

TOWNSHIP

newsletter

PUBLISHED BY THE LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
www.twp.lancaster.pa.us

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Comprehensive Planning

Where are we now? Where do we want to be? How do we get there?

What is a Comprehensive Plan? A Comprehensive Plan is the official plan of a municipality prepared in accordance with and mandated by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247 of 1968, as amended. It consists of the maps, charts, and textual material that constitute a policy guide to decisions about the physical and social development of a township. Lancaster Township's Strategic Comprehensive Plan was adopted in late 1996 and became effective as of January 1, 1997.

A comprehensive plan is needed to assure that growth and development in a municipality occur in a well-planned and orderly manner so as to provide residents the utmost in health, safety, and welfare.

Lancaster Township's Strategic Comprehensive Plan contains the following major elements:

- Goals and Objectives
- Future Land Use Maps
- Urban Growth Boundaries
- Transportation Plan
- Parks and Open Space

In its fifth year since adoption, the Strategic Comprehensive Plan will be reviewed and analyzed in all of the above listed areas. The goal is to assess where the Township was in 1997, where it is now, and where it should be

in 2007.

To achieve this goal, the Lancaster Township Planning Commission (LTPC) is developing a survey to be mailed to residents of Lancaster Township. Resident input is needed to assure that the direction charted by Township officials is in accordance with resident wishes. As in the past, a committee of residents will be formed to work with the LTPC in developing a plan for the future and assuring that all surveys are reviewed and tabulated. The purpose of the survey is to gather your thoughts on **How We Are Doing.**

Planning elements need to be identified, organized, and charted for the next five years. Throughout the process, Lancaster Township will work with the Lancaster County Planning Commission (LCPC) seeking their input. On the third Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, the LTPC holds its monthly public meeting. Each month the agenda will include a specific time devoted to

comprehensive planning. Residents are invited and welcome to attend these meetings and provide their thoughts. The Township wants to hear from residents on an ongoing basis.

The targeted date for completion of a plan is early 2002. Together residents and Township officials can develop an updated Comprehensive Plan equal to or better than the 1997 plan. You CAN determine the course of your local government. Will you help? ■



Legislative Update

The following ordinances have been passed since the last newsletter:

Ordinance No. 2001-02:

Regulates the use of skateboards, scooters, roller blades, skates, bicycles, tricycles, and unicycles on roadways, sidewalks, and other property.

Ordinance No. 2001-03:

Authorizes a joint agreement for a Regional 537 Planning Project with Lancaster Area Sewer Authority and other municipalities. On page 7 is an article naming the participants in the project and the benefits of the joint plan.

All ordinances are available for public inspection at the Township office, 1240 Maple Avenue. ■



Office Closings:

July 4, 2001 – Independence Day
September 3, 2001 – Labor Day

Dates to Remember:

August 1, 2001 – National Night Out Join your neighbors outside this evening to show support for crime fighting efforts

December 4 & 5, 2001 – Next Large Appliance Pick-up

September 30, 2001 – The 3rd Annual Community Day at Maple Grove Park. Don't miss out on all the fun! A great family outing is planned. There will be food, children's games and prizes, a magician. Fire, police, and emergency vehicles will be on display. Music, hayrides, and games will also be available for your enjoyment. See pictures from last year, below.

Memorial Bricks

Have you seen the memorial brick wall at Lancaster Community Park (LCP)? A number of years ago the Lancaster Community Park Board (composed of the School District of Lancaster, City of Lancaster, and

Lancaster Township representatives) offered for sale memorial or tribute bricks. A number of contributions were received but the project never seemed to get off the back burner. Finally, after receiving calls from persons who had made donations, Lancaster Township decided to take over



where the Lancaster Community Park Board had left off. The bricks, honoring or memorializing various individuals, were installed on a wall of the concession stand at the Park. The result is a beautiful wall of memories. Come take a look. ■



2000

Community Day

**REMINDER:
New Holiday
Trash Pick-up
Schedules**

When a holiday falls on:

Monday ...

Tuesday & Wednesday pick-up will be Wednesday & Thursday.

Tuesday ...

Tuesday & Wednesday pick-up will be Wednesday & Thursday.

Wednesday ...

Tuesday pick-up remains on Tuesday; Wednesday pick-up is on Thursday.

For example:

July 4th falls on a Wednesday, which means Tuesday pick-up remains the same, but Wednesday will be collected on Thursday. Labor Day is Monday, September 3, therefore, Tuesday pick-up will be Wednesday, and the Wednesday pick-up will occur on Thursday. ■

Township Trash Rules

For Lancaster Township to continue to provide an efficient, economical refuse and recycling program, it is vitally important that residents know and follow the regulations governing this service. Please clip the following and keep it handy.

-  **Three 32-gallon containers/bags weighing up to 30 pounds each are permitted weekly.**
-  **Any container in excess of the weekly limit of three must have an extra service tag.**
-  **All refuse and recycling must be at curbside by 5:00AM the day of scheduled pick-up.**
-  **All yard waste (leaves, etc.) must have a green tag affixed OR be placed in biodegradable bags.**
-  **Newspapers must be bundled with twine or placed in paper bags.**
-  **Cardboard is considered regular trash and should be broken down and placed in a trash container. Flattened and bundled/trapped.**
-  **All recyclable material must be placed in the recycling container provided by the Township or in a paper container marked RECYCLING - Do not place in Plastic Bags.**

Tags and biodegradable bags are sold at the Township office. Call 291-1213 if you have questions. The staff will in any way they can. ■

Post at Home

Rubbish Rangers Strike Again!

Lancaster Township is extremely proud to announce two more groups have joined the Adopt-A-Highway program. **Keener Landscaping & Tree Service** has adopted North Conestoga Drive and **Lancaster Young Professionals** has adopted South Conestoga Drive. The members and employees of these groups are individuals with a dedication to service for the good of all and a commitment to cleaning up the environment. They join the **Knights of Columbus Council 867**, which adopted Second Lock and Hoover Roads, and the **Chop Cop & Bower Tree Care**, which adopted Bean Hill Road.

A huge THANK YOU to those individuals who are willing to roll up their sleeves and get down and dirty on the roadsides of Lancaster Township! Your organization can join the Rubbish Rangers and take on highway cleaning projects by calling Rob Eckenrode at 293-1733 or 291-1213. **Show your civic pride in Lancaster Township by signing up today.** ■



Planning & Zoning: Common Complaints

The Planning & Zoning Department receives numerous complaints especially during the summer months. The most common complaints are:

- **Property Maintenance** – high grass, weeds, untrimmed trees which infringe on neighboring properties, rubbish and trash, condition of a dwelling or other out-buildings on a property, exterior hazards
- **Zoning** – abandoned vehicles, vehicles without current state inspection or license plate, building projects without necessary permits, existing or proposed property uses that do not comply with zoning ordinance, unregistered home occupations
- **Animal** – pets that are not confined to the owner's property, animal noise, animal odor, pets that are not considered domestic pets, not cleaning up after a pet.

When a complaint is verified, the Township Planning & Zoning Department must follow legal procedures in order to resolve the matter. These procedures can take time for investigation and result in various administrative actions. Sometimes certain issues may be more than just a zoning matter, which requires the attention of another department. It is the Planning & Zoning Department's intention to resolve the issue in the proper manner and in as timely a manner as possible.

The Planning & Zoning Department suggests that it is a good policy to try to discuss any concern with your neighbor first in an attempt to resolve the matter. Most people feel much more comfortable having a neighbor approach them about a concern rather than receiving correspondence from

the Township. If the direct approach doesn't work, then give Planning & Zoning a call.

Remember, too, there is valuable information on our website: www.twp.lancaster.pa.us ■

Public Works: Summer is definitely here



Street Sweeping is in full swing. Streets with restricted parking signs are swept on a weekly basis and streets with no signs are swept as needed.

Some residents are piling leaves, grass, and other debris on the street for the sweeper to pick up. Because these materials can damage equipment, this practice is prohibited and can result in a fine. Drivers of the Township sweepers have been instructed to go around such obstacles and residents are asked not to place debris in the street.

The **gate at the entrance to the Maintenance Facility** is being used as a dumping ground for any unwanted materials. According to the Property Maintenance Code, 1996, this is illegal dumping. The police have been notified to watch for violators and issue fines. Please act responsibly by disposing of unwanted items with special use trash tags that can be purchased at the Township office.

All residents are reminded to **trim**

bushes and trees that overhang and protrude into alleys. Take a walk around the perimeter of your property and check for traffic obstructions around corners or on streets and alleys. Keep all growth low enough for drivers to have a clear view of oncoming traffic or pedestrians. The safety of all is the primary concern.

Streets to be paved

-
- South School Lane** — Spring Grove to dead end
-
- St. Phillips Drive** — Michelle Drive to Betz Farm Drive
-
- Hamilton Park Drive** — entire length
-
- South President Avenue** — Hamilton Park Drive to dead end
-
- Watson Avenue** — entire length
-
- West View Drive** — Abbeyville Road to Springside Drive
-
- Devon Drive** — Fieldstead Lane to dead end
-
- Springside Drive** — Abbeyville Road to Meadowcreek Lane
-
- Belle Valley Road** — Meadowcreek Lane to dead end
-
- Valley Road** — North School Lane to North President Avenue
-

Some alleys may also be patched or paved. Residents will be given plenty of advance written notice before work begins on a roadway or alley in your neighborhood. ■

School District of Lancaster Updates

SDL Board Meetings, 7PM:
 July 5 & 17
 August 9 & 21
 September 6 & 18

School Calendar:
 August 28 – First Day of School for Students
 September 3 – No School



Did you know:



• A computer is available for resident use in the Township office?



• RRTA bus routes and schedules are available in the Township office?

Lancaster City Bureau of Police

Building T.E.A.M.

by Sgt. Jeffrey Bare

Lancaster City Police Crime Prevention Officer Kathy Speitel and Neighborhood Policing Officer Ted Makauskas were invited to travel to Lansing Michigan in April of this year to participate in a unique training experience called **Teaching, Educating, And Mentoring (T.E.A.M.)**.

Begun in 1998 by the Michigan Department of State Police School Liaison Program, **T.E.A.M.** advocates a proactive effort to make schools and communities safer through awareness, promoting responsible citizenship, and encouraging positive character traits. Responding to the need for crime prevention education and school safety, **T.E.A.M.** incorporates police officers and teachers in a partnership to address topics relating to personal safety, violence, anger management, problem solving, weapon possession, gangs, traffic safety, truancy, and substance abuse.

Curricula are taught by a uniformed police officer, and supported by the classroom teacher. Each lesson is designed to supplement regular classroom instruction utilizing age appropriate, pre-designed curriculums for students from kindergarten through twelfth grade.

By presenting police officers as positive role models, **T.E.A.M.** also encourages students to respect and trust police officers, and to support their role within the community. Students learn to take responsibility for their individual actions while working together as a *team* to pursue solutions to problems facing their schools and society.

Officers Speitel and Makauskas were the first two police officers outside the state of Michigan to receive training in **T.E.A.M.** Neighborhood Police Officer Rick Beighley, and School Safety Officer Tom Gjurich attended the training in late May.

The School District of Lancaster has embraced the **T.E.A.M.** program and plans are underway to implement the **T.E.A.M.** curriculum into the 2001-2002 school year. **T.E.A.M.** also will work in cooperation with the Children's Physical Safety strategy group of the Network for Safe and Healthy Children.

Citizens Police Academy

The next class of the Citizens Police Academy begins September 6. This program is designed to foster greater understanding and cooperation between the public and the police. Sixteen hours of instruction and tours are offered free of charge to residents interested in how a modern police agency functions. You'll even get to accompany an officer on regular rounds in a patrol car! Call Marisol Good, Crime Prevention Liaison, or Officer Kathy Speitel, Crime Prevention Officer, at 291-4896 to reserve a spot in the September class. ■

From time to time the Board of Supervisors issues permits for canvassing and solicitation in order to keep track of these kinds of activities in the Township. The issuance of a permit, however, is not an endorsement or recommendation of the product or service. Lancaster Township does not sponsor these activities nor should residents feel obligated to participate.

Reminder: If you need police assistance be sure to call 664-1180, the Lancaster County Wide Communications. All police dispatching is done by this agency. In the case of an emergency please call 911.



▲ The Police Bicycle Brigade is an enhancement to community policing and crime prevention. The officers on bicycle patrol have increased casual interaction with residents.

Lancaster Township Fire Department

Reminder: If you want your donations to go to Lancaster Township Fire Department, do not contribute to phone solicitors who say they are with "your fire company." None of that money goes to LTFD. The LTFD solicits by mail only during the annual fund drive held in the fall of each year. Contributions at any time of the year are gratefully received. ■

**SENIOR
CITIZENS
CORNER**

Lancaster Recreation Commission Happy Hours Club Keeps Seniors Active

do ... The LRC Happy Hours Club does *not* provide half-price bottles of beer and fruity drinks with paper umbrellas sticking out the top. The Happy Hours Club is a social group for active adults, 55 and older, who enjoy meeting new people, participating in exciting special events, and exercising the mind and body.

The Happy Hours Club is alive with excitement every day. Members are entitled to participate in free and low-cost programs and events such as bingo matches, bus trips, exercise classes, birthday parties, and much, much more. So kick up your heels at Dessert Dances, enjoy terrific meals at our special events, or sit down and relax with cards or games.

Stimulating your mind and challenging yourself can be as important as keeping physically fit. The popular Lancaster Senior Games are held at Franklin & Marshall College each June and feature dozens of sporting and social events. The Happy Hours Club can pique your interest with many arts and craft classes including basketweaving, ceramics, stained glass,

and a general art class. The 40+ member Lancaster Senior Orchestra provides an artistic outlet for the musicians in our community, performing a variety of musical styles at several venues throughout the year. Also available is a computer class offering the basics of computer operation, how to create an e-mail address, and how to conduct Internet searches.

There are seven centers throughout Lancaster: St. Andrew UCC, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Lancaster House North, Rodney Park

Community Center, Maple Grove Community Center, Christ United Methodist Church, and Farnum Street

Towers. Refreshments and a light lunch are served at each facility.

Call 392-2115 ext. 135 for a registration form and brochure. Annual dues are only \$10 for Lancaster Township and City residents and \$12.50 for non-residents. Dues include access to all the Happy Hours Centers, the *Golden Bylines* monthly newsletter, and discounts on all Happy Hours classes,



▲ The Lancaster Senior Orchestra is just one of many Happy Hours Club activities.

special events, and trips. So much can be done to get fit and stay healthy! Join the Club and reap the benefits! ■

For more information on the Happy Hours Club and other Lancaster Recreation Commission activities, check the LRC website at www.lancasterrec.org. ■

Lancaster Township

Municipal Office
Phone: 717-291-1213 Fax: 717-291-6818
Maintenance Facility: 717-293-1733
Monday-Friday: 8AM-4PM

Helen S. Adams Elected Supervisor
Anthony J. Allen Elected Supervisor
Michael F. Pickard Elected Supervisor
William L. Adams Township Manager
J. Robert Eckenrode Superintendent of Public Works
Earl A. Groff Road Foreman
Stacy Honer Administrative Coordinator
Lynn M. Stauffer Director of Planning & Zoning
Lori K. Jacoby Office Administrator
Marti Heim Planning & Zoning Assistant
Suzanne B. Teske Administrative Assistant
Deb Jones Receptionist
Web Site www.twp.lancaster.pa.us

Clip & Save

Hamilton Park Announces Playground Events

Hamilton Park Playground Association meetings are held at the Lancaster Township Office, 1240 Maple Avenue, the third Thursday of each month at 7:00PM. For information or questions call Susan Hohenadel, 399-4351.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, July 14, 7:30AM-12 Noon—Yard Sale

Sunday, July 22, 5:00PM—Puppets in the Park

Sunday, August 19, 5:00PM—Corn roast

What is the West Nile Virus?



There has been quite a bit of publicity in the past two years about the disease known as the West Nile Virus. The information provided here will help to differentiate between fact and fiction.

West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne disease that can cause encephalitis, a brain infection. Mosquitoes acquire the virus from birds and pass it on to other birds, animals, and people. The West Nile virus first appeared in New York in 1999. For the first time, in the summer of 2000, the virus was found in Pennsylvania in mosquitoes, birds, and a horse. To date, no one has become seriously ill.

The virus is spread when a mosquito feeds on an infected bird or animal and then bites people, other birds or animals. It is not spread by person-to-person contact and there is no evidence that people can get the virus from handling infected animals. Although the mosquito season is April through October, most cases occur primarily in the late summer or early fall.

How can I get it?

People can only become infected with West Nile virus after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

Who is most at risk?

People over 50 years of age and those with compromised immune systems are at the highest risk of developing a severe illness, however, anyone can get the virus.

What are the symptoms?

If it is a mild infection, one may experience fever, headache, body aches, skin rash, and swollen lymph glands.

Those with more severe infections may experience high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, occasional convulsions and paralysis.

What if I find a dead bird?

Dead birds can be an indication that West Nile virus is present in an area. Please call 1-877-PA-HEALTH to report dead birds.

What can I do to help stop the spread of the West Nile virus?

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers that have collected on your property.
- Pay special attention to discarded tires. Stagnant water in discarded tires is a prime breeding ground for mosquitoes.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers left outdoors.
- Clean out clogged roof gutters and downspouts. Gutters can produce millions of mosquitoes each season.
- Empty and turn over wading pools when not in use.
- Turn over wheelbarrows when not in use.
- Don't let water stagnate in birdbaths. Change the water every day.
- Aerate ornamental pools, ponds and water gardens or stock them with fish that will eat the eggs.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools regularly. Arrange for someone to do this when leaving for an extended period of time. Pay attention to pool covers – mosquitoes may even breed in the water that collects on them.
- Use landscaping to eliminate

standing water. Mosquitoes may breed in any puddle that lasts four or more days. ■

This information was gathered from the PA Department of Health website, www.westnile.pa.us/health.htm.

Municipalities Agree to Regional Sewage Plan

The Lancaster Area Sewer Authority (LASA) and its seven-member municipalities consisting of Lancaster Township, East Hempfield Township, West Hempfield Township, Manor Township, Manheim Township, East Petersburg Borough, and Mountville Borough have agreed to develop a regional sewage facility plan. The plan will provide guidance on current and future sanitary sewer needs of the region served by LASA.

By cooperating with other municipalities on a regional inter-governmental plan, duplication of costs, time, and planning are eliminated. For example, when a single municipality completes an Act 537 Plan, the cost can range anywhere from \$40,000 to \$100,000. The cost to Lancaster Township residents under this regional plan is only \$6,000. The project is endorsed and promoted by the PA Department of Environmental Protection and the Lancaster County Planning Commission. Each of the named entities has been an active participant and will be assisting with funding. ■

Lancaster Township Officials

Supervisors

Michael F. Pickard, chair
 Helen S. Adams, vice-chair
 Anthony J. Allen, treasurer

Planning Commission

Harold H. Bowers, Jr., chair
 Edwina H. Coder, secretary
 C. Alan Bruns
 Barbara E. Galien
 Kenneth D. Hammel
 Gordon B. Reed

Board of Auditors

James Humphreville, chair
 William H. Adams, secretary
 Harry R. Frey

Zoning Hearing Board

John W. Metzger, chair
 Elizabeth W. Bamford, vice-chair
 Peggy D. Hall, secretary
 Melissa A. Kelly, alternate
 Daniel R. Knarr, alternate

Building Code Board of Appeals

Edwin Wallover, III, chair
 Dale J. Cagwin, vice-chair
 Thomas H. Schaller
 Patrick M. Egan
 M. Melanie LeFever, alternate

Public Safety Committee

Valerie Calhoun, chair
 Patrick M. Egan
 Doris R. James
 Robert Newcomer
 Kenneth Notturmo

Vacancy Board Chair

Thomas Schaller

LASA Representative

Alex Henderson III

SLASA Representative

Karen O. Miller

LRC Representatives

Roberta Bruns
 Suzanne B. Teske

LIMC Greenway Representative

Suzanne B. Teske

Fire Chiefs

Glenn Usdin (West End)
 Lancaster Township Fire Department
 Ron Nolt (East End)
 Lafayette Fire Company

Emergency Management Coordinator

Michael F. Pickard

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

**Board of Supervisors:
 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Planning Commission:
 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Building Code Board of Appeals:
 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Zoning Hearing Board:
 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

All meetings are held at the Township Office, 1240 Maple Avenue.

Groundhog Nob at Lancaster Community Park



▲ Groundhogs play at Lancaster Community park, across from Manor Shopping Center. Oblivious to the traffic, there are more than a dozen of the little critters in residence.

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP
1240 MAPLE AVENUE
LANCASTER PA 17603
 (717) 291-1213
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