



Crossroads

Proud of Our Past. Pride in Our Progress.

There's a New Chief in Town

To hear West Whiteland Township's new Chief of Police speak about the current challenges facing our community and country is like sitting in a masterclass on optimism and enthusiasm. With more than 35 years in community policing, Chief Lee Benson says the role of police in local communities is perhaps more important than ever, and it's one he's eager to embrace in West Whiteland.

(continued on page 2)



New Chief Lee Benson is pictured with his wife, Karen, and Judge John Bailey at his swearing-in ceremony on June 10, 2020.

Police Department Ranks in the Top 10% in State for Accreditation



Township officials, including now retired Police Chief Joe Catov, receiving the Department's Accreditation from PLEAC representatives (2018).

The West Whiteland Township Police Department is proud to have earned accreditation from the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, a professional achievement that fewer

than 10% of police departments across the state have earned.

What does it mean to achieve accreditation? An independent assessment team from

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There's a New Chief in Town *(continued from page 1)*

Lee comes to West Whiteland from the Upper Dublin Township Police Department, where he spent the majority of his career in a variety of roles ranging from detective to chief. He says that leading a community police department is an extremely rewarding, albeit challenging, position. It's one he also says focuses around relationships, transparency, and trust.

"This police department wants to welcome all members of the community – to get to know them, to make them feel safe, and to let them know that we are here for them," said Lee. "That's certainly much more difficult during a pandemic, but we are working hard to find different avenues and channels to do that, and to reach out." He points to the

Department's Facebook page, Crimewatch website, and even phone calls that officers are making to try to stay in touch with residents in a safe manner.

Lee says in addition to supporting the community in a variety of ways throughout the pandemic, West Whiteland's Police Department is focused on gaining community trust around issues of racial justice, equity, and police civility.

"I applaud West Whiteland Township for recently passing a resolution on equity and racial justice," said Lee. "We go above and beyond to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and with respect. The Police Department has a policy that prohibits biased-based policing, which has been known as racial profiling. That means we will take no enforcement action of any kind based on a person's race, gender, or ethnicity. We actively train our officers to ensure we are making good decisions and taking responsible actions."

Lee is proud of West Whiteland's commitment to equity, evidenced by the extensive training officers have undertaken specifically related to these issues. Newly retired Police Chief Joe Catov led West Whiteland through an extensive state accreditation process that included training for best practices in policing. As part of the process, officers are certified and continually retrained in a variety of issues, including the prohibition of choke holds for arrests, proper use of force, first aid, peaceful de-escalation, and racial equity. In addition, West Whiteland officers are mandated to report any misconduct by fellow officers.

"We don't just put it into a policy," Lee said. "We train our officers and we reinforce that training on a daily basis."

Lee's career began as an intelligence specialist with the U.S. Navy in Jacksonville, Florida. He moved on to work as a patrolman in both Horsham and Upper Dublin Township Police Departments before becoming a detective in Upper Dublin. Over the next few decades, he served as a patrol sergeant, deputy chief of administration, deputy chief and eventually police chief, all in Upper Dublin.

"It was an extremely satisfying experience," Lee said. "It's a fantastic police department with amazing officers who are committed and dedicated to doing a great job for their community. I feel West Whiteland has that same kind of police force, and I'm extremely happy to be here."

Lee made the difficult decision to retire from Upper Dublin in 2019 to utilize his extensive law enforcement experience as a consultant for local police agencies. He also continued his work as a Team Leader



West Whiteland Township Police Chief Lee Benson

and Assessor for the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, which works with police departments around the state on developing best practices and policies.

"I realized very quickly that I missed active police work," he said. "As I watched what was happening in the world, between COVID and the national concerns about our police departments, I felt like I was sitting on the sidelines. I knew I still had a lot to contribute and was still very passionate about the job."

Lee first took an interest in police work in high school. He graduated from Temple University with a degree in criminal justice and received his master's degree from West Chester University. He also attended the FBI National Academy session 212 and Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

He and his wife Karen live in Harleysville, Montgomery County. They have two grown daughters and one grandchild. Lee has another female in his life - his West Highland White Terrier, Luna, now known in his family as a "West Whiteland" terrier. He enjoys taking Luna for long walks, likes to kayak, and is an amateur photographer.

One of the things that has impressed

Lee most about West Whiteland's Police Department is the officers' connection with the community, and the emphasis on true community policing, where the goal is to build relationships and create partnerships. He says the township's police are focused on helping to direct residents to the social services they may need, and on truly getting to know the residents.

"We want people to be able to talk with us about anything," he said. "We want to hear what their issues and problems are, and vice versa. Do they have people speeding on their street? How can we help them? And can they be our eyes and ears?"

Lee wants West Whiteland residents to know that the police department stands ready to help residents in any way they can. "We don't ever want anyone to hesitate to call us. We are here to help."



Lt. Deceder Graduates from FBI National Academy

Congratulations to Lieutenant Matt Deceder on his graduation from the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy, Class 279. The FBI National Academy provides this training to only 1% of law enforcement executives from the United States and worldwide. **Lt. Deceder (pictured on right) is the 8th member of the West Whiteland Township Police Department to attend this coveted training (March 13, 2020).**

Police Department Ranks in the Top 10% in State for Accreditation *(continued from page 1)*

across the state evaluates each police department and ultimately recommends accreditation. In order to maintain the accreditation, departments must be reevaluated every three years.

In order to receive full accreditation, police departments must meet 140 professional standards - through both policies and proof of practice. The rigorous process is designed to improve performance and enhance safety for both police and residents. Police departments must provide proof of compliance, such as videos, observations, photos, police reports,

participation in interviews and ride-alongs with the officers and assessor.

West Whiteland first earned accreditation in 2018 and will participate in re-accreditation in 2021.

The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association formed the Accreditation Commission in 2001 to ensure that police are operating with the highest professional standards. Commitment to this voluntary program demonstrates the high level of professionalism West Whiteland's Police department strives to provide its residents.

The accreditation process includes a focus on continuous training for officers, as well as an emphasis on police accountability. It includes a review of policies, practices, and training regarding bias-based policing, arrest procedures, use of force, internal affair investigations, and traffic stops.

Accreditation also provides a framework for local police departments to strengthen community relations, improve internal management, and encourage problem-solving and planning.

Path Connects Chester Valley Trail to Exton Train Station

Good news for those wanting to access Exton train station by foot or bike! West Whiteland Township is happy to celebrate the opening of a new bike and pedestrian path that connects the Chester Valley Trail to the Exton Train Station. The Township is always looking for ways to support our businesses and connect our community, and this path does both.

The path is essentially an extra wide sidewalk along Route 100 in front of Main Street at Exton. It continues under the Route 30 overpass. Crosswalks on Route 100 and the Route 30 ramp, next to the train station, are well-lit, and traffic signals are timed to enhance the safety of those crossings. "Many people have asked when we will get a pedestrian bridge over Route 100 and we still hope to see that someday, but meanwhile these improvements make it much safer to walk and bike from Exton Train Station," said Theresa Santalucia, West Whiteland Township's Board of Supervisor's Vice-Chair.

As part of the same contract, Chester County made a straight pathway for the Chester Valley Trail crossing at Route 100. Instead of the confusing three-part crossing over Commerce Drive, Route 100, and back again over Commerce Drive, trail users now can safely walk or bike straight across Route 100. Bidding the two projects together saved both governments money and reduced the impact on trail users and motorists that would have occurred through separate construction.

Many people and organizations made this project possible. Funding for West Whiteland's path came from a multi-modal transportation grant through the PA Department of Community and Economic



Courtesy of the Daily Local: Cutting the ribbon on the project are (left to right) State Senator Andy Dinniman and his dog, Jagger, Chester County Commissioners Josh Maxwell and Marian Moskowitz, Township Supervisors Theresa Santalucia and Rajesh Kumbhare, Chester County Commissioner Michelle Kichline, Wolfson Group President Steve Wolfson, West Whiteland Township Manager Mimi Gleason and Director of Public Works Ted Otteni.

Development with the help of Senator Andy Dinniman, a contribution from the Wolfson Group, which owns Main Street at Exton, and Township funds. Chester County's Route 100 trail crossing was funded by a Pennsylvania Automated

Red-Light Enforcement Transportation Enhancements Grant and a Regional Trails grant from the William Penn Foundation that is administered by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Road Improvement on Whitford Road

The Township is working with an adjacent developer to construct a new northbound lane on Whitford Road, from Lincoln Highway to Waterloo Blvd. The additional lane will provide additional capacity for those heading north on Whitford Road, particularly those turning left from Lincoln Highway. A second northbound lane already exists for a short stretch north of Waterloo Blvd. Vehicles will be expected to merge into a single lane as they continue north past the signalized intersection. Construction is anticipated to start in late spring of 2021 and should only take a few weeks.

Township's Commitment to Clean Energy

West Whiteland Township is committed to transitioning to clean energy.

West Whiteland has partnered with five other municipalities in the West Chester Area Council of Governments (COG) to develop a long-term, actionable roadmap to reach the following goals for the entire community:

100% Renewable Electricity by 2035
100% Renewable Energy by 2050

The six partners – West Whiteland, East Goshen, West Goshen, East Bradford and Westtown Townships, and West Chester Borough – hired The Cadmus Group, a Boston-based energy consulting firm, to develop that roadmap and accepted the final *West Chester Area 100% Renewable Energy Transition Study* in February. More information about the study can be found on the COG's Neighborhood University website: <https://www.nugwc.org/clean-energy>.

Making it Happen

The COG partners have agreed to work together to explore purchasing solar energy through a power purchase agreement. Organizations such as SEPTA and the University of Pennsylvania have been able to *lower* their electricity costs through a solar power purchase agreement. COG volunteers also are assembling information to help residents learn the best and most affordable ways to transition to renewable energy. That information will be added to the Neighborhood University website soon.

Each municipality also will work on individual projects to achieve the study's goals. To start, West Whiteland has



secured a grant to partially pay for a new electric vehicle (EV) charging station at the Township Building. This location was chosen because of its status as a trailhead for the Chester Valley Trail, and its proximity to the commercial areas near the Exton Crossroads. We will be taking advantage of the Driving PA Forward Level 2 EV Charging Rebate, which covers 90% of the project costs, up to \$9,000. The Township is also applying for the PECO Commercial Level 2 Electric Vehicle Charger Rebate, that could equate to another \$500. The installation of the EV charger will begin in the fall of 2020 and will be complete by the end of the year. Stay tuned for an announcement when the charger is available for public use.



Did You Know?

West Whiteland Township's first step towards converting to renewable energy is the purchase of two hybrid police patrol cars and the installation of a new electric vehicle (EV) charging station at the Township Building.

Glenn Marshall Named Albert P. Greenleaf “Outstanding Volunteer” September 9, 2020

The West Whiteland Township Board of Supervisors recognizes Glenn Marshall for his years of service and dedication to the Township government and the community. As a past Supervisor and member of a variety of Commissions and special committees, Glenn has played a major role in improving Township services and planning for the future.

Glenn’s first experience with the Township was when he was appointed to the Board of Supervisors on January 7, 1991 to fill the unexpired term of Albert Miller. His term lasted for just that year, but it proved to be the beginning of a long career in service.

After leaving the Board, Glenn was largely consumed with raising his family and

developing his career in banking. After working at a succession of banks in the greater Philadelphia area, Glenn became one of the co-founders of First Resource Bank. First Resource opened its doors in May 2005, with Glenn as CEO and President.

Even so, Glenn found time to serve on the Township Planning Commission, Pension Advisory Board, Vacancy Board, Board of Auditors, and numerous ad hoc Township committees, as well as on the Exton Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors of the West Whiteland Fire Company, and a wide variety of other civic and professional organizations.

His most recent involvement with the Township began in 2013 when Glenn was asked to serve on a committee to

develop a plan for the redevelopment of the Lincoln Highway and Whitford Road corridors, which was ultimately adopted as an amendment to the Township’s Comprehensive Plan. Glenn was elected to Chair that committee and served on a related committee to develop a plan for transportation improvements. He was re-appointed to the Planning Commission in 2014 where he served continuously until earlier this year. Glenn’s willingness to share his ideas and experience, and his dedication to the community, made him an invaluable asset to any group he worked with.

Thank you, Glenn, for three decades of volunteer service and leadership to West Whiteland Township. Congratulations on a well-deserved award!



Albert P. Greenleaf “Outstanding Volunteer” Award

The Albert P. Greenleaf “Outstanding Volunteer” Award was created to recognize outstanding volunteers whose unselfish and dedicated service to the Township has made a significant difference in their community. It is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Board of Supervisors.

The namesake of the award, Albert “Alby” P. Greenleaf, was a life member of the Chester County Fire Police and the West Whiteland Fire Company where he devoted more than 55 years to serving and bettering his community through his volunteerism. He was the first recipient of the award in 1999.

Township's Emergency Management Coordinator



As the recently appointed Emergency Management Coordinator, George "Bud" Turner, had no idea what he got himself into when he agreed to serve in this role as a volunteer back in February. Bud was originally appointed by the state in 1975 as the township's first Emergency Management Coordinator. A pandemic wasn't included in the all-hazards list at

that time, but it certainly is this year.

To the people who know Bud, it's no surprise that he would be up to the challenge.

Returning to the role as Emergency Management Coordinator, he is not an unfamiliar face at the Township Building. Bud's long history of service includes participation on various county and township bodies including the Township Comprehensive Plan Committee and the County 9-1-1 Commission. Bud also served 24 years as Chief of the West Whiteland Fire Company where he still volunteers as an engineer. The Township recognized Bud with Albert Greenleaf Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2003.

But his work as a volunteer isn't close to being done. As Emergency Management Coordinator, Bud oversees the planning, assessment and implementation of program to protect the residents and resources of the Township and works to minimize the effects of disasters that can be foreseen. That role has been particularly demanding this past year, and Bud has worked hard to acquire and distribute COVID supplies to our emergency responders, Township staff and health care facilities. In addition, Bud has worked with staff to ensure that up-to-date, accurate information related to COVID testing and compliance with Governor Wolf's orders is shared with the public.

The time commitment for this position has been greater than usual this year, and the Township is grateful to Bud for his continued dedication to the West Whiteland community as both volunteer Emergency Management Coordinator and West Whiteland Fire Company engineer.

October is Fire Prevention Month!

In 1922, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) named the second week of October Fire Prevention Week in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. The goal of Fire Prevention Month is to raise fire safety awareness and help ensure your home and family has a plan and is ready for the unexpected. Remember these tips to keep you and your family safe.

Add Fire Safety to Your Fall Clean-up List:

- **Outside** – Remove dead vegetation and any unnecessary items such as discarded containers, boxes, debris, etc.
- Make sure that **fuels** are stored in suitable containers for the type of fuel, labeled properly and stored in a safe location.
- **Electrical** – Check all appliance cords, light cords, etc., for fraying or damage. Check the receptacles that these devices are plugged into to ensure that connections are tight, and plugs are not loose.
- Test all **smoke detectors** to make sure that they are working properly.
- **Carbon monoxide** is not just a hazard during the fall/winter season. Carbon monoxide is a product of incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and can originate from vehicles in attached garages, gas-powered water heaters, stoves, dryers, fireplaces and pilot lights. Clean and maintain these appliances properly and test all carbon monoxide detectors.
- Clean the full length of **dryer vents** and ensure that they are of the proper material and length.

For more home fire safety tips visit www.nfpa.org.

Contact the West Whiteland Township Code Administration Office or check our website for assistance in determining if your planned home improvement requires a permit in order to ensure the safety of the work and its compliance with building, construction and zoning codes.

Why Can't West Whiteland Township Shut Down Pipeline Construction?

Residents have implored the Township to stop Energy Transfer from building natural gas liquid pipelines in West Whiteland. The Board of Supervisors and staff agree that Energy Transfer should not be building these pipelines here, but unfortunately the Township has no more authority to stop them than any resident does.

The Pennsylvania Constitution directs the state legislature to grant powers to local governments and there are no state laws granting townships the power to regulate pipelines. Recent court decisions have confirmed this.

When Energy Transfer proposed construction of Mariner East pipelines, several townships across PA tried to use local government powers, such as zoning, to fight the project. Each time, Commonwealth Court ruled that the

power to regulate pipelines had been given to the state, not to townships, in Pennsylvania. The bottom line in this state is that the PA Public Utility Commission (PUC) enforces regulations for petroleum and natural gas liquids pipelines – and right now those regulations all come from the federal government.

PA Needs Better Pipeline Regulations

While local governments could not stop construction of the pipelines, we are working together to try to make them safer. At the urging of state and local elected officials from our area, the PUC has begun a rulemaking process to strengthen safety regulations for intrastate pipelines carrying petroleum products or other hazardous liquids. Unlike other states, no such regulations

currently are in place in Pennsylvania. If adopted, the new state regulations would supplement federal rules.

The West Whiteland Board of Supervisors hired a consultant to **recommend safety practices** to be addressed in the rulemaking process and then worked with other municipalities in Chester County to submit **extensive comments** to the PUC based on those recommendations. The PUC is reviewing all of the submitted comments and preparing proposed regulations. The release of the proposed regulations is expected soon and will start another public comment period.

More information about the rulemaking and the Township's other efforts related to the Mariner East pipeline can be found on the website at <https://www.westwhiteland.org/359/Mariner-East-Pipeline>.



Fall Season and Fire Pits

Recently, West Whiteland Township amended the Fire Code to allow for the use of professionally made fire pits. These devices include wood-burning devices, as well as liquid and gaseous fuel burning devices that can be purchased from most retail home improvement stores.

It is imperative that residents read and follow the manufacturer's instructions for assembling and using fire pits and chimineas. **For wood burning appliances, residents should only burn clean, seasoned firewood. The burning of brush, trash, and debris in these devices is not only hazardous, but is also considered an ordinance violation.**

Residents can now use commercially sold portable fireplaces so long as they are placed 15 feet from any structure and combustible surface and no permit is required.

Residents wishing to have a **site-built** outdoor fire pit must apply for a permit. Regardless of the type of outdoor fire pit in use, never leave it unattended, keep it separated from any other combustible material, and do not use it during inclement weather such as high wind, excessively dry conditions, etc.

Questions can be directed to the West Whiteland Township Codes Dept. by emailing codes@westwhiteland.org.

A Tale of Two Sewers

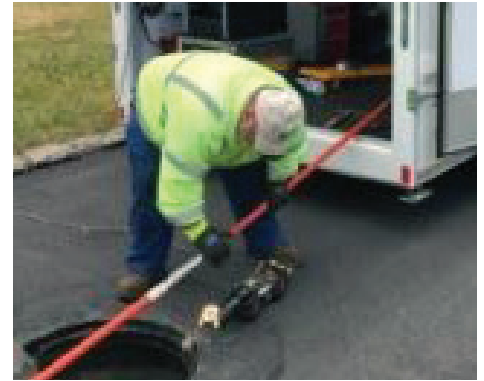
Tut, Tut, Looks Like Rain!

When the rains come down, what prevents the floods from coming up? The Township has a **stormwater** sewer system that collects rainwater and channels it to the nearest rivers and streams. This water runs off roads, driveways, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces. The water that goes into the stormwater sewer system is **not** treated before it flows into the creeks and streams.

The Township also has a **sanitary** sewer

system that carries all the wastewater from houses and businesses to a sewage treatment plant. There the water is treated, or cleaned, before it is discharged into waterways. Treatment of wastewater costs money and is a significant part of property owners' annual sewer bill.

Recent discoveries found that stormwater is invading the Township's sanitary sewer system. This is called stormwater inflow. With heavy rainfall (like what we had this summer), the Township's sanitary sewer system experiences severe spikes in flow



rate, which suggests that there is quite a bit of inflow. The additional stormwater that is getting into the system gets funneled to the wastewater treatment plant to be treated, resulting in **additional costs** to the Township and to the residents. It could also trigger the need for expensive upgrades to the collection and treatment facilities down the line. The Township is currently conducting inflow studies to locate the troublesome areas and make the necessary repairs.

What Can I Do About Inflow?

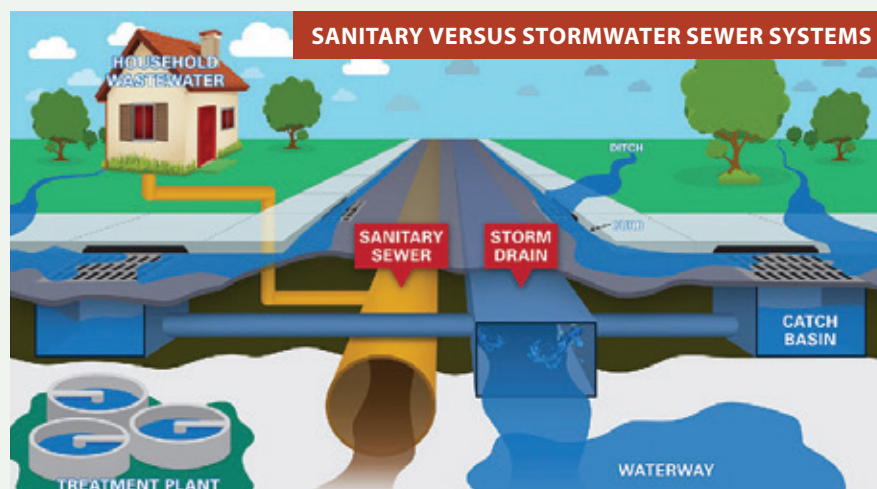
There are a couple steps residents can take to limit the amount of stormwater inflow into the sanitary sewer system.

- Make sure sewer stacks/vents are at least six inches above ground and are capped. Let us know if the stacks are regularly submerged when it rains.
- Sump pumps should not be hooked into sewer system (**not only is this hurting the system and adding to everyone's costs, it is illegal**).
- Be a **Community Ambassador!** Help the Township by reporting any broken/damaged sanitary sewer infrastructure. One example is a broken or open manhole.

Report an issue is by using the "Report a Concern" feature on the Township website, or by calling the Public Works Department at 484-875-6020.

Clearing of Sanitary Sewer Rights-of-Way (ROW)

The Public Works Department continues to clear overgrown vegetation along the Township's sanitary sewer rights-of-way and sewer easement corridors. The work being performed involves clearing the corridor of trees, bushes, and vegetative overgrowth to efficiently maintain the sanitary sewer system. Clearing rights-of-way helps to prevent root penetration into the sewer line, which can cause blockages and sewer overflows. Cleared rights-of-way also provide access to inspect manholes, get a camera into sewer lines to view conditions and make repairs in the event of a system failure or backup. Typical rights-of-way and easements are twenty feet wide and are indicated on property deeds. If you have any questions on the work being performed, please contact the Department of Public Works.



Township Maintains Strong Financial Position

The Township is pleased to announce that Moody's Credit Rating Agency affirmed the Township's Aaa rating, the highest rating possible.

The Township has maintained this rating since 2016. A growing tax base – due primarily to a growing population, relative affluence, ample reserves and low debt levels contributed to Moody's confidence in West Whiteland's ability to sustain a strong financial position.

With this rating confirmed, the Township was well positioned for a summer bond issuance. The timing of the issuance

allowed the Township to take advantage of historic low interest rates in the bond market to secure new funding for projects and to refinance a variable interest rate bond, resulting in cost savings.

Proceeds of the bond issuance will be used to develop a portion of the Master Plan for Exton Park and construct a new Public Works Facility to replace the outdated and insufficiently sized garage.

2021 BUDGET

The Township begins the annual process of budgeting for the next calendar year each August. We welcome residents to join the Board of Supervisors meetings in September through December to hear the Departmental budget presentations. For more details about these meetings, visit the Board of Supervisors page on the Township's website.

Township Revenue

How does the Township pay for debt and other expenses? Township funds come in from a variety of revenue streams. Homeowners usually are most aware of the real estate tax that they pay

to the Township. **West Whiteland's rate – 0.714 mills or .0714% of the property's assessed value – is one of the lowest rates in Chester County and significantly lower than the rates**

charged by the (larger governments of) Chester County and the School District. Real estate tax revenue accounts for only about 10% of the Township's annual revenue.

What's a mill?

A term that expresses the tax rate in thousandths instead of the usual hundredths for a percent.

Real Estate Tax Rates Applied to Assessed Property Values

West Chester Area School District	21.6622 mills or 2.17%
Chester County	4.369 mills or 0.44%
West Whiteland Township	0.714 mills or 0.07%

Earned Income Tax (EIT), paid by West Whiteland residents and those who work in the Township but live in a community without an EIT, is the largest revenue stream, accounting for a little over 50% of the Township's annual revenue. Note that while the recent development in the Township is generating revenue, the

increase derives mostly from new residents moving in who work and therefore earn income, rather than from new real estate. West Whiteland splits the residential EIT with the school district with each getting 0.5% of annual earned income (or \$500 annually if a taxpayer earns \$100,000).

The Local Services Tax (LST) is paid by every person who works in West Whiteland Township and earns more than \$12,000/year. LST accounts for 7.5% of the annual revenue. Other major revenue streams include property transfer tax, permit fees, and grants.



Let's brighten up 2020 with the 1st Annual Holiday Lights Contest sponsored by the West Whiteland Township's Friends of the Parks!

Show off your holiday light decorating skills this year and compete to win a cash prize. Participants are encouraged to be original, colorful and imaginative with their use of lights, seasonal characters, scenes and decorations.

Online registration begins November 14 and closes on December 2. Please visit the Township website to submit your entry or to nominate a neighbor or business.

The judging will take place December 8-10 by the Friends of the Parks. Please have your holiday lights on display. Judging will be based on three criteria: creativity, scale of lights, and most spirit. Two homeowners, two business owners, two townhouse residents, and two apartment/condo residents will be selected based on the festive criteria.

Cash prizes totaling \$1,200 will be awarded to the top eight contest winners as selected by the judges, courtesy of our 2020 Sponsors. Prizes are: \$200 for first place and \$100 for second place for each of the four categories.

CONTEST GUIDELINES

- Decorations must be visible from the roadway.
- Decorations for the contest must be available and lit up on December 8th, 9th, and 10th between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. for judging.
- Contest winners will be contacted and announced on the Township website, eNews and Facebook on Monday, December 14th.

Friends of the Parks Needs YOU!

Please consider contributing to this great organization, either as a volunteer or sponsor, and join in the fun!

The Friends of the Parks thank this year's sponsors for your contribution which typically goes to the egg hunt, Community Day, summer concert series, and tree lighting events. 2020 is not a typical year and the Friends got creative by giving

back to the community through the donation of park benches and picnic tables for Boot Road Park. Commemorative plaques on the benches recognize the 2020 sponsors.

To continue their mission of bringing the community together to celebrate life in West Whiteland, the Friends are rolling out their 1st Annual Holiday Lights Contest.



WWT FRIENDS OF THE PARKS SPONSORS 2020

PLATINUM \$2,500+

Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance
H. A. Thomson Co.

GOLD \$1,000+

1st Resource Bank
Experience Christian Church
Exton Regional Chamber of Commerce
Hankin Foundation
Traffic, Planning & Design Inc.

SILVER \$500+

Kumon Math & Reading

BRONZE \$250+

Rhombus Consulting, Inc.
Theurkauf Design & Planning

FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS \$50+

Ed Auble

IN-KIND

Chester County Library
West Whiteland Township

Outdoor Science Center at Boot Road Park

Looking for a way to educate your kids this fall while practicing social distancing? Check out the Outdoor Science Center at Boot Road Park! Visit the attractive, family-friendly displays along the park's walking trail, which include information on the following:

- **Water in the Environment**, and the Township's efforts with stormwater management
- **Renewable Energy**, and the Township's pursuit of 100% renewable energy by 2050
- **The Periodic Table**, including an 18' x 9' version installed along the walking path, as well as a sign that explains the importance of all the elements in nature.

Special thanks to Matthew Dakin, a member

of BSA Troop 21, a West Whiteland resident, and a senior at West Chester East High School for designing and installing the Outdoor Science Center as his Eagle Scout project. After receiving approval from the Township, Matt raised nearly

\$2,000 to fund the purchase of materials and supplies needed for the project, as well as coordinating more than 250 hours of project activities, including time with Township staff and classmates, to prepare and install the learning station components.



Boot Road Park is located at 110 W. Boot Road in West Chester and also offers a 0.58-mile walking path, a playground, ball fields and restrooms. The park is open dawn-dusk throughout the year.

Eagle Scout Matthew Dakin installed the Periodic Table as part of a new Outdoor Science Center at Boot Road Park.

Township's Newest Park to Open Soon



Dave Stevenson and Exton Little League softball players look forward to playing on the new fields in the spring.

On the north side of Boot Road, across from the existing Boot Road Park, the community will soon have access to two new ball fields, as well as a small playground and pavilion. The new park space came about as the result of pipeline construction at Meadowbrook Manor Park, the home of Exton Little League's (ELL's) softball fields.

As the teams were getting displaced from Meadowbrook Manor Park, about 200 girls between the ages of 7 and 12 would be without fields for practices and games. Energy Transfer offered to build ELL new fields while Meadowbrook Manor was out of commission. After the Township and ELL researched various sites, both agreed that land already owned by the

Township – "Boot Road Park North" – was the best location for the new fields and amenities facilities.

League President Dave Stevenson is very happy with the arrangement. "It's been a great effort by the Township to help us figure out a solution that addresses the inconvenience of the pipeline," said Stevenson, noting that the community as a whole will benefit from the additional park space, without spending a single tax dollar for its creation.

This northern annex to Boot Road Park will be completed later this fall and will also offer restroom facilities and parking. The fields will be available for reservations starting in spring 2021.



Made in the Shade Getting Ready for Our 2021 Season

West Whiteland Township has been awarded a Shade Structure Grant from the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD). The grant will enable a permanent shade structure to be built over the dugouts at the baseball diamond at Boot Road Park.

Since its launch in 2000, the AAD's Shade Structure Grant Program has awarded funding for more than 400 shade structures, which provide shade for more than 3 million individuals each day. West Chester dermatologist Michael Damiano, MD, FAAD, a member of the AAD, sponsored West Whiteland's grant application.

According to the AAD, skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States, and it only takes one blistering

sunburn during childhood or adolescence to nearly double a person's chance of developing melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, later in life. Seeking shade is an easy way to reduce the risk of skin cancer, along with covering up and wearing a broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher.

To learn more about the Shade Structure Grant Program or for ways to prevent and detect skin cancer, visit SpotSkinCancer.org.

Park Rules Updated

During the COVID-19 pandemic, outdoor spaces have been a haven in allowing us to gather with others in a safe, responsible manner. Thank you for continuing to wear masks while in public and observing the social distance guidelines of 6 feet of space around you. It's these actions that will keep our community safe and our parks open!

Updated Park Ordinance

On June 24, the West Whiteland Township Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance updating regulations for the Township parks.

Any organized, planned activity at township parks still must obtain a permit and reservation. To reserve use of any facility in the parks, please visit the Township website to complete the process.

A new regulation prohibits the use of park space to launch or land any aircraft, whether remote control or piloted. This prohibition includes drones, model aircraft, hang gliders, ultralight planes and others.

New signs reflecting the park rules will be placed in all of the parks, and you can read the complete parks ordinance on the Township website.

Questions About What Goes Where? Introducing...



West Whiteland has one of the highest recycling rates in Pennsylvania.

Just as important as developing the habit of recycling is to make sure we're recycling properly. Many of us know not to recycle bottle caps or greasy pizza boxes. But what about a plastic takeout container – can it be recycled? And, what should be done with old batteries?



TIP: For trash and recycling reminders, up to date information, and easy access to Recycle Coach, download the app on your phone or mobile device!

Enter *Recycle Coach*, now available on the Township's website or via your device's app store. This app, which is free, takes the guesswork out of recycling, empowering you to make smarter disposal decisions and take an active approach to reducing household waste. Use *Recycle Coach* to:

- Become a recycling expert with a comprehensive "What Goes Where?" search tool, including local disposal information and collection requirements for common and uncommon items
- Stay organized with custom curbside collection and events calendars, receive collection reminders and real-time updates on service disruptions
- Report missed collections

Access *Recycle Coach* from your computer, mobile device, or through digital assistants like Amazon Alexa and Google Home. However you access it, *Recycle Coach* makes it easy to get local disposal information for thousands of household items. For West Whiteland Township this can help increase recycling and decrease contamination in our recycling stream.

westwhiteland.org/RecycleCoach



As a reminder, the Township's recycling hauler does not accept Styrofoam or similar products. Please place these items in your Township trash bags.

TIP: To reduce your waste that goes to the landfill, consider whether you can repurpose or donate it, first. GreenDrop, Habitat Restore, and others have guidelines for what they accept and are a great option to extend the lifetime of your items.

LEAF & BRANCH CURBSIDE PICK-UP

(for residents on the Township's Pay-As-You-Throw Program)

Wednesday, November 11
Wednesday, November 25
Wednesday, December 2
Wednesday, December 16

Please have your materials curbside prior to 6:00 AM on the collection date. Place in biodegradable brown paper bags. Material in other types of bags or containers will not be collected. Thirty-gallon brown paper leaf bags are available for purchase at retail outlets throughout the area. Collection is limited to branches that are a maximum of 4 feet long and 4 inches in diameter. Branches must be bundled together and tied with string, not wire, in small bundles that can be easily handled. Place small twigs in a rigid container.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

Wednesday, January 20

Contact Your Elected Officials

Chair Rajesh Kumbhardare rkumbhardare@westwhiteland.org . .610-353-9525, 1914
 Vice Chair Theresa Santalucia. . tsantalucia@westwhiteland.org610-363-9525, 1902
 Joshua Anderson janderson@westwhiteland.org610-363-9525, 1917

Your Board of Supervisors is here to represent YOU. If you have a topic you would like to discuss with a board member, please call or e-mail them using the contact information above. Please note, the supervisors do not have offices in the Township building. If you call, please leave a voice message and they will return your call within 48 hours.

If you have a question about...	WEBSITE OR EMAIL...	OR CALL...
ACCIDENT REPORTS	tfavinger@westwhiteland.org	610-363-0200
ANIMALS		
Deceased Animal Removal	PA Game Commission's website pgc.pa.gov	610-926-3136
APPLICATIONS		
Land Development Applications	jsmiley@westwhiteland.org	610-363-9525, x3211
Solicitors Application	yjohnson@westwhiteland.org	610-363-0200
BILLING AND FEES		
Sewer and Solid Waste Billing	sewerbilling@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6025
Tax Payments	keystonecollects.com	866-539-1100
False Alarm Billing	yjohnson@westwhiteland.org	610-363-0200
Sewer Tapping Fees	publicworksadmin@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6020
FINGERPRINTING	Chester County Sheriff's Office's website chesco.org/167/Sheriff	610-344-6850
INSPECTIONS	codes@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6017
OPEN RECORDS / RIGHT TO KNOW REQUESTS		
Admin	administration@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6013
Police	yjohnson@westwhiteland.org	610-363-0200
PERMITS		
Alarm Permit	yjohnson@westwhiteland.org	610-363-0200
Building and Renovation Permits	permits@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6017
Driveway Permit	publicworksadmin@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6020
Road Opening Permit	publicworksadmin@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6020
PLOT PLANS	codes@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6017
RESERVATIONS		
Field Reservations	parks@westwhiteland.org	610-363-9525, x3215
Gazebo / Pavilion / Boot Rd. House Reservations	parks@westwhiteland.org	610-363-9525, x2155
Room Reservations	parks@westwhiteland.org	610-363-9525, x3215
REPORT A CONCERN (24/7)		
Township Roads, Parks or Sewer System	westwhiteland.org/requesttracker.aspx	
ROADS (I.E., POTHOLES, SNOW REMOVAL)		
Township Roads	publicworksadmin@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6020
State Roads	PennDOT.gov	484-340-3200
TOWNSHIP COMMUNICATION		
Confirm / Add Address for Newsletter Mailing	socialmedia@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6013
VACATION SECURITY CHECK	tfavinger@westwhiteland.org	610-363-0200
ZONING		
Zoning Complaints and Zoning Verification Letters	codes@westwhiteland.org	484-875-6017
Zoning Ordinance Questions	jweller@westwhiteland.org	610-363-9525, x3213

West Whiteland Township

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www.westwhiteland.org

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We have a New Website Look Rolling Out in October

The West Whiteland Township website is getting a new look with refreshed page designs — the first steps in redesigning the Township website resulting in a cleaner, more modern design. Following the launch of the new look, visitors to the site will soon see updated menus and top navigation improving usability and accessibility for all. Let us know what you think of the new design by emailing socialmedia@westwhiteland.org.

