

Lower Gwynedd Report



Message from the Chair



Danielle A. Duckett
Chair

Happy New Year!

I hope this message finds everyone healthy and safe. I am the newly appointed chair of our Lower Gwynedd Board of Supervisors. As a lifelong resident of Lower Gwynedd, I know many of you through our school district, my kids' sports activities, volunteer efforts at my parish of St. Anthony's, or my service on the Board of Supervisors. I'm excited and energized to put my public service and policy background to work for our community as the Chair of the Board.

I want to extend a warm welcome to our two new Board members, Janine Martin and Michael Twersky. With years of experience as attorneys and as long-time Lower Gwynedd residents, both Michael and Janine are equipped to move our township through the pandemic and into a period of revitalization. Their addition to the Board also means that we have had two long-standing members transition off our Board. Our senior statesman, Ed Brandt, after over 35 years of volunteerism, has settled into retirement. Mark Grey provided twelve years of diligent service on the Board and has promised to remain active within our community. We are all appreciative of their years of service

With the new year, we welcome a transition to a "new normal" that prioritizes the health of our business district, ensures our infrastructure is updated and promotes prompt responses to all residents' concerns. As part of this effort, we have launched the Citizens' Request Portal. This Portal is a direct access point to the township, similar to Philadelphia's 311, which allows residents to report and document concerns and track the township's progress addressing those concerns. The Citizens' Request Portal can be accessed online from a desktop or mobile device.

We also have reestablished the Historic Committee and developed the Bethlehem Revitalization Committee and are seeking volunteers to serve and contribute to these committees as we embark upon these efforts to better understand and preserve our township's history and to bring new life to Bethlehem Pike as our town center. Volunteerism is the cornerstone of our elected officials, committee appointees, and our collective success. We are still in need of volunteers for these new committees, as well as our other multiple well-established committees. The application process has been simplified with an online form to complete. Please spread the word with your neighbors and friends.

As Chair, I will endeavor to bring to light my vision for this township that I began articulating when I campaigned for a seat on the Board in 2019. The Board needs to finally put words into action. For too long, critical planning for the future has not been a priority. As I write this note, we are in the depths of winter and we are all hunkered down trying to stay warm. My hope is that with the emergence of spring, our board, working cohesively, will be well into the development of strategic planning to further the long-term prosperity and growth of our community.

Best,
Danielle A. Duckett

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1130 N. Bethlehem Pike
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Urban

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Peter "Skip" Urban, Supervisor, Lower Gwynedd Resident
Peter A. Urban, Jr., Funeral Director, Upper Dublin Resident



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PUBLIC WORKS 2022 Road Program

Mill & Overlay:

Cathcart Road – From Township Line Road to Grasshopper Road
Swedesford Road – From Railroad Bridge to Dekalb Pike PA-202
Township Line Road – From Penllyn Pike to Penllyn Woods Park Entrance
Meetinghouse Road – From 1201 Meetinghouse to Turnbury Road
Beth Drive – Upper Cul-de-Sac
Curb Ramp at Mt Pleasant Ave and Knight Road intersection

Ultra-Thin Friction Course:

Hoover Road – From Pen Ambler Road to Knight Road
Wooded Pond Road – From McKean Road to Cul-de-Sac
Ridgeview Lane – From Wooded Pond Road to Cul-de-Sac
Sunset Drive – Evans Road to Forest Drive
Forest Drive – Entire Road

REIMAGINING A LOCAL LANDMARK RENOVATING FOUR MILLS BARN

By Michaelle Fleisher

Wissahickon Trails, formerly Wissahickon Valley Watershed Associations has been preserving land in our community, protecting the Wissahickon Creek and providing additional outdoor experiences through their initiatives. The partnership that Wissahickon Trails has with local government agencies is essential to their work and to our communities. If we look back to the 90's the Watershed was a huge supporter of the Save Penllyn Woods Campaign. In addition, the Watershed applied for many grants that helped fund various aspect of that project. In 2015, Wissahickon Valley Watershed partnered in the endeavor for the Crossways Trail, that connects Whitpain and Lower Gwynedd Township. The Watershed has been essential to our park and trail expansions.

Last Fall, we reported on the flooding of our historic Four Mills Barn from Tropical Storm Isaias and our efforts to immediately repair some of the damage. Many donors stepped up to help in this effort and we are incredibly grateful for their support. Knowing that storms of this magnitude are expected to be more frequent because of climate change, we embarked on a renovation of the Barn to ensure its place in our future. The proposed renovation addresses two critical needs: flood resiliency and an updated accessible facility for programming.

Flood Resiliency

Creating a first floor that can withstand flooding is a priority. Measures implemented years ago, concrete floors and raised outlets, will be enhanced with removable, water-resistant, cleanable wainscoting. There will be no permanent furnishings on the first floor and storage spaces will utilize shelving no closer than 3 feet from the floor.

Program Space & Accessibility

By relocating all offices from the first floor to the second floor, we will create a versatile and highly visible education and community programs space. This space will be seen by anyone entering the barn from the courtyard and will be used by thousands of people each year through programming, events, school groups, and other community organizations.



(at left) View of conference/community room
(above) View of deck leading off conference room to courtyard.



Flooding during Tropical Storm Isaias in 2020, photo credit Jamie Stewart



Craft Beer by the Creek in the barn courtyard, photo credit David Freed

The Barn will have additional gender inclusive bathrooms, which is a necessity for the number of visitors that attend the variety of events and education programs held at the Barn. The second floor will also have a conference/community room overlooking the Wissahickon Creek. The creek side wall of the conference/community room will be made entirely of bird-safe windows, offering a unique view of the Wissahickon Creek and Four Mills Nature Reserve.

Project Status

We engaged Elevate Construction and their partner Daedalus Design Build for this project because of their experience with historic structures like ours. The concept designs are being fine-tuned right now and we anticipate a completion date in 2022.

TOWNSHIP NOTICES

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP

1130 N. Bethlehem Pike, P. O. Box 625 | Spring House, PA 19477 | www.lowergwynedd.org

Administration

Phone: (215) 646-5302 | Fax: (215) 646-3557

Police

Emergency: 911 | Phone: (215) 646-5303



@LowerGwyneddPA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Danielle A. Duckett, *Chair*

Michael Twersky, *Vice-Chair*

Kathleen Hunsicker

Tessie McNeely

Janine Martin



Find our page on Facebook at "Lower Gwynedd Township"

Township Manager: Craig McAnally
Assistant Manager: Jamie Worman
Assistant Secretary: Michelle Farzetta
Police Chief: Paul Kenny
Public Works Director: Fred Zollers
Solicitor: Neil Stein, Esq., Kaplan Stewart
Engineer: Jim Hersh, Gilmore & Associates
Zoning Officer: Keystone Inspections
E.I.T.; Merc and LST Collection:
 Berkheimer Associates
Fire Marshal: Al Comly
Building Inspector/Plan Review:
 Keystone Municipal Services
Recreation Director: Sandi L. Feight
Parks Superintendent: Mitch Kulp
Real Estate Tax Collector: Natalie Cormier

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings to be held in the Administrative Office at
 1130 North Bethlehem Pike, Spring House

NOTE: Generally meetings are as follows except when holidays conflict:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Board of Supervisors (7:00 pm)..... | 2nd & 4th Monday (Jan-March) |
| | 2nd & 4th Tuesday (April-Dec) |
| Zoning Hearing Board (6:00 pm)..... | 2nd Thursday |
| Planning Commission (7:00 pm)..... | 3rd Wednesday |
| Park & Recreation (6:00 pm)..... | 3rd Tuesday |
| Environmental Advisory Council (7:00 pm)..... | 2nd Wednesday |

Deadline for Submissions:

Zoning Hearing Board

30 days prior to scheduled meeting

Planning Commission

30 days prior to scheduled meeting

Primary Election Day

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

UPCOMING TOWNSHIP

HOLIDAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- April 15 (*Good Friday*)
- May 30 (*Memorial Day*)
- July 4 (*Independence Day Holiday*)
- September 5 (*Labor Day*)
- October 10 (*Columbus Day/Indigenous Day*)
- November 11 (*Veterans Day*)
- November 24 & 25 (*Thanksgiving*)
- December 26 (*Christmas Holiday Observed*)
- January 2, 2023 (*New Year's Holiday Observed*)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| | | | |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| Lower Gwynedd Township (<i>Administration</i>)..... | 215.646.5302 | (Call in potholes)..... | 1-800-FixRoad |
| Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department..... | 215.646.5303 | Wissahickon Fire Company..... | 215.646.1266 |
| Lower Gwynedd Tax Collector | | North Penn Volunteer Fire Company..... | 215.699.4337 |
| (<i>Real Estate, School, County</i>)..... | 267.460.1891 | Community Ambulance Association of Ambler..... | 215.643.6517 |
| Berkheimer Tax Administrator..... | 1.800.360.8989 | Wissahickon School District | |
| (<i>EIT, Local Services Tax, Business Privilege Tax, Mercantile Tax</i>) | | Lower Gwynedd Elementary School..... | 215.619.8100 |
| Congresswoman Madeleine Dean..... | 215.884.4300 | Wissahickon Middle School..... | 215.619.8110 |
| PA Senator Maria Collett..... | 215.368.1429 | Wissahickon High School..... | 215.619.8112 |
| PA Representative Todd Stephens..... | 215.368.5165 | Republic Services..... | 215.723.0400 |
| PA Representative Liz Hanbidge..... | 610.277.3230 | (Provide your phone # for notifications)..... | www.republicservices.com |
| Montgomery County..... | 610.287.3000 | North Wales Water Authority..... | 215.699.4836 |
| Bucks County Water & Sewer..... | 215.343.2538 | Ambler Water..... | 215.646.1000 |
| PECO Customer Care..... | 1.800.494.4000 | The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation clears deer carcasses | |
| To report an odor, a leak or other gas emergency..... | 1.800.841.4141 | from State roads while the Pennsylvania Game Commission | |
| Comcast Xfinity Customer Service..... | 1.800.XFINITY | retrieves them from Township roads. Contact info below: | |
| Verizon Residential Customer Service..... | 1.800.837.7466 | PennDOT..... | 1.800.FIXRoad |
| PennDOT..... | 215.345-6060 | PA Game Commission (Southeast Regional Office)..... | 610.926.3136 |



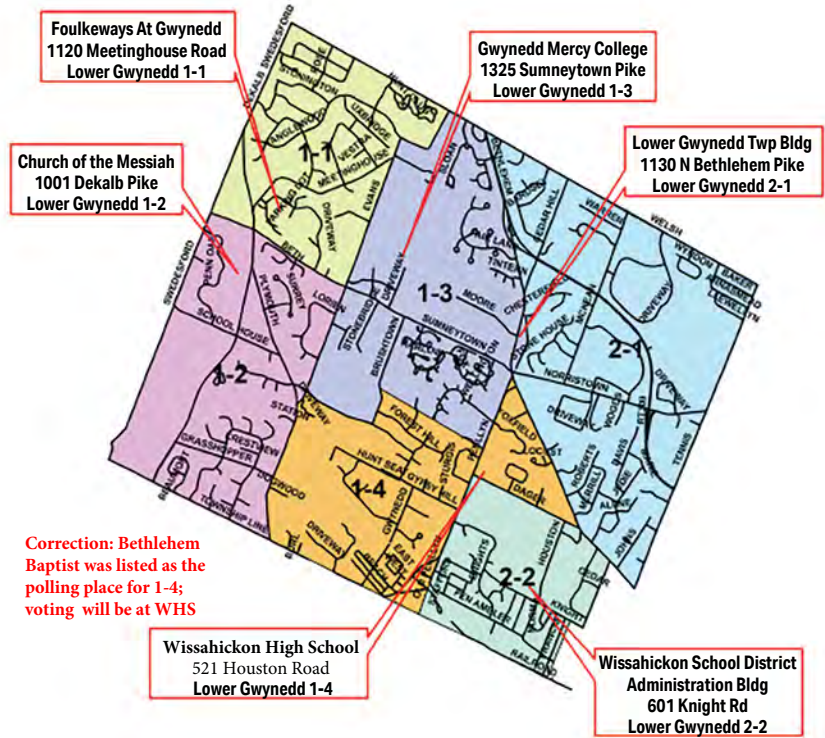
STAY IN TOUCH AND REGISTER TO RECEIVE LOGIN/CREATE ACCOUNT

Township residents can register their email address to be notified when news items or alerts are posted on the website. Just visit the Township website at www.lowergwynedd.org and click the Login/Create Account icon at the top of the page to register. Take the time today and register on the website and you can begin receiving alerts.

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP

Polling Locations

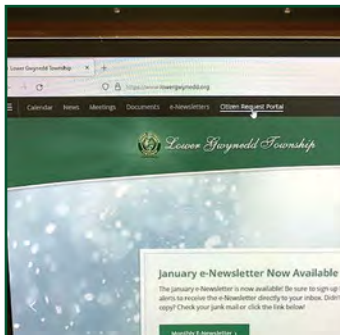
Vote in the Primary Election
Tuesday, May 17, 2022



CITIZENS REQUEST PORTAL

Lower Gwynedd Township is pleased to announce the launch of our new **Citizen's Request Portal (CRP)**! This portal is a tool for citizens to report issues they may encounter within the Township or place a request that an issue be addressed. Once reported in the portal, the information will be synced with our internal data management system and a work order will be generated. This work order will be routed to the appropriate department for proper handling. The citizen will receive an email update on their request and a notification when it is completed. The portal will allow for the uploading of photos and is operational from your mobile device! This portal **will not substitute** our normal building permit submission procedures, scheduling procedures, sewer billing, or the right-to-know requirements. Please be aware that this portal is for Township issues only, it is not to be used to report emergency or police related issues. Also, you do not have to submit a request to multiple departments. It will be assigned internally to the appropriate location. We hope this will be a useful tool that can be expanded over time.

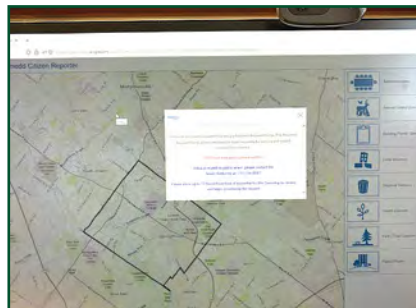
To access the portal, go to www.lowergwynedd.org. On the very top of the homepage, you will see "citizen request portal", click on that and you will be redirected to a new page describing the portal. Here you will be able to open the portal link and the portal will open. You will then see a map of the Township and a list of categories along the right-hand side. You will select which department you would like to submit a request to and then at the top of the column there will be a green button that is labeled "Submit Report". Click that option and then you will complete them with your information and hit submit.



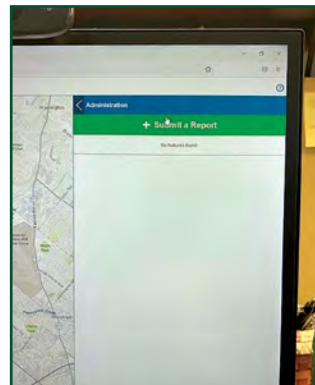
1) Homepage CRP Top of Page Click



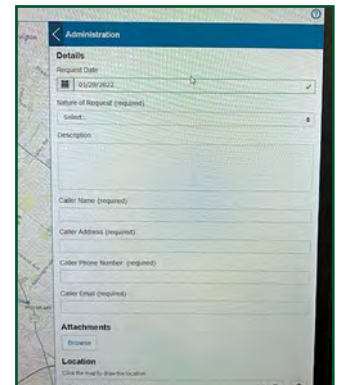
2) CRP page, click link to enter portal



3) Portal Main Page with categories on right, select one



4) Click on submit report



5) Complete report and hit "Report It" to submit

TOWNSHIP NOTICES

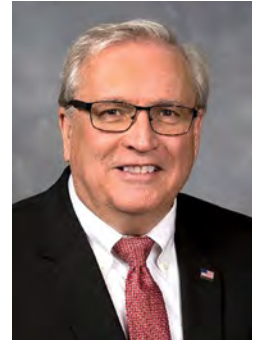
Township Bids Farewell to Long-Time Supervisors and Staff

Supervisors Ed Brandt and Mark Grey ended their terms in office on December 31, 2021. Mr. Brandt served as Supervisor for Lower Gwynedd Township for 35 years. Mr. Grey served as Supervisor for 12 years. The Township Officials and Staff would like to extend our sincerest congratulations and gratitude to the outgoing Supervisors.

In addition, to Mr. Brandt and Mr. Grey, the Township also said farewell to two employees who both retired in 2021 after serving the Township for 23 years. Administrative Assistant, Carole Culbreth, retired on October 1, 2021 and Receptionist, Joyce Baker, retired on December 1st, 2021. On behalf of the Township Officials and Staff we wish them all the best in their retirement.



Ed Brandt



Mark Grey



Carole Culbreth



Joyce Baker

Mr. Ken Amey the Township's long-time Zoning Officer joins Carole and Joyce in retirement. Mr. Amey retired on January 31st, 2022 after serving in the Building & Zoning Department for over 15 years. He continues to reside within the Township and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Ken Amey at right



Township Welcomes New Supervisors and Staff

The Township also had the pleasure of welcoming new Supervisors and Staff to the Township in late 2021 and early 2022. Mr. Michael Twersky and Ms. Janine Martin were sworn into office as Township Supervisors at the re-organization meeting on January 3, 2022. They will serve a six-year term on the Board of Supervisors. Welcome Mike and Janine! Also sworn into office on January 3, 2022 were the newly elected Tax Collector, Natalie Cormier; Auditor, Emilia Silebi; and Constable Eric Rudolph.

The Township also welcomed our new Administrative Assistant, Michelle Farzetta on January 10, 2022. Michelle will provide administrative support to the Township Management Team. Before joining the Township, Michelle was a Principal and Teacher at the Chesterbrook Academy in North Wales. She is a graduate of Lock Haven University and Montgomery County Community College. Michelle resides in Horsham Township with her husband and two children.



Janine Martin



Mike Twersky



Michelle Farzetta



Jennifer O'Brien

Ms. Jennifer O'Brien joined the Lower Gwynedd Staff as the new Office Assistant in December 2021. Jennifer supports the Building & Zoning Department and the Parks & Recreation Department. Jennifer came to the Township from Penn State University Abington Campus where she worked as an Administrative Assistant. She is a graduate of Abington Senior High School. She resides in Abington Township with her husband and three children.

Officer Garret Vail joined the Lower Gwynedd Police Department in August, 2021. Officer Vail joined Lower Gwynedd after service as a part-time Police Officer for Jenkintown Borough. Officer Vail is a graduate of Arcadia University. He resides in Jenkintown with his family.



Garrett Vail at right

Welcome Jennifer, Michelle, and Garret!

Land Development & Subdivision Update:

Below is a summary of the various land development and subdivision projects currently being reviewed, approved, or under construction within Lower Gwynedd Township at the time of this publication.



Preliminary Review

- **St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Land Development (GMU Campus) (#21-04LD)**: Institutional land development; Location- 1325 Sumneytown Pk-GMU; Applicant-St. Charles Seminary; Summary- Proposal to consolidate two parcels within the campus and add a new college residence hall with a chapel, new student life center, and a new maintenance building. Future plans for a gym and an additional building are also shown on the plans. Additional improvements including parking facilities, access drive, landscaping, lighting and stormwater management facilities are also proposed. Under review.
- **1612 N. Bethlehem Pike Land Development (Precision Watches & Jewelry) (#21-03LD)**: Non-residential commercial development; Location-1612 N. Bethlehem Pk; Applicant-Precision Watches & Jewelry; Summary- A commercial development that includes the construction of a 2.5-story jewelry store with associated parking and stormwater management facilities. The plan was recommended for preliminary/final approval to the Board of Supervisors. Approval pending.
- **1500-1524 Cedar Hill Road Land Development (#20-06LD)**: Residential development; Location- Cedar Hill Rd.; Applicant-Jon Mayer; Summary- A plan to consolidate 3 parcels, remove existing structures, and then subdivide combined parcels into 12 individual single-family residential lots under a cluster option available through conditional use. The lots will be accessed from three private drives off of Cedar Hill Rd. Sidewalk along Cedar Hill Rd, stormwater management facilities, and open space areas are included with the proposed plan. Under review.
- **301 Norristown Road Land Development (Gwynedd Estates-ACTS) (#20-04LD)**: Multi-Family residential development; Location- 301 Norristown Rd-Gwynedd Estates; Applicant-Acts; Summary- A plan to add a new skilled nursing wing at the NE corner of the site and to reconfigure the existing parking area while also adding new parking and subsurface stormwater management facility. Under review.

Spring Leaf/ Yard Waste Collection Dates:

Lower Gwynedd Township has a leaf and yard waste recycling program where our contracted hauler, Republic Services, provides curbside leaf/yard waste collection opportunities throughout the Spring and Fall. The current contract provides for eight collections dates, two in the Spring and six in the Fall. The confirmed dates for this Spring are Saturday, April 16th, 2022 and Saturday, May 14th, 2022. All leaf and yard waste must be placed in biodegradable bags and there is a limit of eight bags per pick-up.



Approved/Under Construction

- **John's Lane Subdivision (#21-02SUBD)**: Residential development; Location-776 John's Lane; Applicant-Martin & Marnie Hughes; Summary: A 6-lot single-family residential subdivision and land development with 5 new homes proposed and 1 lot to remain vacant. The proposed lots will take access off of a private road with a cul-de-sac from the intersection of John's Lane and Susquehanna Road. Stormwater management facilities, landscaping, and other associated improvements proposed. Approved 11/23/21.
- **1500-1524 Cedar Hill Road Land Development (#20-05CU)**: Conditional Use Application; Location- Cedar Hill Rd.; Applicant-Jon Mayer; Summary- Applicant is proposing a land development that requires conditional use approval to develop under the cluster option available in the Lower Gwynedd Code. The future land development plan is to consolidate 3 parcels, remove existing structures, and then subdivide combined parcels into 12 individual single-family residential lots under a cluster option available through conditional use. A conditional use hearing was held in September and approved on 11/9/21.
- **820 N. Bethlehem Pike (Goddard School) Land Development (#21-01LD)**: Non-residential redevelopment; Location-820 N. Bethlehem Pike; Applicant-Beth Pike LLC; Summary- A non-residential redevelopment of this property that will include the removal of the existing Pike Diner, construction of a new daycare center and the repurposing of an existing building into a medical office along with the associated site improvements. Approved 10/12/21.
- **Hunt Seat Associates Subdivision (#19-08SUBD)**: Residential Subdivision; Location- Hunt Seat Dr.; Applicant- Hunt Seat Associates LLC (Guidi Homes); Summary- A 3-lot residential subdivision where the applicant proposes a single-family dwelling on each lot with individual driveways taking access from Hunt Seat Dr.; Approved 6/23/2020; Under construction.
- **604 Dekalb Pike (#18-02LD) "Overlook at Gwynedd Valley"**: Residential subdivision/land development; Location-Dekalb Pike; Developer- Prospect Acquisitions; Summary- 17-unit residential townhouse development and associated improvements. Approved 9/11/18; Currently Under construction.
- **1325 Gypsy Hill Road Subdivision (#18-01SUBD)**: Residential subdivision/land development; Location-Gypsy Hill Road; Developer-DeSantis Homes; Summary- A 7-Lot single-family residential subdivision/land development project on 9.5 acres off of Gypsy Hill Road. Approved 6/26/18; Currently under construction.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Registration

Pre-Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated. Registrations are accepted with full payment and completed forms in-person or via mail. No phone registrations are accepted. Registration forms can be downloaded from the Township website: lowergwynedd.org forms can also be faxed or emailed. We accept cash, checks (payable to Lower Gwynedd Township), and credit cards. There is a service fee for all credit card transactions. There will be a \$25 service charge on all returned checks.

Refunds: Full refunds will only be issued if the Parks & Recreation Department cancels a program. All refunds requested by the registration that are granted will be charged a \$5 administration fee.

Cancellation Policy: Programs are subject to cancellation if there is insufficient enrollment, inclement weather or other reasonable causes.

Photo Policy: The Lower Gwynedd Township Parks & Recreation Department may take photos of program participants or park visitors. Please be aware that these photos are for department use only and may appear in future brochures, newsletters, website or flyers.



Penllyn Woods Community Building

Looking for a great location to have a family gathering, celebrations, parties, baby shower, bridal shower? Reserve the space at the Penllyn Woods Community Building. For more information about the facilities and other pavilion options check the township webpage or contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 215-646-5302.



Easter Egg Hunt

Date: Saturday April 2
Location: Penllyn Woods
Time: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.



Trail Clean Up

Please join us as we focus on cleaning up some of the trails in the Township. There is no rain date in the event of inclement weather.

Date: Saturday April 23
Meeting Location: Lower Gwynedd Township Bldg.
Time: 9 a.m.

Registration forms can be found on the Parks & Recreation Page under Registration

Trail Walking

Do you know where all the trails are located in the Township? Have you seen a path but are not sure where it goes? Join us as we explore a trail a week. Meeting locations vary each week and upon registering for the program you will receive a list of where the group is meeting.

Dates: Monday and Wednesdays April 4 – May 12

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Varies each week, participants will receive a list of walking locations upon registering for the program.

Cost: \$5 per person



free!

Summer Concert Series



Oxford Park
(Cambridge Dr & Welsh Rd)
Concerts take place
Wednesday Evenings
7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.



JUNE 22
Big Baby Band
Classic Rock



JULY 6
Meghan Cary
Folk Singer / Songwriter



JUNE 29
Montgomery County Concert Band
Clarinet Ensemble



JULY 13
Eric Mintel
Jazz Quartet

PARKS AND RECREATION



SUMMER CAMP

2022 CAMP TO BE HELD AT PENLLYN WOODS

There is limited space per week due to COVID-19.

When registering you must indicate what weeks you are registering.

AGES FOR THE CAMP: 6 years or completed kindergarten – 12 years.

TIME: 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION CAMP OPTIONS:

Weekly Rate Option

- \$150 first resident child per week
- \$125 for each additional resident child per week
- \$175 first non-resident child per week
- \$160 for each additional non-resident child per week

Select the Weeks your child will be attending

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> June 20-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> July 18-22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June 27- July 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> July 25-29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July 5-8 | <input type="checkbox"/> August 1-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July 11-15 | <input type="checkbox"/> August 8-12 |



SUMMER CAMP EMPLOYMENT

Lower Gwynedd Township is accepting applications for Summer Camp program. All applicants must have their clearance checks completed prior to their hiring. Employment Application can be found on the Lower Gwynedd Township website.

**CAMP COUNSELORS (paid position)
MUST BE 15 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER.**



New Interactive Digital Parks & Trails Map

Our Township is home to over 25 miles of non-continuous trails. Since the pandemic, trail use has increased tremendously. We have created a trail map through Google Maps that residents can now access on their mobile devices. The map indicates the location of all the trails, trail distance, parking areas, trail surfacing, and contains photos at trailheads and trail junctions. The Township will update the map as information changes or new information becomes available.

There is a tutorial on the website as to how to use the map. Using the navigation technology through Google Maps allows residents to have a clearer understanding of their location and orientation as to the direction they are walking. In addition to the tutorial, there is a complete listing of the trail names associated with the trail marking system. *If you have any questions regarding the map, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 215-646-5302.*

PARKS AND RECREATION

Memorial & Commemorative Benches

Memorial and Commemorative benches are placed throughout the parks and trails. Location for new bench donations can be chosen through the Parks & Recreation Department. The engraving on the bench is of the donor's choice and must be approved by the Township. To inquire about a new bench Parks & Recreation Department at 215-646-5302 and setup a meeting to discuss the details.

In Memory Of



Lower Gwynedd Township Dog Ordinance

Just a reminder that Lower Gwynedd Township has an ordinance that specifies letting dogs run loose without a leash is prohibited. All dogs must be on a leash of no more than ten feet when on streets, public grounds or property (see ordinance below). This includes all parks and ball fields.

§ 620.02 Dog regulations.

[Ord. 77. Passed 8-17-1964; Ord. 407. Passed 2-18-2003]

(a) *Dogs at Large Prohibited. [Amended 8-23-2016 by Ord. No. 509]*

- (1) As used in this Section 620.02, the term "at large" shall refer to any dog that is not restrained by the dog's owner or keeper with a leash having a length of not more than 10 feet.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog, licensed or unlicensed, to permit such dog to run at large over the streets, public grounds or property, or upon the private property of anyone other than the owner or person having custody of the dog or of the property of anyone who has consented to the dog being at large on their property. The owner or keeper of the dog must be of appropriate age and discretion to properly control the actions of the dog.



KNOW YOUR MEDICARE OPTIONS



Please join us at Lower Gwynedd Township Parks and Recreation
Penlyn Woods Community Building on
TUESDAY MAY 10TH from 6:30PM TO 8:00PM

During this free educational seminar you will learn:

- How Medicare works and what it covers
- How Part "D" prescription cards work and how to pick the right one for you
- The differences between Medicare supplements and Medicare Advantage plans

Have your questions answered so you can make the right choice when planning for Medicare or Medicare Advantage decisions.

Presenter: Steve Perlman, DelVal Senior Advisors,
Independent Medicare Planning Specialist

To register: Contact the Parks and Recreation Department
(suggested, not required)

Presented by DelVal Senior Advisors



News from the Police Department



Shawn Sweeney
Patrol Sergeant

Shawn Sweeney, was promoted to the rank of patrol Sergeant on January 3, 2022. He is a graduate of the William Penn Charter School and received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology from Albright College in 2006. Shawn joined the Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department in 2014 and along with performing the duties of a patrol officer, he has headed the Warrant Division and served as an Officer-In-Charge for several years. Shawn was promoted to Sergeant after a lengthy three-part examination of all eligible patrol staff.

Crime Prevention Tips

We suggest using the Three "L's" to make your home more secure.

- **LOCKS:** Be sure you have proper locks on all your doors and windows and keep them locked. Use anti-bumping deadbolt locks on all your doors. Keep the door between your house and the garage locked and lock your garage door at night. Don't forget to check all your locks before you go to bed each night.
- **LIGHTING:** Criminals love landscape lighting and dusk-to-dawn lighting. We recommend you install motion detector lighting on all your outside lights. This includes on all four sides of your home. Also install timers for the interior lights of your house. This makes your home look occupied even when you are not there. Utilizing ready made available video monitoring systems like RING or NEST also help to harden your home as a target of crime.
- **LANDSCAPING:** In addition to keeping your lawn cut and clear of clutter, remember the 3 Foot/10 Foot Rule. All of your bushes should be cut down to no higher than three feet and thinned out. This prevents criminals from hiding behind your bushes to surprise you. All your trees should be cut to hang no lower than ten feet from the ground.



Holiday Recycling Recap

Thanks to everyone who thought green over the holidays and helped keep items out of the landfill by dropping off Christmas trees and broken holiday lights at Ingersoll park in January. The trees were chipped and used to line paths at our parks, and over 250 pounds of lights were kept out of the landfills. They will be shredded and the various components recycled as much as possible.

BROOKSIDE AVENUE / HOUSTON CREEK FLOOD STUDY

In December 2021, the Township was notified that they have been awarded funding through the Commonwealth Financing Authority's Flood Mitigation Grant Program to conduct a flood study of the Houston Creek drainage area. Houston Creek is a tributary to the Wissahickon Creek, with headwaters beginning just north of Knight Road, crossing under Knight Road, running along Brookside Avenue, crossing under Spring Garden Street, and traversing the Ambler Yards development before ultimately discharging under the SEPTA tracks at the rear of Ambler Yards property. Flooding is frequently observed in this area of the Township during heavy summer thunderstorms as well as more severe tropical rain events.

The study scope is to evaluate the contributing drainage area to the creek and identify improvements that can be made within the watershed to reduce the frequency and/or severity of flooding experienced on the residential and commercial properties along Houston Creek. The project also represents a public private partnership as local matching funds will come from a combination of Lower Gwynedd Township, Wissahickon School District, and Ambler Yards, LLC.

Preliminary study work began in January 2022 and is anticipated to be complete in the first half of 2022. Periodic updates will be given at future Board of Supervisors meetings and final report findings will also be shared at future public meetings.



Project Location

The Flawed Law: Challenges to Pennsylvania's E-Waste Recycling Programs

Finding a location to recycle your electronic devices can feel like an uphill battle. They won't be picked up with your trash by your hauler, many places restrict what types or sizes of electronics they take, and others charge by the pound. What is the current law that shapes these recycling realities in Pennsylvania? And how can we fix the issues with the current system to increase access to electronic recycling for people across the state?

The Covered Devices Recycling Act of 2010 (CDRA) was a good intentioned law developed to reclaim the valuable materials in e-waste, and to keep the more toxic components out of landfills. The CDRA applies to all "covered devices" which include NS, desktop and laptop computers, computer monitors, and peripherals (such as keyboards, printers, and hard drives). The first part of the act is that covered devices cannot be disposed of in a landfill or other solid waste disposal facilities. This part of the law prohibits your trash hauler from accepting these devices with your curbside trash (although they may offer curbside pickup and delivery to a recycling facility for a fee). The second part of the law requires covered device manufacturers to "establish and conduct ongoing recycling programs that offer covered device collection opportunities at no cost to consumers."

Like many Pennsylvanians, you may realize that the realities of PA e-waste recycling programs are very different from the initial intentions of CDRA. According to the 2019 DEP Report to the General Assembly Covered Device Recycling Act, only 23.7% of the population has unrestricted access to recycling opportunities under CDRA. Due to high demand for the recycling of items that are costly to recycle (such as CRT TVs), it is often cost-prohibitive for e-waste recycling vendors to operate in PA. According to a letter from the Electronics Recyclers Association of PA (ERAP), the PA E-Scrap Recycling industry is shrinking due to a lack of financial support from electronics manufacturers to cover collection, transportation, and recycling costs. This deficit leads electronics processors to close sites or restrict the services they offer.

It is important that the failings of the current law are fixed, but that it still maintains its initial goals. E-waste can contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury and cadmium. One of the reasons CRT TVs (Cathode Ray Tube Televisions) are so difficult to recycle is because of the leaded glass used for the cathode ray tubes. If not recycled or disposed of properly, these materials can contaminate the environment. Additionally, there are valuable and recoverable materials including gold, silver, copper and aluminum in e-waste. By ensuring these materials are reclaimed and not lost into the landfill, we can conserve natural resources and reduce the amount of mining required to meet the demand for these materials.

What can we do to change the current issues with CDRA? Pennsylvania is just one of two states that does not allow recyclers like Best Buy to charge a nominal fee for accepting old CRT TVs. The recycling act should be amended to allow businesses to charge a recycling fee for accepting CRT TVs. You can reach out to your state legislators and remind them that CDRA is too important not to fix. You can find specific speaking points and other resources at ewastepa.org/take-action/.

Municipal and state regulations require that residents, commercial establishments and non-residential establishments recycle all recyclable materials. Commonly recycled materials include paper, plastic, glass and metal. You should check with your hauler for a complete list of acceptable recyclable materials.

Lower Gwynedd Township E-Waste Recycling Day & Paper Shredding Event April 9th, 2022 8am-12pm

*Lower Gwynedd Township is partnering with SAMR, Inc. and Shred-It for a Community Recycling Day!
We will be accepting PAPER and ELECTRONICS (anything with a plug or battery) at no cost to you.*

- WHAT:** Lower Gwynedd Township Residential E-Cycle & Shredding Event
WHERE: Lower Gwynedd Township Municipal Building Parking Lot, 1130 N. Bethlehem Pike, Spring House, PA 19477
WHEN: April 9, 2022- 8:00 AM-12:00 PM (earlier if full capacity is reached)
QUESTIONS: Contact Jamie Worman, Lower Gwynedd Township , Phone: (215) 646-5302 or jworman@lowergwynedd.org

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS: ELECTRONICS-ANYTHING WITH A PLUG!

EXAMPLES: LAPTOPS, COMPUTERS, FAX MACHINES,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, ETC. & PAPER.

****This service is for Township residents only, proof of residency required to access the site. Residents must remain in their vehicles at all times. Items to be recycled or shredded must be placed in the trunk, pick-up truck bed, or a small trailer. Employees will remove these items from your vehicle when you arrive. Items will only be collected during the event time. Items cannot be delivered before or after the event!! Excessive amounts of paper and/ or electronics may be turned away at the Township's discretion. We cannot start the event early so please do not park or enter the parking lot prior to the 8:00 a.m. start time.**





HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE 2022 MONTGOMERY COUNTY PA RESIDENTIAL EVENTS By Appointment Only, Preregistration is Required

DATES:

Saturday, April 30

Boyertown Middle School East
2020 Big Road, Gilbertsville

Saturday, May 7

Indian Valley Middle School
130 Maple Avenue, Harleysville

Saturday, May 21

Temple University–Ambler Campus
Enter at 1431 E. Butler Pike, Ambler

Saturday, June 18

Norristown Area High School
1900 Eagle Drive, Norristown

Saturday, June 25

Abington Junior High School
Enter at 2056 Susquehanna Road, Abington

Saturday, September 24

Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center
400 South Lewis Road, Royersford

SUNDAY, October 23

Lower Merion Transfer Station
1300 N. Woodbine Avenue, Penn Valley

Free residential collection events are held outdoors. There are no permanent drop off locations, only these collection events. Montco residents may also attend any Household Hazardous Waste event held by Bucks, Chester, Delaware, or Philadelphia Counties.

Please do not contact the host sites, as they are not affiliated with the events.

In case of severe weather, call 610.278.3618, option 6 for event status.

Contact us at:

MontcoPARecycles.org
recycling@montcopa.org

610.278.3618



Registration available at
MontcoPARecycles.org



Follow us at [MontgomeryCountyRecycling](https://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryCountyRecycling)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH, *Chair* • Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr., *Vice Chair* • Joseph C. Gale, *Commissioner*

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

| PAINT PRODUCTS | OUTDOOR PRODUCTS | AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS | HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS | HOUSEHOLD OTHER |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Turpentine | Swimming Pool Chemicals | Grease & Rust Solvents | Drain Openers | Acids, Caustics, Solvents |
| Paint Thinners | Weed Killers | Fuel Additives | Rug Cleaners | Flammables |
| Strippers & Removers | Septic Tank Degreasers | Carburetor Cleaners | Wood & Metal Cleaners | Oxidizers, Reactives |
| Oil-Based Paints | Asphalt Sealers | Transmission/Brake Fluid | Mothballs/Flakes | Lead |
| Stains, Varnish | Caulking Compounds | Antifreeze | Adhesives/Solvents | Aerosols |
| Shellac | Joint Compound | Car(lead-acid), Truck, Motorcycle, Marine, Batteries | Rechargeable Batteries, Lithium, Ni-Cad, Button, Lead Acid | Mercury (Thermostats & Thermometers) |
| Other Solvent-Based Paint Products | Roof Cements | Gas, Oil, Gas Oil Mixture | Spot Removers, Dry Cleaning Fluid | Fluorescent Tubes and CFLs |
| Wallpaper Cement | MINI Propane Tanks, No BBQ Tanks | Road Flares, No Marine Flares | Fire Extinguishers | Ballast (must be removed from light fixture) |
| Spray Paint | Pesticide | | Kerosene | Electric Oil-filled Heaters |

UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

| | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Explosives & Ammunition | Electronics/Televisions | Asbestos | Appliances/White Goods |
| Infectious or Medical Waste, Prescription Drugs | BBQ-Sized Propane Tanks (leave at local exchange sites) | Radioactive Waste | Freon/Refrigerants |
| Tires | Helium Tanks | Unidentified Waste | 25- or 50-Gallon Drums |
| Latex Paint* (Water-Based) | Gas Cylinders | Alkaline Batteries (Trash) | Smoke Detectors |

* Take off lid, dry out paint, discard can without lid; or pour paint into plastic bag with absorbent material (clay based kitty litter, saw dust, rags) place bag and can without lid, in trash. Paint hardener can also be purchased at hardware stores.

DROP OFF GUIDELINES

- Montgomery County events are following state guidelines and public health restrictions.
- Leave items at home that are not for the event so that they are not removed accidentally.
- If you need your gas can or container returned, please tape a note to it stating that you want to keep it.
- You may arrive any time within your registered appointment window.
- Please print out your ticket or write your name and appointment time on a piece of paper.
- If you cannot attend the event, please cancel your appointment through your Eventbrite ticket or by emailing recycling@montcopa.org, as others may be waiting for an opening.
- NO TVs, electronics, or appliances will be accepted.
- Event workers will unload your materials so please remain in your vehicle.
- BUSINESSES AND CONTRACTORS WILL BE TURNED AWAY, no commercial/industrial waste accepted.
- Bring all substances in original containers with labels. Items must be identifiable. Do not mix materials.
- Tighten lids on all containers. If containers are leaking, pack in larger container with newspaper to soak up leaks.
- Maximum amount accepted is 25 gallons or 220 pounds. No 25- or 50-gallon drums.
- There are no permanent drop off locations in the region for household hazardous waste, only the listed collections.

Environmental Advisory Council Spring 2022

Mark Your Calendar!

Lower Gwynedd Bird Town Bird Walks

Sunday, April 3rd, 8:30 am (Raindate: Monday, April 4th)
Treweryn Farm Trail, 1312 Sumneytown Pike. Meet in the parking lot.

Tuesday, May 17th, 8:30 am (Raindate: Wednesday, May 18th)
Penllyn Woods. Meet in parking lot near community building.

Guided bird walks are free as part of Lower Gwynedd's Bird Town program.

Walks limited to 15 participants. No dogs or strollers please. RSVP to Steve Saffier: Safsbay@yahoo.com



American Redstart
photo by Debbie McKenzie



EARTH DAY
Friday, April 22
Keep an eye out for ways to help the EAC celebrate, events are being finalized and will be announced in future e-newsletters and on Facebook.

Republic Service Recycling Presentation

Thursday, April 7, 7pm, Lower Gwynedd Township Building

Join the EAC and Dominic Fulginiti of Republic Services, Lower Gwynedd Township's waste disposal service company, to get the dirt on what happens to the stuff we place in our recycling bins every week. We will learn the do's and don'ts of what should be put in the bins and why; how different materials are handled once they pass from our bins to the trucks and beyond; what we can do to make the process more efficient and thereby less costly for all of us; and more. Dominic will be able to answer all of your recycling and trash questions.

Battery Recycling Update

Due to issues with the current battery recycling collection program, it is temporarily being suspended. We will no longer have a drop-off location available in the township building vestibule. Too many batteries are being dropped off without being properly prepared for shipping with contacts taped when necessary, or incorrect types of batteries being dropped off. The EAC will host specific battery collection days throughout the year, where LGT residents may bring their batteries for recycling. Watch future newsletters and e-newsletters or follow us on Facebook for announcements of upcoming collection dates and reminders about what batteries will be collected and how they should be prepared for recycling. **PLEASE do not bring any more batteries to the township building for recycling.**

Route 309 Ramp Clean-up

With the return of spring and warmer temperatures, more people will be headed outdoors and it's easier to be made aware of litter accumulation along roadways. In Lower Gwynedd Township, the litter that lines the Route 309 / Norristown Road on and off ramps is particularly unsightly. It is a problem too great for PennDOT to conquer alone, so the EAC will be partnering with PennDOT and community members via the Adopt-A-Highway program to clean up these conditions.

The EAC will be coordinating an effort with community volunteers to collect litter on these ramps at least twice a year, starting in the spring of 2022. Along with a safety orientation and police presence, gloves, trash bags, and safety vests will be provided to the cleanup crew.

Let's work together to get rid of all that trash along those ramps leading into and out of our beautiful township. To volunteer to be part of an upcoming clean-up day, please indicate your interest by sending an email to contactus@lowergwynedd.org.

Do Not Release Unwanted Goldfish into Waterbodies

Unfortunately, some goldfish owners tire of having these colorful fish as pets and no longer welcome them in their home aquariums or outdoor ponds. A problematic trend has developed over the years in which some goldfish owners release the goldfish into nearby bodies of waters, e.g., lakes and ponds, with the assumption that the fish will survive.

This practice is not ideal, nor is it good for the environment! Goldfish can grow to immense sizes, as seen in the picture at right, and can contribute to poor water quality by mucking up the bottom sediments in the lake or pond and uprooting plants that native fish and other aquatic species rely on for food, spawning and the incubation of eggs. This football-sized goldfish found in Keller Lake in Burnsville, Minnesota, was probably once someone's pet.



There are other options for unwanted fish. The US Fish and Wildlife Service suggests finding someone else who wants your fish, possibly by donating it to a pet store (although some stores do not take them back), or school, or asking fellow pond/aquarium enthusiasts if they would like to adopt a fish. Online fish forums exist in the region.

Sources: Minnesota Public Radio, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Mon-Thu: 10:00 to 8:00
Fri-Sat: 9:00 to 8:00
Sunday: 11:00 to 6:00



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brett.dillon@comcast.net (email)

My father passed in March 2021 and I was left in charge of his estate, and decided to sell his house near Ambler, my childhood home. Brett was a blessing to me during such a difficult time. She is knowledgeable, dependable, professional, and committed to pouring her time and energy into helping you achieve the best outcome. Brett went above and beyond to help sell my fathers home and I am thoroughly pleased with how everything turned out. I'm sure I will be working with her again soon when I buy my own house.
Tiffany Jones



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