

WORCESTER



TOWNSHIP

At the Center Point

of Montgomery County

National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month, and the good folks in the Township's Office of Emergency Management (*volunteers!*) offer the following tips on how to be prepared in the event of a disaster.

- Assemble an emergency kit that includes non-perishable food, water, first aid supplies, and a flashlight.
- Make an emergency plan for your family.
- Sign up for emergency alerts at montcopa.org/readymontco.
- Make sure you know where your important documents are located, and how to access them at a moment's notice.

Want more information on getting and staying prepared? Visit ready.gov, or contact Nathan DiDonato, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, at ndidonato@worcestertwp.com.



Have enough food, water and meds to last for at least 3 to 7 days.

#NatlPrep



MAKE IT COUNT

The US Census helps to determine how billions of dollars in federal funding is allocated to states and municipalities each year. Think getting more money for Township roads, bridges and programs is a good thing? Then take a moment to respond to the 2020 Census if you haven't already done so. Be counted, and make it count! 🗳️

Worcester residents are doing their part to be counted. Below are response rates for the 2020 Census, as of August 1...

Worcester Township	77.4%
Montgomery County	73.4%
Pennsylvania	65.4%
United States	62.3%

United States® Census 2020

COMMUNITY DAY CANCELLED

Due to the pandemic, Worcester Community Day has been cancelled. Like a moonbounce without air, we're deflated... but providing a safe event (*that draws hundreds of folks*) in this rapidly-changing environment isn't possible.

We're now working to create a bigger and better Worcester Community Day for 2021. Please stay tuned for more information! 🗳️

And as always, a big thanks to our generous sponsors:

- CKS Engineers
- Furey and Baldassari
- Keystone Municipal Services
- Meadowood Senior Living
- Metropolitan Veterinary Associates





Watershed Protection Tip

On-Lot Septic Systems

A leaking on-lot septic system can leach harmful bacteria into storm sewer systems and local waterways. Keeping septic systems well-maintained both protects the local aquifer and prevents costly repairs.

Days Gone By

For many years a creamery operated in the building currently located directly opposite the Worcester Volunteer Fire Station on Valley Forge Road. According to an 1881 record book more than 80 local farmers hauled milk to this creamery each day. Farmers received between two and four cents per quart delivered, depending on the season.

Source: *A History of Worcester Township.*

Polling Place Update

As of the time this newsletter went to print in early August, Montgomery County Voter Services was planning to use the "old" polling places for the General Election in November. The polling places were relocated for this year's Primary Election, due to the pandemic.

A final decision on polling place locations will be made sometime after Labor Day. For more information please visit montcopa.org, or call Montgomery County Voter Services at (610) 278-3275.

5TH ANNUAL WORCESTER TOWNSHIP FOOD DRIVE

It's that time of year again... 'tis the season for giving! Last year we received an overwhelming response from residents, businesses and community organizations to assist those in need. And in 2020 there will likely be even more families who need our help.

Food items can be dropped off at the Township Building, 1721 Valley Forge Road, Monday to Friday, 7:00 am to 4:30 pm. The last date to drop-off donations is Thursday, November 19.

For residents who want to give, but are unable to stop by the Township Building during normal business hours, the Township is offering two convenient pick-up days! Just leave your donation in a paper bag at the front door, and we'll do the rest. Pick-ups must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance of collection.

The two pick-up days are...

- Thursday, November 5
- Thursday, November 12

To schedule a pick-up call the Township Building at (610) 584-1410. All food collected will be donated to the local Salvation Army Food Cupboard.

Please note that we can't accept expired goods, homemade items or any food in glass containers. 🗑️



Worcester Scenes

Look familiar? The first person to identify this location in Worcester Township will receive a neat prize, and a shout-out in our very next newsletter. Send your best guess to Mary Ann at mmurray@worcestertwp.com.

And congratulations to Donna Kasmala, who was the first to correctly identify the cupola at the Township Building in our last newsletter.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The following projects are now under review:

- **Palmer** - Seven commercial lots and one residential parcel at Skippack Pike & Valley Forge Road.
- **Palmer Village** - An eleven lot single-family detached subdivision, with a bank, convenience store, and pharmacy, at Skippack Pike & Valley Forge Road.

The following subdivision and land development projects are among those receiving approval in the recent years, and construction has not yet begun:

- **Blue Eagle Properties** - A 1,600 sf addition to an existing office building at Germantown Pike.
- **Meadowood** - Two generator units to service an existing retirement community at Skippack Pike.
- **Meadowood** - A 4,200 sf addition for administrative offices and resident amenities at an existing retirement community at Skippack Pike.

- **Sparango Construction** - An eight single-family detached home subdivision at Berks Road.
- **Stony Creek Village** - Office, retail, and restaurant buildings at North Wales Road & Township Line Road.

The following approved subdivision and land development projects are now under construction:

- **Mazz Properties** - A two-lot single family detached home subdivision at Morris Road.
- **Meadowood, The Grove** - A 52-unit age-restricted development at an existing retirement community at Skippack Pike.
- **Reserve at Center Square** - A residential subdivision at Skippack Pike that includes 125 townhomes and 125 single-family detached homes.
- **Whitehall Estates** - A 39 single-family detached home subdivision at Whitehall Road.

TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION

There's only 115 shopping days until Christmas. And this year the Worcester Township Building will again serve as a drop-off location for the Toys for Tots program. You can help the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve deliver a memorable holiday to those in our community who are less fortunate.

Stop in to donate a new, unwrapped gift up to December 16. The Township Building is open Monday to Friday from 7:00am to 4:30pm. (Please note we'll be closed on November 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.)

Used toys, realistic-looking toy weapons and items containing food can't be accepted. For more information about the Toys for Tots Program please visit toysfortots.org.



Hazardous Household Waste Collection

Looking for a safe and responsible way to discard used motor oil, bottles of weed killer, or that New York Mets sweatshirt your cousin from New Jersey gave you for your birthday? The good folks at Montgomery County make it easy to dispose of the bad stuff in your home through the County's annual hazardous household waste collection program.

The next collection event will be held:

Saturday, September 26, 9am to 3pm
Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center
400 South Lewis Road, Royersford

The service is free for Montgomery County residents. Sorry... business and industrial wastes are not accepted.

For complete program information – including a detailed list of acceptable materials – visit worcestertwp.com, montcoparecycles.org, e-mail recycling@montcopa.org, or call the Montgomery County recycling line at (610) 278-3618.

Pick-up in Township Parks

Man's best friend is always welcome in Worcester Township parks. But when walking Fido, please remember to pick-up, and to properly dispose of, any waste. The Township has installed several "mutt mitt" dispensers and waste receptacles throughout the parks and along the trails for the convenience of our guests.





Recycling Ideas Plastic Bags

Because plastic bags can damage the automated machines that are used to sort, separate and process recyclable materials, they should never be tossed in your recycling bin. Fortunately, many local stores collect plastic bags for recycling. You can search for store locations by zip code at abagslife.com.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

The Worcester Township Comprehensive Plan serves as the primary planning tool for our community. The Comprehensive Plan helps to guide growth and land preservation, natural resource protection, traffic management, infrastructure improvement, the provision of utilities, fiscal sustainability, and other issues that affect our community.

State Law requires every municipality to review its comprehensive plan every ten years, and earlier this year the Board of Supervisors appointed a 17-member Task Force to prepare and recommend updates to our plan. The first step in the update process is conducting a community survey... asking residents and business owners for their thinking on what matters most in our Township.



In May the Township mailed surveys to 1,757 randomly-selected property owners, and 578 folks completed and returned their survey. The key results are presented here. Thank you to all who responded! The information provided will help to shape the recommendations made by the Comprehensive Plan Update Task Force.



retrievr is Oh So Easy

The good folks at retrievr offer convenient **curbside collection** of used clothing and a wide variety of electronics... including those "old-fashioned" television sets that most recycling centers don't accept!

retrievr collects clothing at no cost (*no joke*), and charges a modest fee for the collection of certain electronics.

And scheduling a pick-up couldn't be easier. Simply...

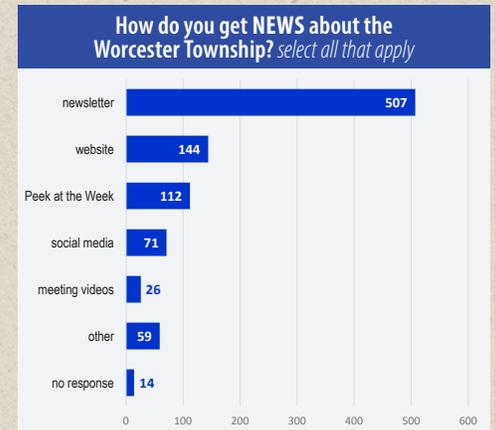
- text PICKUP to 757-70-FETCH, or
- visit retrievr.com and click the "schedule" button.

Visit retrievr.com for the complete list of accepted items, fees, and additional program information.

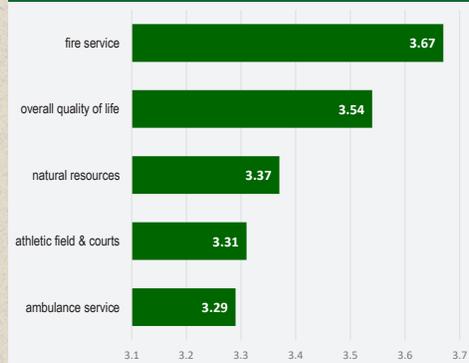
Worcester Township thanks you for your efforts to reuse and recycle, and to reduce the amount of waste dumped in landfills.

About Our Survey:

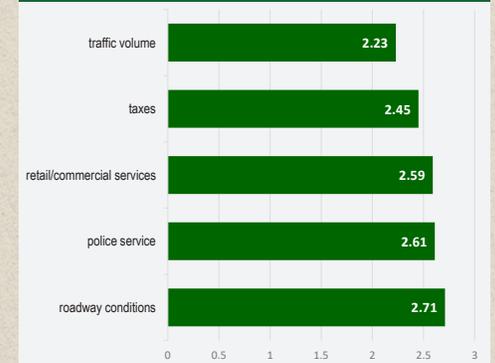
- 1,757 surveys mailed to 1 out of every 2 properties in the Township
- All recipients were randomly selected
- 578 surveys were returned, a 33% responsive rate
- "Other" responses typically included more than one answer, and as such these responses could not be coded to one category
- Complete survey are results available at worcestertwp.com



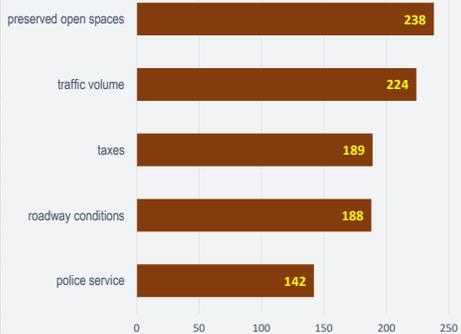
Rate the PRESENT QUALITY of the following... TOP 5 rated; scale 1 to 4



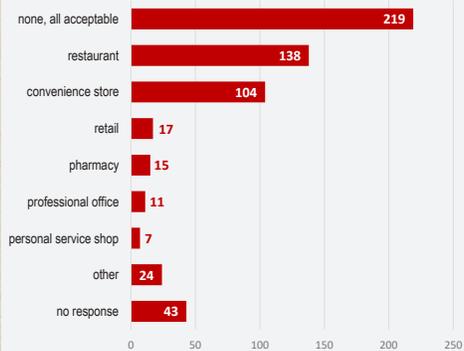
Rate the PRESENT QUALITY of the following... BOTTOM 5 rated; scale 1 to 4



What are the FIVE MOST IMPORTANT issues in Worcester Township today?



Which one COMMERCIAL SERVICE would you like to see in Worcester Township?



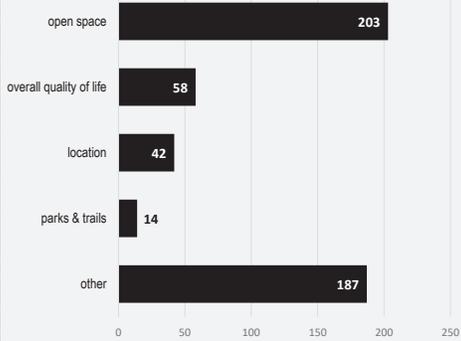
Ask Mary Ann

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...

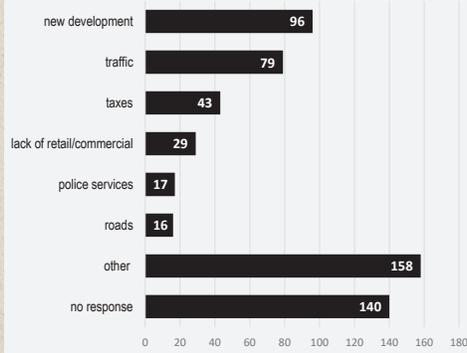
RESIDENT: "Does Worcester Township require a permit to re-shingle a roof?"

MARY ANN: "A permit is not required to re-shingle a roof. But if, during the course of the work, damage is found that requires structural repairs to the roof—for example the replacement of a truss or dormer—a permit would be required for these fixes."

What do you like MOST ABOUT LIVING/WORKING in Worcester Township?



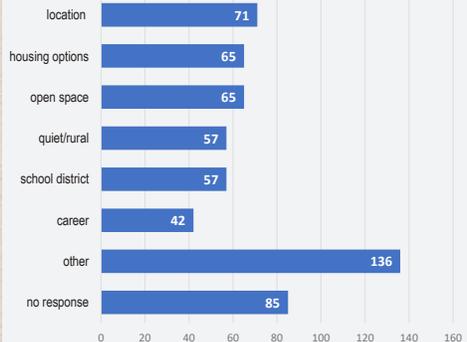
What do you like LEAST ABOUT LIVING/WORKING in Worcester Township?



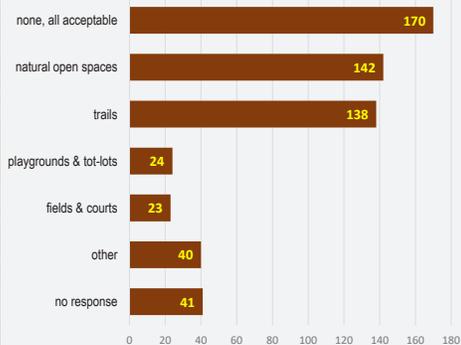
Which one ROADWAY is in the most need of improvement?



Why did you MOVE TO, OR LOCATE YOUR BUSINESS in, Worcester Township?



Which one RECREATIONAL FACILITY does Worcester Township need more of?



Join the Discussion, Have a Say!

The Task Force meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Please check worcestertwp.com for meeting time and location.

For more information on the Worcester Township Comprehensive Plan, and the update process, visit the "Top Topics" page at worcestertwp.com, e-mail CPU@worcestertwp.com, or contact the Township Building at (610) 584-1410



Free Little Library Book Review

Eragon by Christopher Paolini

Reviewed by Corey Ramirez (age 8)

The Story... A boy named Eragon finds a cool stone while walking in the mountains. Turns out that stone was really a dragon egg! The book talks about Eragon's adventures with his new friend.

My Favorite Part... My favorite part was reading how Eragon trains the dragon. It is really cool!

My Recommendation... I give this book four stars. I recommend it for anyone my age looking for a good kids' book.

Thank you, Corey, for an amazing book review!

Would you like to review a book from our Little Free Library collection? Simply visit the library at the Township Building, 1721 Valley Forge Road, pick a book (*it's free*), and ask a parent to contact Recreation Coordinator Steven Heintz at (610) 584-1410, or by email at sheintz@worcestertwp.com.

Fire Engines!

Be a part of the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department's annual Fire Prevention Week event at Merrymead Farm on Saturday October 10, from 10:30am to 3:00pm. Kids, this is your chance to explore super-cool fire engines and to meet real firefighters... all while learning about fire safety (*in a fun way*).

Please note... This event was "on" at the time this newsletter went to print in early August. So be sure to check out the Fire Department's website (worcestertwp.com), or follow the Fire Department on Facebook (@WorcesterFire), for the latest news on this and other events.



VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS HOURS LOGGED

Through the first six months of 2020, the men and women of the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department logged **2,579 hours** conducting drills and responding to calls for help. If these folks were paid firefighters, the estimated cost to Worcester taxpayers for the same number of service hours would total about **\$275,953**.

And 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!

Send your contribution to:
Worcester Volunteer Fire Department
1725 Valley Forge Road
Post Office Box 1
Worcester, PA 19490

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. 🙏

Making Cents

Saving taxpayer money, it's one of the things Worcester Township does best! Here's another example of a step we're taking today to keep our financial position secure tomorrow.

What we do...

Utilize online auctions to sell used equipment and other items no longer needed by the Township.

The background...

State Law requires that all municipalities sell certain items by public auction. Townships and boroughs must publish a legal ad in a local newspaper (*the ads no one reads*) that establish a process for the submission and opening of bids.

The step taken...

While not required to do so, Worcester posts its used items to a popular online auction site, thereby maximizing exposure among potential purchasers. The increase in bidders typically yields higher bids, and higher bids increase the percent of the item's original purchase price recovered by the Township.

HOW MUCH CANDY IN THE FISHBOWL?

There is a fish bowl in the lobby of the Worcester Township Building. And in this fish bowl there is candy... Peppermint Puffs to be exact. And lots of them.

How many Peppermint Puffs are in the fish bowl is your guess, and if your guess is the closest without going over 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 October 30. One guess per person please. The winner will be announced in our next newsletter.



And congratulations to Karen D'Orazio, whose guess of 189 came closest to the actual number of lollipops (199) in the fishbowl in our last contest. Karen, 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!*). 🙏

JUMP START SPORTS

Junior All-Stars

Ages 2.5 to 4

Each week features a different sport – soccer, hockey, basketball and track & field. With a focus on having fun, Junior All-Stars builds confidence and social skills, which helps prepare pre-school children for participation in more advanced sports programs.

Saturdays, Sep, 12 to Oct. 10

10:00am to 11:00am

Heebner Park front field

\$70 (includes t-shirt & award)

Ready to register? Visit jumpstartsports.com. Got a question? Contact Jen Yuvan at juvan@jumpstartsports.com.



PSCTA TENNIS

PSCTA is offering a fall tennis session for the first time! Children ages 5 to 10 have the opportunity to learn this great sport, and continue developing skills with the help of the professional staff of PennSuburban Community Tennis Association.

Wednesdays, Sep 2 to Sep 30

Heebner Park Tennis Courts

ages 5 to 8: 5:15-6:00pm

ages 9 & 10: 6:00-7:00pm

\$60 per resident, \$65 per non-resident

To register complete a Recreation Activity Form at worcestertwp.com, and return this to the Township Building.

Questions? Contact Steven Heintz, Recreation Coordinator at sheintz@worcestertwp.com, or at (610) 584-1410.

Babysitting Course

This popular American Red Cross certification course provides teens ages 11 to 15 with the confidence and skills needed to care for youngsters. Upon successful course completion students will receive an ARC Certification Card. Please bring a pencil, a snack, and lunch.



Sunday, October 4

9am to 3pm

Worcester Community Hall

\$70 per resident, \$75 per non-resident

All students must register at least one week prior to the class!

For more information contact Recreation Coordinator Steven Heintz at (610) 584-1410, or by email at sheintz@worcestertwp.com.



Join Cub Scouts!

This year will be Worcester Cub Pack 200 66th year serving the youth who attend Worcester Elementary and other schools throughout the community! And as always, the award-winning, family-friendly Pack 200 is looking forward to a fun-filled fall with lots of activities planned for boys and girls in grades K to 4. Now is the perfect time to join!

The scouts meet every other week at Central Schwenkfelder Church, 2111 Valley Forge Road. For more information about Cub Pack 200, contact Matthew Ryan, Pack Committee Chair, at cubpack200@gmail.com.



At the Center Point

of Montgomery County

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

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

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RICHARD DELELLO, CHAIR
STEPHEN QUIGLEY, VICE CHAIR
SUSAN CAUGHLAN, MEMBER

STAY CONNECTED:

TWITTER, FACEBOOK, AND
E-NEWS SIGNUP AT WORCESTERTWP.COM

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



What's Happening!

Every Friday afternoon the Township distributes a "Peek at the Week"—a list of Township meetings and community events scheduled for the upcoming seven days, plus other useful information. To get your Peek by e-mail simply enroll for E-News Sign-Up at worcestertwp.com. Peek at the Week is also posted to the Township's Facebook (@worcestertownship) and Twitter (@WorcesterTwp) accounts.



Coming Soon...

Dog-friendly Water Fountains

New water fountains will be installed at Heebner Park and Sunny Brook Park by year's end. The fountains are constructed to better weather the winter months (*when pipes can freeze*), and will feature a special fountain designed just for dogs, or extremely short children.

