

# TOWNSHIP

*newsletter*

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PUBLISHED BY THE LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WWW.TWP.LANCASTER.PA.US • PHONE (717) 291-1213

## Lancaster Township Historical Commission

# TAKE A SUNDAY TOUR OF 'PRESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORS'

The annual Lancaster Township neighborhood tour will be held Sunday, May 17, from 1 to 4PM. This year's tour highlights President James Buchanan's home, Wheatland, and the surrounding neighborhood. The afternoon is intended to deepen appreciation of the beautiful properties seen in our neighborhoods every day.

Organized by the Lancaster Township Historical Commission, the Presidential Neighbors Tour is a self-guided walking tour. There are three distinct parts to the day's exploration: Wheatland Visitors Center and House, homes neighboring President Buchanan's historic home, and Tanger Arboretum.

The tour begins at the Wheatland Visitors Center parking lot, where a brochure and map are available. Knowledgeable volunteers will be available along the tour route to answer questions and provide additional information about the lovely homes that you will see from the sidewalk. After enjoying President Buchanan's home, the tour continues from

Wheatland's main entrance, eastward along Marietta Avenue, turning south along President Avenue, west along Wheatland Avenue, then north on North School Lane and back to Marietta Avenue before returning to Wheatland. The tour includes interesting information and facts about the architecture and original occupants of these historically significant homes that are presidential neighbors.

The block of homes in which Wheatland sits is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The area is an excellent example of early suburban development in Lancaster County between 1820 and 1939.

The first development of this area was called the West End Addition. Then School Lane Hills, Inc. completed a suburb on farmland purchased from Landis Herr, which consisted of exclusive housing for merchants, lawyers, Armstrong executives, and other professionals. The area retains

a high level of original character and integrity. The variety of architectural styles was as great a change to Lancaster, as the idea of a suburb itself.

The early 1900s influences of transportation changes on architecture are evident as demonstrated by the porte-cocheres (or carriage porch) at 120 and 128 North School Lane and 1044 Marietta Avenue, and the surviving carriage house at Williamson Square Apartments. Coachmen became known as motormen or chauffeurs and drove cars, not carriages. The large homes often required staff housing or depended on the trolley line to



► **Dates to Remember:**

**MAY 18:** GENERAL ELECTION—VOTE!  
**JUNE 15:** COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER AT 1420 COLUMBIA AVENUE, 7PM. ALL RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE SUPERVISORS FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION ON ANY TOPIC. PLEASE JOIN US; REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

► **Office Closings:**

**APRIL 10:** GOOD FRIDAY  
**MAY 25:** MEMORIAL DAY  
**JULY 3:** INDEPENDENCE DAY  
**SEPTEMBER 7:** LABOR DAY



**Volunteer Spotlight**

**T**hanks go to the residents and friends of Lancaster Township who assist in many ways:

- **Jacques Gible and Mark Miller** for their continuous support of Lancaster Township Historical Commission events.
- **Elizabeth Hine, Doug Campbell, and Scott Shonk**, all former township residents, who continue to support the Historical Commission.
- **Wheatland Middle School National Junior Honor Society** for continuing their community service project at Hamilton Park. They gave up a Saturday morning to do a fall clean-up.
- **The Rubbish Rangers, Mark and Judith Chien, Keener Landscaping & Tree Service, and the Knights of Columbus Counsel 867**, who continue to clean up trash along township roadways. Lancaster Township appreciates these individuals and groups who give of their own time for the benefit of this community.

**THANK YOU, All! ■**

**Ordinance Approved Since Last Newsletter**



**Ordinance No. 2008-03:** Amending the zoning ordinance to provide for installation of communication/cell towers.

**NEW PLANNING & ZONING ASSISTANT**

**R**ebecca French began her tenure at Lancaster Township as a temporary employee in July of 2008. Because of her skills and dedication, she was hired as the permanent Planning & Zoning Assistant in October. Rebecca has lived in Lancaster for 23 years. She has two sons, a daughter-in-law, and a grandson who also live in Lancaster. Besides spending time with her family, Rebecca enjoys visiting art galleries, hiking, reading, and gardening. ■



▲ **REBECCA FRENCH**

**'Presidential Neighbors' Tour, cont.**

transport household help.

Imagine daily deliveries of milk, meat, ice, or laundry! Add the gardeners, visiting family and friends to the imagery of those bygone days. Not only were cars new, but also telephones. Industrialization was modernizing America. Homes were still built with stone, brick, stucco, and wood, but these new suburban homes were built with change in mind.

The Lancaster Township Historical

Commission conceived these tours to support historic preservation. They are an opportunity to focus on who we are and what we have, and to foster a sense of pride in our unique environment. The 2008 tour highlighted homes in the east side of the township, and in 2007 the tour presented Hamilton Park.

There is no charge for any part of the Presidential Neighbors Tour; however, a free-will donation to Wheatland will be gratefully accepted. ■

**LANCASTER TOWNSHIP STAFF DIRECTORY**

**Lancaster Township Office**  
 1240 Maple Avenue  
 291-1213  
 .....  
**Maintenance Facility**  
 1357 Meadowcreek Lane  
 293-1733

- Supervisors..... Tony Allen, Tom Schaller, Kathy Wasong
- Township Manager..... William M. Laudien
- Administrative Assistant ..... Suzanne B. Teske
- Public Works Superintendent..... J. Robert Eckenrode
- Finance Officer ..... Diana Hess
- Receptionist..... Faith S. Kelsey
- Planning & Zoning Director ..... Lynn M. Stauffer
- Planning & Zoning Assistant..... Rebecca French
- Office Assistant/Recycling Coordinator ..... Joanne Yost

# YARD WASTE COLLECTION

—every other week—begins the week of April 6 and ends the week of October 19.

Biobags are to be set out on the same day as regular trash collection. Yard waste includes leaves, garden residue, brush, and shrubbery trimmings. Small branches less than two inches in diameter may also be included. Larger diameter branches may be bundled and placed next to the biobags.

There is a limit of 10 brown kraft biobags per pick-up. The shaded weeks are collection dates. Yard waste biobags are only available at the maintenance facility, 1357 Meadowcreek Lane, Monday through Thursday. The hours are 3:00-6:00PM until October 30, 2:00-5:00PM from November 3 to November 26, and 8AM to noon the first Saturday of each month. There is a limit of ten (10) biobags per visit. ■



# RECYCLING: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW

**S**aturday yard waste drop-off is now available to township residents beginning Saturday, April 4 at 1357 Meadowcreek Lane. This service will be available the first Saturday of every month throughout the summer with the last day of operation on November 7. Hours are 8AM to 12 noon. Weekday yard waste drop-off remains the same: Monday through Thursday, April 6 through November 25, 3PM to 6PM during daylight savings time and 2PM to 5PM standard time.

**Corrugated cardboard** may be disposed of at the maintenance facility, 1357 Meadowcreek Lane, Monday through Thursday, 7AM to 6PM (7AM to 5PM during standard time) and Friday 7AM to 3:30PM. Only corrugated cardboard that is of a ridged material with an inner fluted lining is accepted. Please follow these guidelines:

- Flatten boxes.
- No cereal, tissue, pizza, ice cream, shoe boxes, or similar material.
- Boxes must be free of food/contaminants.
- Do not place boxes outside of the cardboard recycle container.

**10% Senior Discount** continues to be a bonus for homeowners aged 60 and over. Proof of age is required to receive this discount. Those who own more than one property can only receive a discount for the home in which they live. Simply bring a photo ID with birth date to the front desk receptionist, who will make a copy. It's that easy and you'll receive ten percent (10%) off your bill each time it is mailed out.

**Batteries, cell phones, and phone books** may be disposed of at the township office. Batteries will also be collected on trash day if put in an orange battery-recycling bag and placed next to the recycling container.

**Recycling containers** are free to new residents and those returning a damaged container. Additional containers may be purchased for \$7 each. ■

APRIL

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26	27	28	29	30		

MAY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	31
31						

JUNE

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST

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30	31					

SEPTEMBER

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
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27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## 2009 Yard Waste Pick-up Dates

Yard waste collection—every other week—begins the week of April 6 and ends the week of October 19. Biobags are to be set out on the same day as regular trash collection. Yard waste includes leaves, garden residue, brush, and shrubbery trimmings. Small branches less than two inches in diameter may also be included. Larger diameter branches may be bundled and placed next to the biobags. The shaded weeks are collection dates.

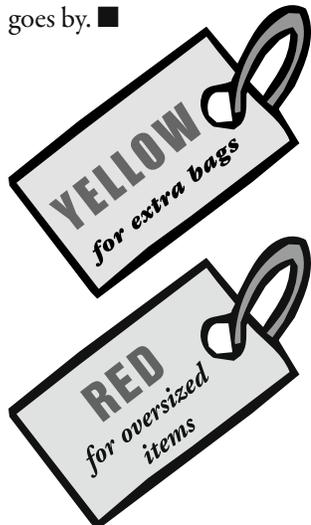


**Limits & Tags**

**P**lease remember that trash is limited to three (3) bags or containers per week. The maximum weight is 30 pounds each and no larger than the standard 32 gallon bag. If there is more than the 3-bag/container limit, the additional item(s) must have a yellow extra service tag attached (5/\$6.25). Oversized items (mattress, sofa, rolled carpet, etc.) must have a \$4 red tag on each item. Red-tagged items are limited to two per week.

If disposing of a lawnmower (red tag), be certain to drain all gasoline and oil and remove the gas cap entirely.

Place trash and recycling at curbside the night before collection and remove empty containers as soon as possible. The trash hauler will not return for trash that has not been placed at curbside when the truck goes by. ■



**R**ecycling is mandatory in Lancaster Township. Recyclables include #1 (PETE) and #2 (HDPE) plastics, aluminum and tin cans, glass food/drink bottles and jars. Newspapers are also recycled and should be placed in a brown grocery bag, or tied with string, and set on top of or next to the recycling container/bucket. Used phone books, cell phones, and batteries may be dropped off at the township office, 1240 Maple Avenue, during regular business hours. ■



**Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA)**

**L**ooking to get rid of hazardous waste such as floor and furniture polish, household cleaners, paint, and insecticides? Look no further. LCSWMA accepts these items. Other items that may be dropped off include computers, cell phones, fluorescent/compact bulbs, herbicides, TVs, items containing mercury (thermometers) and many more. LCSWMA is located at 1299 Harrisburg Pike and open Monday through Friday 8AM to 4PM; Saturday hours are 8AM to noon. Visit the website at [www.lcswma.org/documents/specialwaste08.pdf](http://www.lcswma.org/documents/specialwaste08.pdf) or call for information at 397-9968. ■



**ILLEGAL DUMPING IS A PUNISHABLE OFFENSE IN LANCASTER TOWNSHIP.** No person shall store, process, or dispose of any municipally regulated waste, including grass, or designated recyclable materials except at a facility designated by LCSWMA. Further, yard and municipally regulated waste may not be burned in Lancaster Township. The township will enforce all regulations and impose penalties on violators. ■

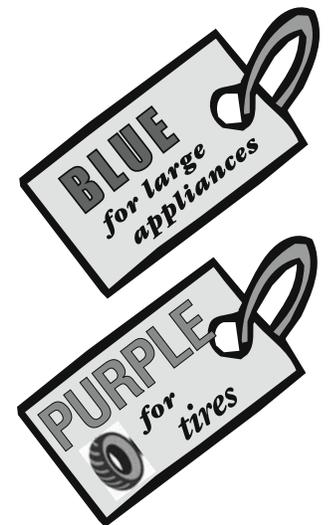
**2009 Holiday Refuse Collection**

- MAY 25, MEMORIAL DAY: ALL COLLECTION DATES MOVE FORWARD ONE DAY
- JULY 4, INDEPENDENCE DAY: NO CHANGES FOR THIS WEEK
- SEPTEMBER 7, LABOR DAY: ALL COLLECTION DATES MOVE FORWARD ONE DAY
- NOVEMBER 26, THANKSGIVING: THURSDAY COLLECTION ONLY MOVES TO FRIDAY
- DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS: NO CHANGES FOR THIS WEEK

**Large Appliance & Tire Collection: May 11-14**

**L**arge appliance and tire pick-up will occur on your regular collection day: Monday, May 11, Tuesday, May 12, Wednesday, May 13, or Thursday, May 14. The township office must be notified ahead of time of any items to be collected. A \$12 blue tag must be purchased and attached to each appliance. A \$1.25 purple tag must be purchased and attached to each tire.

If you already have tags, please notify the township office of the item(s) to be collected. We provide a list to the hauler with addresses and items to be collected. Please place all items at curbside the evening prior to collection. The haulers will not collect items that are not at curbside. ■





**Planning & Zoning:  
Installing a Swimming Pool, Hot Tub, or Spa?**

**S**wimming pools, hot tubs, and spas have become very popular. For the safety of all residents, building and zoning permits are required prior to their construction and installation. A swimming pool by definition is a structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over a depth of twenty-four (24) inches. This includes any in-ground or above-ground pool, hot tub, or spa.

Permit applications for a swimming pool must include the following:

- Plot plan
- Complete construction drawings & specifications
- Fence and gate information

Permit applications for hot tubs and spas must include the following:

- Plot plan
- Manufacturer’s information & installation instructions
- Information on lockable covers

Securing the structure is an extremely important step in the process. Equally important is conforming with the Lancaster Township zoning ordinance as it relates to setbacks, lot area coverage, and fencing.

When installation is complete on the pool, hot tub or spa, and before it is used, a township inspector will examine the site to ensure conformance with all code standards and the manufacturer’s instructions.

Applications are available on our website ([www.twp.lancaster.pa.us](http://www.twp.lancaster.pa.us)) or at the township office. Please call Lynn Stauffer at 291-1213 with any questions. ■

**Public Works Department**

**2009 Street Paving**

The following streets will be included in our 2009 street-paving project.

- Glenwood Avenue: entire length
- Willis Lane: entire length
- Spring Grove Avenue: from Atkins Avenue to South School Lane
- South School Lane: from Spring Grove Avenue to Maple Avenue

Paving projects usually start mid-August and finish before school starts. Residents will be notified as soon as a start date has been established. Residents are asked to complete any planned curb improvements or upgrades before paving begins in mid-August. Please note that some street trees may be trimmed to allow for the safe operation of equipment as well as minimizing damage to trees.

**Street Sweeping**

Street sweeping on sign-posted streets will resume Tuesday, April 14. Warnings will be issued during the first two weeks. Tickets with fines will be issued beginning April 28.

The township wants to clean and maintain the entire street. A vehicle parked illegally prevents completion of the job.

Non-signed streets will be inspected regularly and swept when necessary.

**Rubbish Rangers**

The township is looking for a group or association to volunteer as Rubbish Rangers. These volunteers clean up trash from the side of roadways four times a year. Lancaster Township supplies the bags, safety vests, and gloves and then

collects the full bags from the side of the roadway. Bean Hill Road is currently available for adoption. Please call 293-1733 if you or your group are interested in helping your community.

**Street Signs**

Over the next several years, all township street signs are being replaced with high-reflectivity signs, as mandated by the state. This changeover will make it much easier for drivers and pedestrians to read the signs at night. Older, more faded signs will be replaced first leading to total replacement within a few years.

**Woody Waste Drop-off at the Maintenance Facility**

Yard/woody waste drop-off will continue through November 25. The days and hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 3:00PM to 6:00PM until October 29. From November 2 to November 26, the hours are 2:00–5:00PM. Please have ID ready for the gate attendant who will inspect your load for contaminants and point out the proper place to unload. This service is for township residents only. No contractors will be admitted because we are unable to accommodate the high volume of materials they generate. Biobags are available from the attendant up to a maximum of ten bags. ■



▲ **STREET TREES AND ALLEY TREES ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER. PROPER TRIMMING AND MAINTENANCE CAN PREVENT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!**

# Police blotter

## Two Easy Ways to Prevent Theft

**B**e a good neighbor by getting to know others. Neighbors looking out for one another are one of the most effective ways to keep crime down in your area. People who know you, your family, and your property are better able to notice suspicious activity. Be alert for suspicious-looking people loitering in your neighborhood. If they are looking in house or car windows, call 664-1180 to report the activity.

### What's in your car?

**Secure your vehicle** by locking it and removing all property, no matter where you park. Thieves don't care if a vehicle is parked in a driveway, on the street, or in a dark alley. If they see something they want, they'll take it. Leaving a door unlocked just makes it easier. Store items in the trunk if unable to take them along — do this before arriving at a destination.

Stereos with removable faceplates help deter theft. Remove faceplates, GPS units, and satellite radios and take them with you. Thieves may see the mounting hardware and assume items are hidden in the car.

Tools are frequently stolen from the back of pick-up trucks. Always store them in a heavy-duty storage locker.

Finally, *never leave a firearm in an unattended vehicle.* ■

## LANCASTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Lancaster Public Library  
125 N. Duke Street, Lancaster  
(717) 394-2651  
[www.lancaster.lib.pa.us](http://www.lancaster.lib.pa.us)

**T**he library's calendar of events is full of free children's and teen's programs, including preschool story times, sing and sign story times, teen books groups, and teen Dungeons & Dragons nights.



Adults can have fun too by joining book club discussions. This group meets the second Thursday of the month at 10AM in the Windolph Room. Refreshments are provided and no pre-registration is required.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the 2009 Friends of the Library Book Sale on June 8, 9, and 10 at its new location: F&M Alumni Center, 931 Harrisburg Pike.

### Duke Street Hours:

Monday—Thursday: 9:00AM to 9:00PM  
Friday—Saturday: 9:00AM to 5:30PM  
Sunday: Closed

## Lancaster Recreation Commission (LRC)

**L**ancaster Township is a partner with the LRC along with the City of Lancaster and the School District of Lancaster. Many fun, educational, and interesting programs are offered to residents of all ages. Some of the offerings are summer camps (ages 5–13), Egg Hunt on April 4 at 11AM, Giant Yard Sale on May 9, sports camps, summer playgrounds, Senior Games on May 8, youth sports and classes, adult sports and fitness, 50+ active adult classes, and various trips to other cities.



Contact the LRC at [www.LancasterRec.org](http://www.LancasterRec.org) or 392-2115, extension 121. ■

## School District of Lancaster

### 2009 Student Calendar:

April 9, 10, 13—No classes  
May 25—No classes  
June 9—Tentative Last Student Day

### SDL Board Meetings, 7:00PM at J.P. McCaskey High School:

March 17  
April 21  
May 19  
June 16  
July 21  
August 18  
September 15

Call 291-6148 with any questions.

Advancing Learning in Lancaster



TOGETHER WE CAN

## Lancaster Township Fire Department (LTFD)

### Ron Comfort, Jr. Re-elected Fire Chief

**R**on Comfort, Jr. was re-elected as fire chief for a second two-year term. Chief Comfort leads approximately 50 volunteer firefighters housed in two stations: 125 Fairview Avenue in Bausman, and 1250 Maple Avenue in Hamilton Park. These altruistic men and women are a great source of safety and comfort for the township. They're busy too—532 emergency calls in 2008!

The 2009 fire officers are Deputy Chief Glenn Usdin, Assistant Chiefs Steve Roy and Jim Roop, and Chief's Aide Vicki Comfort. Lieutenants include Mark Heath, John Logan, Shawn Roop, Paul Castline, Brett Fassnacht, Keith Rankin, and Administrative Lieutenant Greg Lehman. Other officers are Sergeant John Wagner, Chief Engineer Greg Kolb, and Safety Officer Nick Jabbour.

The fire police officers are Captain Ron Comfort, Sr. (yes, father of the Chief); Lieutenants Dick Ruhl and Ed Slaymaker; and Sergeants Lori Jones and Rod Warner.

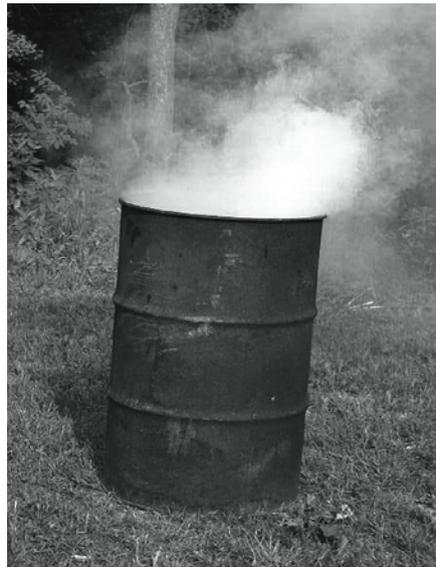
The mission of the Lancaster Township Fire Department is to serve the community by protecting lives, property, and the environment in a safe, efficient, and professional manner.

### Open Burning Banned

As spring ushers in warmer weather, the LTFD would like to remind residents that the township has an ordinance prohibiting open burning such as yard waste, campfires, burn barrels, and chimineas. While it may seem harmless, outdoor burning can be very dangerous, igniting nearby shrubs, grasses, or decks. It also affects human health and is a source of odor and nuisance complaints. ■



**RUNS IN THE FAMILY: RON COMFORT, JR. IS FIRE CHIEF, WHILE HIS DAD, RON COMFORT, SR., IS LANCASTER TOWNSHIP FIRE POLICE CAPTAIN.**



▲ **TWO WAYS NOT TO BURN**  
▼ **OUTDOORS!**



### Lafayette Fire Company

**T**he Lafayette Fire Company will once again hold its Spring Chicken BBQ on Saturday, April 11, 2009. A thousand tasty fryers will be grilled. You can buy a complete dinner, which includes a grilled half chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll with butter, drink, and dessert. You can also purchase just a half chicken. The event begins at 11:00AM at the Lafayette Fire Station, 1836 Lincoln Highway East. This is just in time to shake off those winter blues and support your fire company at the same time. Remember, buckle up and drive safely! ■



