾



WORCESTER



TOWNSHIP

At the Center Point

of Montgomery County

1721 VALLEY FORGE ROAD
P.O. BOX 767
WORCESTER, PA 19490

Presorted
Standard Mail
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit #50
West Chester, PA

HOURS: 7:00 AM-4:30 PM
PHONE: (610) 584-1410
FAX: (610) 584-8901
WORCESTERTWP.COM

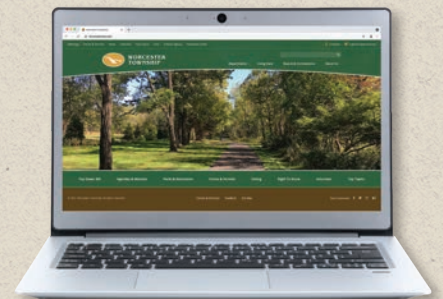
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Richard DeLello, Chair
Lou Betz, Vice Chair
Stephen Quigley, Member

Get Connected and Stay Informed!

There are many ways to get connected and stay informed about the happenings around Worcester Township!

- **Our award-winning newsletter** (*you are reading now!*) is mailed to every household in the Township four times a year.
- **Our website, worcestertwp.com**, provides the most up-to-date information on public meetings, proposed land developments, community events, road projects, and much more! Check out Top Topics (*at the top of home page*) for in-depth information on key projects throughout the Township.
- **Connect with up on social media!** Instant information about breaking news and events, timely tips, and much more!
- **Weekly e-mail updates.** For weekly updates sent directly to your inbox, sign-up for the Peek at the Week! *To enroll simply click the link at the top of our home page.*



Facebook:
 [@Worcestertownship](https://www.facebook.com/Worcestertownship)

As you can see, there is so many ways to get connected and stay informed depending on what works for you! If you have any questions about Township communications please contact Sean Halbom at (610) 584-1410, or by e-mail at shalbom@worcestertwp.com.