

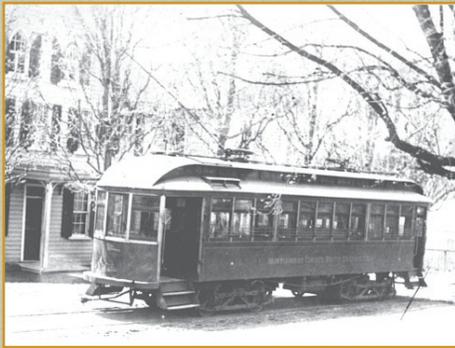
WORCESTER



TOWNSHIP

At the Center Point

of Montgomery County



Days Gone By

To provide public transportation from Norristown to Worchester, 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 reached 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 Worchester Township.*

WORCESTER TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION PROGRAM

The Board of Supervisors has launched an Open Space Program that aims to permanently preserve at least 300 acres of land by 2033, the Township's 300th anniversary. When achieved more than 20% of the Township's total land area will be preserved forever... that's one in every five acres!



The Board of Supervisors also created a program that matches private donations made to open space preservation efforts. The Township will match every dollar contributed, up to \$300,000 per year, with all funds held in a special account dedicated for open space preservation. All residents and businesses in the Township should have received information regarding how you can help donate to this fund in order to help with preserving more open space!

Any questions about the program, please call the Township Building at (610) 584-1410, or e-mail openspace@worcestertwp.com or visit our website www.worcestertwp.com.



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 flowing water will knock the strongest person off their feet;
- six inches of water can cause a car to lose traction; and,
- 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!

Branch Drop-Off Location- Nike Park!

The branch drop-off site at Nike Park, 1575 North Trooper Road, just south of Potshop Road will be open two days a week, Wednesday and Saturday, 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 Nike Park 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/.



Photo From L to R: C. Kim Bracey, Executive Director for the Governor's Center for Local Government Services, Public Works Employee Robert Coulter, Finance Director Nicole Quagliariello, Board of Supervisors Chairman Rick DeLello, and Richard Vilello Jr., Deputy Secretary for Community Affairs and Development, DCED. (Photo Credit-PSATS)

WORCESTER RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S AWARD For Local Government Excellence

Worcester Township is pleased to announce the Township has received the 2022 Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence for Fiscal Accountability in recognition of its work to create a fiscally sustainable sanitary sewer system. The award was presented to the Worcester Township Board of Supervisors Chairman Rick DeLello by C. Kim Bracey, Executive Director for the Governor's Center for Local Government Services, at a ceremony held at the State Museum of Harrisburg on April 13th.

In the Fall of 2015, the Township's Sewer Fund was depleted, and system expenses were being paid by the General Fund. At that time Township officials implemented a plan of action that included:

- conducting a "top-to-bottom" review of all expenditures and receipts;
- establishing a minimum fund balance policy to be respected at all times; and,
- maintaining a reserve account that fully funds the system's long-term capital improvements.

Today, the Sewer Fund has a balanced annual operating budget of approximately \$700,000, and possesses a capital reserve fund in excess of \$2,000,000.

Equally impressive, the Township's sanitary sewer fee has increased by less than 1.0% each year for the last five years. The increase for 2022 was only 0.5%, or 22 cents per month for each single-family home connected to the system.

The Worcester Township sanitary sewer system serves more than 1,000 homes and businesses. The system includes two wastewater treatment plants, seven pumping stations, and approximately twenty miles of sewer mains.

For additional information on the Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence please visit <https://dced.pa.gov/governors-awards-for-local-government-excellence/>.

COME JOIN US FOR THESE FREE EVENTS!

Join us for fun for the entire family! All of these events will be free and take place at Heebner Park.



MOVIE IN THE PARK

Bring a blanket or a few lawn chairs and enjoy the show!



Saturday, July 16
 at 8:45pm
Sing 2



Saturday, August 13
 at 8:15pm
Encanto

PONY RIDES, PETTING ZOO & DUCK RACES!

Saturday, September 10 from 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Come join us for an afternoon with the Friendly Farm Petting Zoo, including sheep, goats, chickens, bunnies, ducks, and Indian fantails. We are also going to have Pony Rides and even Duck Races! Don't miss out!



BOUNCE OUT HUNGER

Saturday, October 8 from 11:00am – 3:00pm
 (rain date: October 9th)

Bring some non-perishable food items that will be delivered to a local food bank and then get to bounce on various attractions including Pony Hop, 20 Feet Double Slide, Toddler Jungle Town, a 40 Feet Obstacle Course and a Midway 3-in-1 Game.



2022 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:

- Adair Drive
- Doe Brook Road
- Heebner Park Parking Lot and Trail
- Hollis Road
- Markley Avenue
- Methacton Avenue
- Mount Kirk Park Parking Lot and Trail
- Plumlyn Avenue
- Reichenbach Road
- Shefley Lane
- Slough Road

The work is scheduled to get underway in June, and will conclude by late-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.

Starting in the 2022-2023 school year

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN NOW ENROLLING!

methacton.org/kindergartenregistration

EVENTS FOR REGISTERED FAMILIES

- ✦ Kindergarten Screening
- ✦ Summer Building Tours
- ✦ School Bus Experience
- ✦ Kindergarten Orientation

ELIGIBILITY

Child must be 5 on or before 9/1/22

SCAN FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOUNDARIES



Tennis Anyone?

The always-popular PSCTA youth tennis program returns in 2022! Children ages 10 & under can learn the sport and develop skills with help of professional coaches from the PennSuburban Community Tennis Association.

Below are the sessions that will be offered for the Summer and Fall:

Summer Session: Wednesdays, July 27 to August 24 (*make-up date August 31st*)

Fall Session: Wednesdays, September 14 to October 12 (*make-up date October 19th*)

All sessions take place at the Heebner Park tennis courts. Children ages 5 to 8 will play from 5:15 to 6:00pm, and children ages 9 and 10 will take to the courts from 6:00 to 7:00pm. \$60 for residents, \$65 for non-residents.

To register complete and submit a Recreation Activity Form, available at worcestertwp.com.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann at (610) 584-1410, or by e-mail at mmurray@worcestertwp.com.



TIPS ON WAYS TO CONTROL STORMWATER ON YOUR PROPERTY

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 band of trees 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. 🌱



**Variety
Farm Cart**

BACK TUESDAYS THIS SUMMER!
JUNE 21 - AUGUST 9
10 AM to 12 PM
--
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.



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... lollipops to be exact. And lots of them.

How many lollipops are in the fish bowl is your guess, and if your guess is the closest to the actual number you'll win the candy, and sweet bragging rights.

Submit your guess at the Township Building, before 4:00 pm on July 15th. One guess per person please. The winner will be announced in our next newsletter.

And congratulations to Robert Belsky who was closest guess of 256 to actual number of lollipops and hard candies (263) in the fishbowl in our last contest. 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. 🍭



Need to Recycle Hazardous Household Waste, Electronics or More?

Montgomery County is offering events through the spring, summer into the fall to recycle hazardous household waste including sealer, oil, pesticides and more. These events are by appointment only and pre-registration is required.



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.

While the County is not offering electronic recycling events, all Montgomery County Residents are able to schedule curbside pickups for electronics and clothing. Retrievr collects clothing at no cost, and charges a modest fee for the collection of certain electronics.

retrievr

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.

Volunteer Firefighters Hours Logged

In first quarter of 2022, the men and women of the Worcester Volunteer Fire Department logged **2,511 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 **\$271,188**.

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!

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

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 the questions that Mary Ann often fields, and her answer...

Resident: "What are the locations and seating arrangements for the pavilions at Heebner Park?"

Mary Ann: "A small pavilion is located near the playground with 3 picnic tables, a large pavilion is located near the soccer fields with 6 picnic tables, and the gazebo located in the center of the park also has 6 picnic tables. Rental fees can be found on the website"

THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE WORCESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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 the Worcester community. LAWVFD hosts various fundraising activities, including the 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. LAWVFD meet the first Monday of every month at 7:30 PM at the WVFD Meeting Room.



For more information check out the LAWVFD Facebook at www.facebook.com/ladiesauxiliary83/ or our Website at www.worcesterfd.com/ladies-auxiliary. For membership application, please contact lawvfd@gmail.com. 📧

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

HOME COOKIN' AT MEADOWOOD By Meadowood Resident and Amateur Chef Mary Lindner

My heritage is Pennsylvania Dutch where most of the food had a German origin and flavor. The women raised fruits and vegetables much of which they canned for the winter store. Grandpa made egg noodles on Saturday, enough to last the week. While our diets have improved, I do long for some of the old fashion dishes!

Opulent Chicken Casserole is a recipe my mother often made, and it has been a standard for three generations with some updating along the way. It is easy and economical to make, can be made ahead and freezes well. People seem to like this dish, so enjoy making Opulent Chicken Casserole! 📧

OPULENT CHICKEN CASSEROLE



VISIT WORCESTERTWP.COM
KEYWORD HOME COOKIN'
FOR MARY'S RECIPE!



FARMER'S UNION HORSE COMPANY

Come out for the 82nd Annual Farmers' Union Horse Company Horse Show to be held on June 4, 2022 at Heyser Field in Fairview Village. This annual horse show is open to English and western riders and all levels of participants from lead line to advanced. There will also be a mini-horse exhibition around noon. This event is free for spectators. Learn more at www.farmersunionhorsecompany.org/events. 🐾

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 compliant 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. 🐾

Subdivision & Land Development Update

The following projects are now under review:

- Hugarir – An eight-lot single-family detached home subdivision at Artmar Road.
- Palmer – Seven commercial lots and one residential parcel at Skippack Pike & Valley Forge Road.
- Palmer Village – An eleven-lot single-family detached home subdivision, with a bank, convenience store, and pharmacy, at Skippack Pike & Valley Forge Road.
- City View – A 180-unit apartment complex at Germantown Pike and Park Avenue.

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

- Bethel Development Associates – A two-lot single-family detached home subdivision at Skippack Pike.
- Gunsalas Tract – A three-lot single-family detached home subdivision at Mill Road.
- Meadowood – A 4,200 sf addition for administrative offices and resident amenities at an existing retirement community at Skippack Pike.
- Sparango Construction – An eight-lot 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:

- Meadowood – A 20-bed memory care facility 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.

WORCESTER



TOWNSHIP

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
Lou Betz, Vice Chair
Stephen Quigley, Member

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

Get Connected and Stay Informed!

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



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.

Our award-winning newsletter (you are reading now!) is mailed to every household in the Township four times a year.

Connect with us on social media! Instant information about breaking news and events, timely tips, and much more!

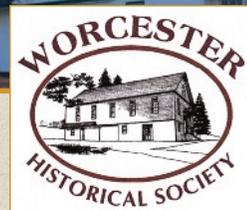
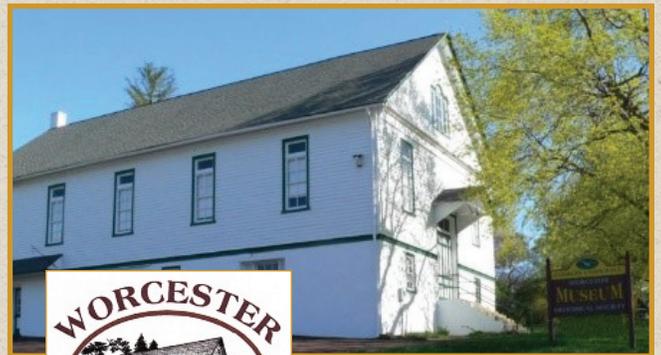
 Facebook – @Worcestertownship

 Twitter – @WorcesterTwp

 Instagram – @worcestertwppa

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.

If you have any questions about Township communications please call the Township Building at (610) 584-1410.



Worcester Historical Society Museum

The Worcester Historical Society Museum will be open every Saturday from 9:00am-12:00pm starting May 14 through September. The Museum is user and child friendly. All are welcome and donations are greatly appreciated. For further information, please visit worcesterhistorical.org.