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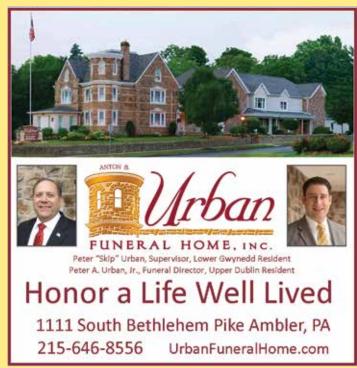




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Power Your Business through the Lower Gwynedd Business Association

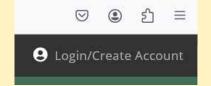


JOIN TODAY WWW.LOWERGWYNEDDBIZ.COM

TOWNSHIP E-NEWSLETTER

Do you receive our e-newsletters? It is a great way to stay informed about various events within the township. The e-newsletter is sent out two times a month. Sign up today at lowergwynedd.org. There are two ways to sign up.

One is to click on" Login/Create Account "in the upper right-hand corner, complete the information and choose the notifications you wish to receive. The second way is to click on e-newsletters across the top of the page, then click any e-newsletter from the list. You will then see "Join our Email List" across the top. Complete the information and confirm sign up.











LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP

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

Administration

Police

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

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

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Danielle A. Duckett, Chair Michael Twersky, Vice-Chair

Jimmy Chong

Tessie McNeely

Janine Martin

Lower Gwynedd Township Staff

Township Manager: Mimi Gleason **Assistant Manager:** Jamie Worman Office Manager: Michelle Farzetta Finance Director: Melinda Haldeman Zoning Officer: Jamie Worman

Building Inspection/Plan Review: Keystone

Municipal Services

Recreation Director: Sandi L. Feight Parks Superintendent: Mitch Kulp

Police Chief: Paul Kenny

Public Works Director: Fred Zollers Solicitor: Neil Stein, Esq., Kaplan Stewart

Engineer: Gilmore and Associates **Traffic Engineer:** Bowman Company

E.I.T., Merc and LST Collection: Berkheimer Associates

Tax collector: Natalie Cormier

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings to be held in the administrative office at 1130 N. Bethlehem Pike, Springhouse

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

Board of Supervisors (7:00 pm)......2nd and 4th Tuesday 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

Human Relations Commission (7:00 pm) 1st Thursday of the last month of every quarter

Deadline for Submissions: Zoning Hearing Board

Planning Commission 30 days prior to scheduled meeting

Upcoming Holidays/Township Closed

September 1st Labor Day 30 days prior to scheduled meeting October 13th Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day November 11th Veteran's Day November 26th Township closes at noon November 27th-28th Thanksgiving Holiday December 24th- Township closes at noon December 25-26th Christmas Holiday December 31st Township closes at noon January 1st-2nd 2026 New Year Holiday

LOWER GWYNEDD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Danielle Duckett, Chair



Mike Twersky, Vice Chair



Tessie McNeely



Janine Martin



Jimmy Chong

CITIZENS REQUEST PORTAL

Have you used our Citizens Request Portal? This is a great way for citizens to report any non-emergency issues within the township. Once submitted the report will be sent to the appropriate department to be addressed. The portal allows you to include photos, as well. An email confirmation and any updates will be sent to you, as well as a notification when the concern has



been completed. Please note this portal is not a substitute for normal building permit submissions, scheduling, sewer billing, Right to Know requests or police related issues.

To access the portal, go to our website www.lowergwynedd.org. Click on "Citizens Request Portal" along the top of the page. You will then be prompted to click the link to the portal, where you will select the department your concern should be routed to. There you will click the green Submit a Request tab, complete the form and hit "Report it" to submit.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND CONTACTS

Community Information

Lower Gwynedd Township 1130 N. Bethlehem Pike Spring House, PA 19477 215-646-5302 www.lowergwynedd.org

Wissahickon Valley Public Library Blue Bell Branch 650 W. Skippack Pike Blue Bell, Pa 19422 215-643-1320 www.wvpl.org

Wissahickon Valley Public Library Ambler Branch 209 Race Street Ambler, PA 19002 215-646-1072 www.wvpl.org

Wissahickon Schools

www.wsdweb.org Lower Gwynedd Elementary 215-619-8100

Blue Bell Elementary 215-619-8102

Shady Grove Elementary 215-619-8106

Wissahickon Middle School 215-619-8110

Wissahickon High School 215-619-8112

Tax Collector Information

Real Estate, School, and County Natalie Cormier, Tax Collector P.O. Box 3042 Ambler, Pa 19002 Office Location - 428 Knight Road Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002 267-460-1891 taxcollector@lowergwynedd.org

Earned Income, Local Services Tax, Business Privilege & Mercantile Taxes Berkheimer Tax Administrator Bridgeport Borough Hall 63 West 4th Street Bridgeport, Pa 19405 1-800-360-8989 www.hab-inc.com

Emergency and EMS

Police (non-emergency) 1130 N. Bethlehem Pike Spring House, Pa 19477 215-646-5303 www.lowergwynedd.org/departments/ police-department/

Wissahickon Fire Company 1130 N. Bethlehem Pike Spring House, Pa 19477 245 Race Street Ambler, Pa 19002 215-646-1266 www.station7.org

North Penn Volunteer Fire Company 141 S. Main Street North Wales, PA 19454 215-699-4337 www.northpennfire.com

Community Ambulance Assoc. of Ambler 1414 E. Butler Ave Ambler, PA 19002 215-643-6517 https://amblerambulance.org/

Utility Providers

PECO Customer Care 1-800-494-4000 www.peco.com PECO (outage) 1-800-841-4141

North Wales Water Authority 215-699-4836 www.nwwater.com

Ambler Water 215-646-1000 www.boroughofambler.com

Lower Gwynedd Sewer Billing Bucks County Water and Sewer 215-343-2538 www.bcwsa.net Comcast Xfinity Customer Service 1-800-Xfinity www.xfinity.com Verizon Residential Customer Service 1-800-Verizon www.verizon.com

Republic Services 215-723-0400 www.republicservices.com

PENNDOT 215-345-6060 Report a pothole 1-800-FIXROAD www.penndot.pa.gov

Horsham Water Authority 215-672-8011 www.horshamwater-sewer.com

County, State and Federal Offices

Congresswoman Madeline Dean 115 E. Glenside Ave #1 Glenside, PA 19038 215-884-4300 www.dean.house.gov/offices

PA Senator Maria Collett 1035 Virginia Drive Suite 201 Fort Washington, PA 19034 215-368-1429 www.senatorcollett.com

PA Representative Liz Hanbidge 1098 W. Skippack Pike Blue Bell, PA 19422 610-277-3230 www.pahouse.com/Hanbidge/

PA Representative Melissa Cerrato 605 Horsham Road Horsham, PA 19044-1207 267-282-6695 https://pahouse.com/cerrato/

Montgomery County P.O. Box 311 Norristown, PA 19401 610-278-3000 www.montgomerycountypa.gov

LOWER GWYNEDD POLICE

Bus Patrol

One Year In: What to Remember About the Bus Patrol Program

It's been one year since the Wissahickon School District implemented the Bus Patrol Program, and the impact on student safety has been significant. With stop-arm cameras now installed on all school buses, the goal remains simple: protect students and hold drivers accountable.

Here are a few important reminders as we begin Year Two:

STOP MEANS STOP:

When a school bus extends its stop sign and flashes red lights, all drivers must stop, whether you're behind the bus or approaching from the opposite direction—unless there is a physical median. This law applies on residential streets, multi-lane roads, and even in school zones.

HOW THE CAMERAS WORK:

- Every bus is equipped with multiple cameras, including stoparm cameras that activate when the red lights flash.
- If a vehicle illegally passes a stopped bus, the violation is reviewed by local police.
- If confirmed, a \$300 citation is mailed to the vehicle owner.

Repeat offenders may face escalated consequences

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Give yourself extra time in the morning and afternoon—rushing leads to poor decisions behind the wheel.
- Stay alert in neighborhoods, near bus stops, and in school zones. Kids may not always be visible until they are in the roadway.
- Never pass a school bus with flashing red lights—even if you think no children are nearby.
- Review footage or citation questions through www.alertbus. com or call 1-800-852-7741.

This program is a collaboration between Wissahickon School District, Lower Gwynedd, Ambler, and Whitpain Police Departments, and BusPatrol. Since its launch, dozens of violations have been addressed, and most importantly, drivers are becoming more aware and cautious around school buses

Wissahickon School District Video- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HU5F9XX6e3c

Pennsylvania Stopping Laws- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= FoCkg8jmzQ8



Lower Gwynedd Police Website:

The Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department offers a convenient online resource through our Crimewatch website, making it easier than ever to connect with us and access important services. Visit: www.lowergwyneddpolice.org

You can now access and submit forms for the following programs:

- 1. Do Not Solicit Registry Prevent unwanted door-to-door solicitations
- 2. Safe Cam Camera Registry Register your security cameras to assist with investigations
- 3. Car Seat Checks Schedule a safety check to ensure your car seat is properly installed
- 4. Right to Know Requests Submit public records requests under Pennsylvania law
- 5. Vacation Home Checks Let us know when you're away so we can help monitor your home

Please note: The website is not monitored 24/7, but we will respond to all submissions as soon as possible during normal business hours.

Homeowner Association contact information:

The Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department's Community Response Unit (CRU) is creating a contact list for Homeowners Associations (HOAs) and local businesses.

We are asking each HOA and business to designate one contact person and send their name and email address to whenry@lowergwyneddpd.gov.

The CRU will send event information directly to that contact, who can then share it with their HOA or business community using their internal distribution lists.

Thank you for helping us keep our community informed and engaged!

Ring Neighbors App:

The Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department is a participating agency in the Ring Neighbors program. While our page is not monitored 24/7, we will make every effort to use the platform to share information about safety concerns, community events, and potential hazards in the area.

Please remember, in the event of an emergency or if you need immediate assistance, call 9-1-1.

Paul Miller Law

Starting June 5, 2025, Pennsylvania's Paul Miller's Law officially went into effect, aiming to curb distracted driving and save lives. The law prohibits any handheld phone use while driving—including texting, browsing, and calls—even when stopped at red lights or stop signs.

The Law:

Defines an interactive mobile device as a handheld wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, smart phone, portable or mobile computer, or similar device which can be used for voice communication, texting, emailing, browsing the Internet, instant messaging, playing games, taking or transmitting images, recording or broadcasting videos, creating or sharing social media or otherwise sending or receiving electronic data.

Defines driving as operating a motor vehicle on a highway, including anytime the motor vehicle is temporarily stationary because of traffic, a traffic control device (e.g., a traffic light or stop sign), or other momentary delay.

Defines the use of an interactive mobile device as using at least one hand to hold, or supporting with another part of the body, an interactive mobile device, dialing or answering an interactive mobile device by pressing more than a single button, or reaching for an interactive mobile device that requires a driver to maneuver so that the driver is no longer in a seated driving position, restrained by a seat belt.

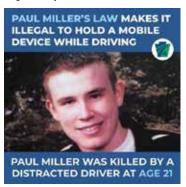
Penalties Under this Law

As a primary offense, drivers can be stopped by police if they have a mobile device in their hand while driving.

From June 2025 to June 2026, drivers will receive written warnings only. After that, violators may face \$50 fines plus court costs. Importantly, officers can now pull drivers over solely for handheld device use, making this a primary offense.

Named in memory of Paul Miller Jr., a young man tragically killed by a distracted driver, this law is a powerful reminder: Put the phone down and focus on the road. Hands-free systems like Bluetooth and voice commands remain legal.

For more information go to: https://www.pa.gov/.../traffic.../distracted-driving.html



COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

Community Engagement Summary: Spring/Summer 2025

- Lower Gwynedd Township Emergency Services Meeting
- Martin Luther King Solidarity Walk Bethlehem Baptist Church
- Martin Luther King Event Hosted by American Legion Post 769
- Ambler Area NAACP Meeting for Police Departments
- Ambler Area NAACP Book Bag Giveaway Event Lansdale
- Scam Jam (Fraud/Scam Prevention Event) Hosted by Rep. Liz Hanbidge
- Coffee with Cops Event
- Food Truck Friday Events Ambler Yards
- Pride Flag Raising Ceremony
- Kona with Cops Gwynedd Hunt, Gwyn Ayre, Villages of Trewellyn
- Block Party Flowers Still Grow Fest at Penllyn Park
- Block Party Fruitful Children Foundation
- Several Community Meetings

Youth & School Engagement

- · Wissahickon High School 9th Grade Career Day
- Rock Your Socks Event Ambler YMCA (National Down Syndrome Day)
- Gwynedd Friends School Spring Fest
- Lower Gwynedd Elementary Field Day Speed Trailer Participation
- Trunk or Treat Planning with Lower Gwynedd Elementary
- Camp Visit Goddard School
- Appreciation Event Gwynedd Mercy Academy Elementary
- Walk, Bike, Roll Event Wissahickon School District & TMA

of Montgomery County

Public Safety & Awareness Initiatives

- 2025 Frost Bite 5 Miler Race Assisted with Safety
- Car Seat Install Event Ambler YMCA & Montgomery County Office of Public Health
- Spring Fill A Cop Car Event
- Spring Drug Take Back Event
- Ambler Area YMCA Healthy Kids Day
- Ambler Area YMCA Safety Week
- Ambler Area YMCA Family Triathlon
- License Plate Restoration Events:
 - ^o Temple Ambler Hosted by Rep. Hanbidge
 - ^o Lower Gwynedd PD Hosted by Senator Collett

Youth Development & Mentorship

- Interview with Eagle Scouts Merit Badge and Eagle Scout Requirements
- Participated in 2025 PA State Police Troop K Camp Cadet Valley Forge Military Academy (Overnight Week)

Community Collaboration

- Ambler Borough Police & Arts and Music Festival
- Variety Club's Community Day
- North Penn Area P.A.L. National Night Out North Penn High School

The 2025 Lower Gwynedd Police Touch-A-Truck event was an incredible success! The weather was perfect, and it seemed like the entire community came out to enjoy the day. With over **1,500 attendees**, the event was filled with excitement, learning, and fun for families and kids of all ages.

We extend a heartfelt *thank you* to all of our amazing partners who helped make this day so special for the community:



Host & Support

- Beacon Properties / Cushman Wakefield for generously providing the property
- Lower Gwynedd Township Police
- Lower Gwynedd Township Public Works Department

Emergency Services & Law Enforcement

- Wissahickon Fire Company
- Community Ambulance Association of Ambler
- North Penn Fire Company
- Ambler Borough Police Department
- Montgomery Township Police Department
- Upper Gwynedd Fire Company
- Upper Gwynedd Township Police Department
- Upper Dublin Township Police Department
- Pennsylvania State Police
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Department
- JeffSTAT unable to land but thrilled us with a flyover!

Wissahickon High School Clubs

- · Robotics Team
- Key Club
- · National Honor Society
- · Photography Club

Food Vendors

- Dog Bites Hot Dog
- Lumbrada Cocina Mexican Food Truck
- Asplundh Tree Service donated Rita's Water Ice for the kids!





Community Businesses & Organizations

- · Deck's Landscaping
- · Silvestra Paving
- Eagle Power
- Do Better for Steve Foundation
- · R.P. Blair Trucking
- De Walker Oil
- JD Morrissey
- Wissahickon First Student Bus
- Republic Waste
- Syrena Towing
- Militello Painting
- Harth Builders
- Luskin Plumbing
- The Partnership TMA of Montgomery County
- SEPTA
- Keystone Fire and Security
- Earthborne Equipment
- Macdonald Electric donated shirts and mini trucks for the kids
- Target Building Construction
- Ambler Area YMCA
- Action Karate of North Wales

We are truly grateful for the continued support and spirit of collaboration that made this event unforgettable. Your contributions brought joy, learning, and community connection to life.





...... UPCOMING FALL/WINTER 2025 EVENTS

- Lower Gwynedd Fall Fest September 13
- **Senior Fair** Hosted by Rep. Hanbidge in Lansdale September 25
- Montgomery County Commerce Dept. Community Event October 21, Oaks Convention Center
- Cider with Cops October 25

- Trunk or Treat Events Lower Gwynedd Elementary TBD • Ambler YMCA – October 25
- Fill A Cop Car November 1
- Ambler Christmas Parade December 6
- Coffee with Kringle December 20

LAND DEVELOPMENT & SUBDIVISION

Development in the Township is always a topic of interest in the community. Residents often ask why the Township is willing to consider development applications. The answer is that it is our responsibility as a local government in Pennsylvania to do so. Property owners have a right to explore the opportunity of developing their parcels if they want, and they come to the Township requesting consideration of their various proposals. Township Officials are charged with navigating the legal process of subdivision, land development, zoning, rezoning, and any other required processes stipulated through local and state statutes when these proposals are submitted. Projects are discussed at Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings, all of which are open to the public. The community is encouraged to join the conversation by attending the meetings in person or virtually to stay informed.

Currently the following subdivisions and land developments are under construction:

- <u>Gwynedd Mercy University</u>- GMU will be finishing up the construction of the Francis M. Maguire Health Innovation Center. The grand opening of the new state-of-the-art facility is scheduled for September.
- <u>Spring House Estates</u>- Acts Retirement Community is constructing two building additions, installing additional parking stalls, and reconstructing the entrance/drop-off area. They are also adding amenities to their campus including an improved courtyard area, walkways, site lighting and landscaping, and modifying an existing stormwater basin.
- Gwynedd Estates- Acts Retirement Community is constructing a new two-story 39-unit assisted living facility on their campus.
- <u>Johns Lane Subdivision</u>- A residential subdivision on Johns Lane is under construction. This project includes five new single-family residential dwellings.

Other potential projects that will be the subject of upcoming discussions include:

- Whitefield Subdivision: A possible subdivision of the former Owen Evans Estate located at 1348 Sumneytown Pike into single-family residential building lots. Currently there are 14 lots proposed (13 new, 1 existing) along a new roadway off Evans Road. The applicant proposes to demolish the existing buildings except for the existing historic home.
- <u>Bethlehem Pike at Cedar Hill Redevelopment:</u> Possible redevelopment of the Spring House Nursery and surrounding parcels along the triangle between Bethlehem Pike, Cedar Hill Road, and Route 309, into a residential townhouse community.
- <u>Ambler Yards Mixed Use Campus:</u> Possible extension of the mixed-use campus to provide for the addition of a 43-unit apartment building at the corner of N. Spring Garden Street and Pen-Ambler Road and W Francis Avenue and the addition of a self-storage facility within the Ambler Yards campus.

NEW TRASH & RECYCLING CONTRACT

The contract with the Township's hauler for residential trash and recycling collection will end on October 31, 2025. To prepare for a new contract, the Township solicited public bids as required under state law. The Board of Supervisors awarded the bid to Republic Services, which was the low bid for the current service of twice per week collection, at their meeting on June 24th, 2025.

The good news is that since the hauler is not changing, for the most part everything will remain the same. However, this is a new contract, and there are certain things that will change, most notably the price of service. Below is a list of highlights from the new contract.

- New contract effective date- **November 1, 2025**, includes twice per-week service for trash and once per week service for recycling on Mondays and Thursdays
- Quarterly billing:
 - o Year one- \$117.00 per quarter
 - o Year two- \$125.19 per quarter
 - o Year three-\$133.95 per quarter
- Low volume option available- includes a smaller receptacle at a reduced price starting at \$93 per quarter for year one. Contact Republic if interested.
- Senior citizen discount available, contact Republic if applicable.

PUBLIC WORKS

We were fortunate to have a great group of summer employees helping the Public Works Department. They assisted with storm clean up, tree removal, grass cutting, building maintenance, sidewalk repair, trail maintenance, park maintenance, pothole patching, and roadway painting. Thanks guys!



From Left to Right: Davontay Wynder, Nijel Harrison, Earl Stout, Jaylon Williams, Phil Whelan

Snow Removal

During snow or ice events, please help Township crews by remembering the following tips:

- Move your vehicle out of the street and into private driveways.
 This helps plows fully clear the road and it is less snow you have to shovel.
- During any snow emergency declared by the Township, all vehicles must be removed from the roadway. Directions will be provided about where to park if you don't have a driveway.
- If possible, wait to shovel your driveway until plows have completed their final pass along the curb line or edge of pavement. A pass or two through the neighborhood does not mean the Township is finished plowing snow.
- Shovel to the right-hand side of your driveway (right side coming from your house) to reduce the amount of snow pushed back onto your driveway by the plow.
- Clear your sidewalk by shoveling and salting within 24 hours of the last evidence of precipitation.
- Do not shovel, blow, or plow snow from any sidewalk or driveway into the road. It is illegal and dangerous.



- Do not pull your car onto the roadway to clear the snow from the vehicle.
- Please don't place your trash and recycling receptacles in the street during or immediately after a storm.
- If you have a stormwater inlet in front of your property, please assist the Township in keeping it clear of snow and ice. This will prevent ice from forming and reduce drainage issues when the snow begins to melt.
- If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please clear the snow all around the hydrant so the firefighters can more quickly connect to it if needed. This could save lives and property.
- Please be patient during the snow removal process while the Township's plow operators work to clear the roadway.

Mailboxes

Please inspect mailboxes **before the winter**. Mailboxes should be at least 6 inches behind the curb line or edge of pavement and securely mounted to the post. The post should be securely mounted in the ground and checked for rot or damage at or near the base. The Township is not responsible for any damage that may occur to an improperly installed or previously damaged mailbox.

Winter Salt Smart: Protect Your Driveway and the Environment!



Road salt helps keep us safe in icy conditions, but too much can harm local waterways, soil, and wildlife. Here's how to use salt effectively and responsibly.

Use the right amount - a little goes a long way! You only need about a 12-ounce mug (like a coffee cup) of salt for a standard 20-foot driveway.

Shovel first - remove as much snow and ice as possible before applying salt. Salt works best on thin layers of ice, not snow.

Check the temperature - salt stops working below 15°F. In colder temps, use sand for traction instead.

Avoid salting near plants or storm drains and sweep up any extra salt after a storm. Salt runoff can damage vegetation and pollute streams.

Try alternatives to salt - look for deicers labeled "pet safe" or made from calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) which is less harmful to plants and waterways.

Small changes in how we de-ice can make a big difference for our environment!

SIDEWALKS & TRAILS STRATEGIC PLAN

At their July 22, 2025, meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved a new strategic plan to guide the development of pedestrian access in Lower Gwynedd. The plan, which is on the Township website, will guide decisions related to sidewalk and trail placement in Township Operation, land development applications, roadway improvements, and future capital projects.

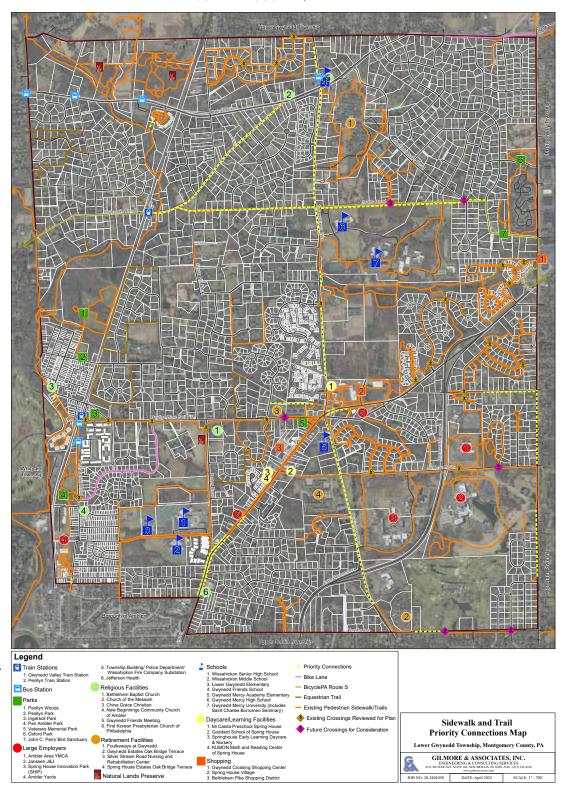
The process began with a thorough review of the existing Township map of sidewalks and trails to make sure it is up to date. The existing network was then analyzed for how well it connects to community nodes – places like mass transit stations/stops, parks, schools, religious facilities, and others. The project team identified critical gaps in connectivity and used the information to build a draft map of priority routes for future links. In addition, the map identified current mid-block roadway crossings that should be evaluated, and future crossings that should be considered.

The draft plan was posted on the Township website in May and June. It received feedback from the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission, the Parks & Recreation Board, the Environmental Advisory Council, the Montgomery County Planning Commission, community and many members who attended the various public meetings or submitted email comments. The feedback was reviewed and analyzed for several factors - which areas of the Township they connect, what alternatives are available, and how feasible it would be to construct sidewalks or crossings, among other factors. The various perspectives gave voice to concerns across the Township, and the final product is a plan that reflects the desires of Lower Gwynedd residents.

Lower Gwynedd Township

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA





FRIENDLY REMINDERS FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR

Visit www.lowergwyneddtax.org in order to:

- Download copies of your PAID tax bill
- Print your CURRENT tax bill
- Pay online
- Access important links and forms

October 30th is the end of the face period and after that date a 10% penalty will be applied.

Receipts for installment payments will be provided after the 3rd payment has been applied.

If paying with a check from your bank's online bill pay, please send payment at least a week in advance of deadlines. The envelopes do not have a USPS postmark and you run the risk of missing the deadline.

Interim tax bills are NOT sent to your mortgage company. If your mortgage company pays your real estate taxes, please forward interim tax bills. These are bills you may receive in addition to your two annual tax bills due to home renovations, etc.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out by email (taxcollector@lowergwynedd.org) or call 267-460-1891.Thank you, Natalie Cormier

INGERSOLL BALL PARK

In early August, a major improvement at Ingersoll Park is set to begin with the demolition of the existing concession stand. That step will make room for construction of a new two-story building containing a concession stand, press box, restrooms and storage, as well as a batting cage pavilion and picnic seating area. Other improvements include paving all spectator areas, ADA parking upgrades, and new landscaping. The project is funded in large part by grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development and Senator Maria Collett, as well as a contribution from the Lower Gwynedd Little League. Construction is expected to be completed just after Thanksgiving with the goal of having the park ready for Opening Day of the 2026 spring baseball season.

This spring the Little Leage with the help of Public Works recently installed two new scoreboards on the Fields at Ingersoll Park.



STORMWATER AND YOUR NEIGHBORS

Often the Township receives calls from residents about drainage issues on their properties that they believe may be caused by improvements on neighboring properties or changes to the areas surrounding their property. Neighbor disputes over stormwater are common. Water does not stop at property boundaries and there are often instances where water flows from one property onto another and causes damage. It is important to realize that activities on your own property can adversely affect your neighbor's property.

Be a good stormwater neighbor by familiarizing yourself with how stormwater flows on your property. Watch how water enters and exits your property and notice if that flow is impacting your neighbor's property. A simple improvement like a landscaped berm could potentially alter the way water flows. If you do find that there are areas of concentrated flow that could be causing damage, try redirecting that flow to vegetated areas on your property for infiltration. There are other best management practices you can employ to reduce the impact of stormwater runoff from your property onto other properties, such as installing a rain garden or vegetated swale. It's important to remember though that you cannot direct your stormwater flow onto a neighboring property. It is also important to leave natural drainage paths undisturbed when possible and remember grading and re-grading can change how water flows.

PARKS AND RECREATION





TRAILS



Just a reminder,
the Township
does not
perform
any winter
maintenance
on our trails.
Please use our
trails at your
own risk.



PARKS AND RECREATION









ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL







Lower Gwynedd Township 4th Annual Native Tree Giveaway

Date: Saturday, October 4, 2025

Location: Lower Gwynedd Township building, 1130 N.
Bethlehem Pike, Spring House

Please visit the township website for further information, including a list of trees and shrubs that will be available. Residents must sign up and select their tree in advance. Registration began September 1, 2025.

FALL TIP: PREPARE YOUR POLLINATOR GARDEN FOR A HEALTHY SPRING!

Fall is the perfect time to support pollinators and set your garden up for success next year. Leave seed heads: plants like coneflowers, black-eyed Susans, and milkweed provide seeds for birds and overwintering shelter for insects. Skip the deadheading! Don't over-clean: fallen leaves and hollow plant stems are essential winter habitat for native bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects. Plant fall bloomers & natives: plants like goldenrod and asters are critical late-season food sources for pollinators. Fall is also a great time to plant native perennials—they'll establish strong roots over winter. Water new plantings and keep watering any new additions until the ground freezes to ensure good root development. Let your garden rest naturally—pollinators will thank you!









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READYMONTCO

In early July 2025, all of Pennsylvania experienced an interruption in 911 service – many callers trying to use the emergency service could not get through. Although rare, these kinds of disruptions do occur. If 911 has an issue in the future, residents experiencing emergencies in Montgomery County should call 610-635-4300.

To make residents aware of the issue, and the alternative phone number, Lower Gwynedd Township promoted the information across several platforms. Please be sure to sign up for, or follow, these services:

- ReadyMontco The official source for notifications about emergencies, severe weather, crime alerts and disasters in Montgomery County. Receive time-sensitive messages wherever you specify on your home phone, mobile phone, business phone, email address, text messages, and more. ReadyMontco also offers the opportunity to identify any special needs that may apply to your family in case of an emergency. To sign up, please visit https://www.montgomerycountypa.gov/3311/ReadyMontco. This link is also available on the Township website, under the "Emergency Services" department.
- Lower Gwynedd Township Website www.lowergwynedd. org – Emergency notifications are posted on the website, and residents may sign up to have new postings sent as emails.
- Facebook @lowergwynedd
- Instagram @lowergwyneddtwp



FOREST EVALUATION AND STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN------

When land development projects come before the Township for review, one component that is considered is the developer's ability to replace any trees that are taken down because of construction. When the developer cannot meet the replanting requirements, they sometimes provide the Township with a fee, which may then be used to improve the health of wooded areas in Lower Gwynedd. These fees have been collected in a "tree bank," and the Township created a strategic plan to determine how to use these funds effectively. The first part of the plan involved having an ISA Certified Arborist* evaluate the health of wooded portions of several Township-owned properties. The evaluation showed that in many areas, removing dead trees and invasive species is more critical for the health of the forest than adding new trees. It also identified some areas where planting new trees would be beneficial. The second part of the plan produced several key deliverables:

- It outlined a methodology for how Lower Gwynedd staff could conduct evaluations of other parts of the Township;
- Described a system for prioritizing work orders for tree removals and tree restorations;
- Suggested policies and procedures for tree removal. For example, when trees should be chipped and left in place;
- Made recommendations for managing invasive species; and
- Outlined best practices for planting and maintaining new trees.

The plan has already helped Township operations: during the evaluation, staff became aware of several trees on the Dager Road trail that needed to be removed and took action immediately. Moving forward, it will be used to both prioritize work and help determine which work should be done by Township staff, and what should be bid out to contractors.

This document is a tremendous step forward to keeping our forests healthy.



TEXACO LOT

As the Spring House intersection improvements were coming to an end, the Board of Supervisors asked Township staff to develop a plan to beautify the vacant lot at the corner of Sumneytown Pike and Penllyn Pike. The lot had been vacant since the old Texaco gas station was torn down in anticipation of the major construction involved with upgrading that intersection. After receiving input from the Parks & Recreation Board, the Environmental Advisory Council, the Board of Supervisors, the public, and Township staff, the plan was approved, and work began in the spring.

The Township's Public Works staff first removed the fill that remained from the intersection project. They replaced it with topsoil and regraded the site. They then added grass seed, sodded a few portions, and planted approximately 30 trees of varying species and sizes.

The final phase of the project involved replacing the sidewalk along the Penllyn Pike side of the property. This improved the quality of sidewalk, and added a grass strip along the curb, matching the new sidewalk that was added to the other side of the property during the intersection construction.

We are already able to see a lot more green on the property, as well as a few flowering trees! We hope you enjoy the improvements as you walk or drive through the intersection.

LOWER GWYNEDD PROJECT UPDATES

- The **Penllyn Flood Study** kicked off at a neighborhood meeting held on April 30, 2025. Township staff spoke with members of the community to learn about areas of Penllyn that have been prone to flooding in recent years. The feedback will be combined with engineering analysis to determine the most efficient ways of managing water in the Penllyn community.
- Work has begun on the **Old Bethlehem Pike bridge** that is located behind the Township building. The first step involved PECO relocating a gas main and then shifting the location of a utility pole. Construction of the replacement is expected to begin this fall, along with streambank restoration along the banks of Willow Run.

SMALL ANIMALS AND DEER

We often receive calls regarding dead animals in yards and along roadways. Where the animal is located and the type of animal determines who you should call.

PENNDOT will clear **deer** carcasses from state roads. These roads are...

Bethlehem Pike Tennis Avenue Gypsy Hill Road

Norristown Road Dekalb Pike Plymouth Road

Evans Road Pen Ambler Road Welsh Road

You can call PENNDOT at 610-275-2368 to report the deer or report it at customercare.penndot.gov

The Pennsylvania Game Commission retrieves **deer** from all remaining township and county roads. You can call them at 610-926-3136.

For assistance removing small critters in your yard, such as foxes, skunks, and raccoons, you will need to contact a private critter control business.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code enforcement is vital for maintaining Lower Gwynedd Township's safety, health, and quality of life. Ensuring buildings meet safety standards reduces the risk of accidents and creates a secure environment for everyone. Health and sanitation regulations help keep our community clean and disease-free, while property maintenance codes preserve property values and enhance the aesthetic appeal of our neighborhoods. Fair and consistent enforcement promotes equity and fosters community pride. Together, these efforts contribute to a vibrant, safe, and welcoming community for all residents.

The Township rearranged staff responsibilities to more effectively manage code enforcement. For years when we received a complaint

about a possible violation, the Township contacted the property owner via phone, email or an in-person visit. This step will not change. We prefer to take this cooperative approach, as most property owners quickly address the situation. However, our new structure gives us the resources to stay on more difficult situations where there is a code violation that presents a safety risk or negatively affects properties that the property owner refuses to resolve. In that case, we will issue a citation and go through the formal and time-consuming process that ultimately may be decided by a Magisterial District Judge. Our hope is that the citation process will continue to be an uncommon last resort, but we are now better prepared to utilize this tool if needed.

COMP PLAN UPDATE

The updated comprehensive land use plan that we've been working on for the past two years is almost done. The plan is undergoing its final internal review and then it will be circulated to neighboring municipalities, the school district, Planning Commission, and most importantly to the public.

The comprehensive plan is a long-range planning document providing a guide for future growth and development. It is also a state requirement as the foundation for the Township's zoning ordinance. We've been collecting input through steering committee meetings and public outreach and then applying sound planning principles to identify the community vision that will guide the plan's recommendations and implementation strategies. The plan looks at a variety of topics including housing, demographic trends, infrastructure, transportation, and current land use.

This plan will serve the Township well into the future, 2045 to be exact, so it is important that we end up with a plan that truly reflects the vision and goals of the community. It is particularly helpful to get public reaction to the proposed community vision and future land use plan, although we welcome feedback on the entire document. Check the Township's social media or sign up for our email notifications (if you haven't already) to learn when the complete draft plan is available for review and on upcoming meeting agendas.

To view a summary slideshow with additional information and details regarding the comprehensive plan, please visit our website. Comprehensive Plan Revision | Lower Gwynedd Township

FIRE INSPECTIONS

Lower Gwynedd Township will be rolling out a new fire inspection program in the coming months. Under the Supervision of the Fire Marshal, fire and life-safety inspections will be conducted in non-residential buildings throughout Lower Gwynedd Township. The purpose is to confirm that the building and its operations comply with the International Fire Code 2018, as well as other Township Codes, to ensure a safe environment for occupants and visitors. A licensed inspector will perform inspections, verify compliance, identify potential fire hazards, prepare inspection reports, compile corrective actions for fire and life-safety violations, and conduct follow-up inspections. Examples of items that would be checked

during an inspection are fire alarms, sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and emergency lighting. The inspector also will confirm that there are clear evacuation routes and accessible fire exits. Inspections like this help identify and rectify potential fire and safety hazards, reducing risk to people and buildings. It also provides an opportunity to update emergency contact information, confirm proper use and occupancy information is on file with the Township, and disseminate important fire and safety educational materials. The fire inspection program is a proactive initiative aimed at preventing fires and ensuring the safety of everyone within a building.

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

Kiwanis Club of Ambler: Supporting Youth and Strengthening Our Community

The Kiwanis Club of Ambler, PA, shines as a dedicated service organization, bringing together people of all ages and backgrounds who are united by a common purpose: to improve the lives of children in Ambler/Lower Gwynedd area and around the world. Their efforts are wide-reaching, combining hands-on projects, financial support, and advocacy to create positive, lasting change for kids and families across the area.

What the Kiwanis Club of Ambler Supports

1. Early Childhood and Elementary Programs

The club is deeply committed to early education and literacy. Through projects like the "Books on My Shelf" program, they ensure local children have access to age-appropriate reading materials, helping spark curiosity and strengthen foundational learning skills. By partnering with schools and libraries, Kiwanis members distribute books and promote reading as a joyful, everyday activity.

2. Student Leadership and Engagement

Kiwanis supports youth leadership programs that empower students to become community-minded citizens. They sponsor Service Leadership Programs (such as Key Club for high school students and Builder's Club for middle schoolers) to cultivate teamwork, ethical leadership, and service ideals in young people.

3. Community Events for Kids and Families

 The annual Carnival and Independence Day Fireworks draw families together for fun, fellowship, and fundraising—all in the spirit of giving back to children's causes.

- The Easter Egg Hunt at Riccardelli Park brings hundreds of kids and parents together for an inclusive, memorable community celebration.
- Seasonal and holiday events give children safe, joyful spaces to play, learn, and connect with neighbors.

4. Health, Wellness, and Safety Initiatives

Kiwanis of Ambler champions projects that support children's health and well-being. While specifics may vary year-to-year, the club promotes wellness by partnering with local organizations and schools on initiatives that address food insecurity, childhood nutrition, and active living.

5. Fundraising for Youth Services and Charities

Funds raised by the Kiwanis Club go directly toward scholarships, youth programming, local charities, and global causes that benefit children in need. The club works with trusted partners to identify urgent needs and provide resources, whether by sponsoring enrichment activities or supplying basic necessities.

Why They Do It

At their core, Kiwanis Club members believe every child matters. Their commitment comes from wanting to build a community where all children are safe, valued, and empowered to succeed. By focusing on the needs of youth, they inspire a culture of kindness and civic responsibility in Ambler and beyond.

Get Involved

Whether you want to volunteer for a day, champion a cause, or become an ongoing member, the Kiwanis Club of Ambler welcomes your support. Their mission thrives when community members join hands to make a tangible difference for local children and families.







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THERE IS NO SAFE PLACE ON A 🗵 **HIGHWAY DURING A SNOW SQUALL**



What is a snow squall?

- · A brief but intense period of heavy snow, strong winds, and whiteout conditions.
- Can cause roads to become

What is a snow squall warning?

- Issued for areas that will be impacted by snow squalls.
- Will trigger an alert on your cell phone.

penndot.gov/winter weather.gov/safety/winter-snowsquall

If a snow squall warning is issued, what should I do?

Avoid or delay motor travel until the squall passes through your location.



What if I am already traveling?

Safely exit the road at the next opportunity.



What if I cannot exit the road in time?

- Slow down gradually.
- Turn on your headlights and hazard lights.
- Stay in your lane.
- Increase your following distance.
- Avoid slamming on your brakes.



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Ambler Rotary Club Marks 100 Years with Record-Breaking Community Support

The Rotary Club of Ambler is celebrating its 100th anniversary by doubling down on its mission of service and charitable giving. In 20<mark>25 alon</mark>e, the club awarded \$65,50<mark>0 in grants to local nonprofits</mark> and organizations—its largest annual distribution to date.

Recipients include Mattie Dixon Community Cupboard, Wissahickon Valley Boys & Girls Club, Wissahickon Trails, Wissahickon Public Library, Family Promise Montco PA, GMU Catherine's Cupboard Food Pantry, and the Senior Adult Activities Center (SAAC), among others.

"We're thrilled to commemorate our 100th year by investing directly in the work of local change makers," said Anne M. Frank, a representative of the club's Grant Committee. Club President Tara Bevivino added, "This grant symbolizes our long-standing mission of 'Service Above Self' and our dedication to building a stronger community together."

The Ambler Rotary Club has been a familiar presence at community events for decades, known for its service projects and its popular beer tents at the Ambler Arts & Music Festival and Oktoberfest. Every dollar raised from these events goes directly back into the community, supporting scholarships, food banks, youth programs, and other local initiatives.



In addition to grantmaking, the club recently gifted a new pavilion to Ambler Borough at Knight's Park as a thank-you to a community that has supported Rotary for generations.

Founded in 1925, Rotary International is a global network of neighbors, friends, and leaders dedicated to creating lasting change in local communities and around the world. The Ambler chapter has long been a driving force for volunteerism, charitable giving, and civic engagement in the Wissahickon Valley.

The club will also be on hand at the Lower Gwynedd Fall Fest this year, where residents are encouraged to stop by and learn more.

Those interested in joining or attending a meeting can contact Club President Tara Bevivino at tarabevhomes@gmail.com.







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FALL 2025



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