

Lower Gwynedd Report

FALL 2024



*Photo Credit: Ashley Brasch
The Natural Area along the Penllyn Trail*

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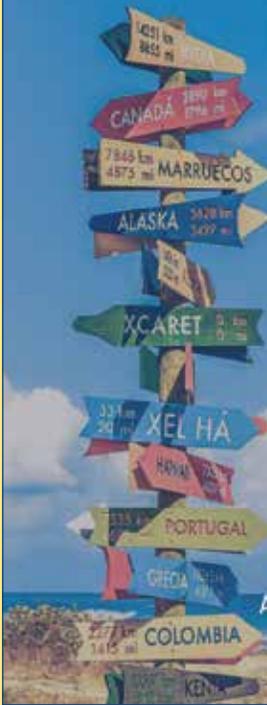
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LOCAL SPOTLIGHT - LEOLA HUBBARD



Danielle Duckett and Leola Hubbard

Lower Gwynedd resident Leola Hubbard was inducted into the Montgomery County Voter Hall of Fame by the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners on April 4th. Leola voted for the first time in 1963 at the age of 21. Leola was attending college in Georgia at the time but sent her absentee ballot home so that it would be counted in Montgomery County. She has not missed voting in a primary or general election for the past 60 years. Leola said she owes her dedication to all those people who fought and put so much effort into getting her the right to participate in this civil right. Leola's dedication to voting is a testament to her civic commitment.

Be Alert
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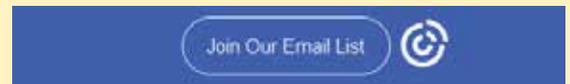
E-NEWSLETTER

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 twice a month. Sign up today at lowergwynedd.org. Click on E-newsletters across the top.



EMAIL LIST

Click on any newsletter from the list. Once opened you will see "Join our Email list" across the top. Click on this and enter your information.



Our Social Media

Instagram
@LOWERGWYNEDDTWP

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LOWERGWYNEDDTOWNSHIP

X
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LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP

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

Administration

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

Police

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

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 (odd numbered months)

Deadline for Submissions:

Zoning Hearing Board

30 days prior to scheduled meeting

Planning Commission

30 days prior to scheduled meeting

Upcoming Holidays/Township Closed

- September 2nd Labor Day
- October 14th Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day
- November 11th Veterans Day
- November 28th and 29th Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 25th Christmas Day
- January 1st New Years Day

LOWER GWYNEDD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Danielle Duckett, *Chair*



Mike Twersky, *Vice Chair*



Janine Martin



Tessie McNeely



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 will allow 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.boroughhofambler.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

In January of this year some of our Lower Gwynedd Police Officers were recognized for their outstanding work. Officer Tim Evard was recognized for his assistance at the AMC Movie Theater with a patient that had overdosed. Officer Garrett Vail and John Dobson were recognized for their assistance with a missing patient at a local nursing home facility. Sergeant Chris Westerman, Officer Thomas Henry, Officer Garret Vail and Officer John Dobson were recognized for their exceptional work in response to an emotionally disturbed individual in a wooded area on 309. Congratulations to all our officers for their bravery and dedication to our community. Their continued efforts contribute to the ongoing success of our police department.



Chief Paul Kenny, Officer Tom Henry and Officer John Dobson



Chief Paul Kenny and Officer Tim Evard

Community Response Unit

2024 Touch A Truck

Lower Gwynedd Township Police Touch-a-Truck Event 2024 was held on May 18th. Despite some weather challenges, the event was a resounding success, and we're thrilled to reflect on the fantastic day we had with our community.

This year's event featured over 30 impressive pieces of equipment. From police cruisers and fire trucks to construction vehicles and more, attendees had the chance to get an up-close look and even hop inside some of their favorite trucks.

Many dedicated officers, firefighters, EMTs, military members, construction workers, tree surgeons, landscapers, plumbers and chiropractors were on hand to meet with the community, showcase their equipment, and provide valuable safety tips. It was a great opportunity for everyone to learn more about the essential work they do every day.

Unfortunately, due to the weather conditions, the helicopters were unable to attend. We understand the excitement they bring and appreciate your understanding. We look forward to having them join us in future events!

We were thrilled to welcome over 486 cars full of excited attendees! Your participation and enthusiasm made the event truly special. Many lucky attendees walked away with exciting prizes from our giveaways, generously donated by local businesses.

Attendees enjoyed delicious offerings from local food trucks, creating a festive atmosphere filled with laughter, good food, and community spirit.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, and community partners for making this event possible. All donations collected during the event were given to the Do Better 4 Steve Foundation. Special Thanks to the Wissahickon High Schools Work Study Program, Key Club and Honor Society for volunteering their time to help with the event.

Community Feedback: We value your feedback and would love to hear your thoughts on this year's event. Please share your experiences and suggestions with us by emailing Sgt William Henry at whenry@lowergwynedd.org. Your input will help us make next year's event even better.

Thank you for making the 2024 Touch-a-Truck Event a success. We look forward to seeing you at our future events and continuing to strengthen our community bonds!





photo credit: Jim Short of NorthPennNow.com

Stay Connected

The Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department has launched a new website in collaboration with Crimewatch Technologies to enhance community engagement and safety. This website, part of the Crimewatch Network, provides residents with direct access to crime and public safety-related information. Key features of the website include:

- **Email Alerts:** Sign up for a free account to receive email alerts about crimes and emergency broadcasts.
- **Registration:** Register your camera and alarm systems.
- **Community Programs:** Sign up for programs like the Do Not Solicit List and Car Safety Seat Inspection.
- **Resources and Services:** Access various community resources and services.



Residents are encouraged to visit www.lowergwyneddpolice.org and download the CRIMEWATCH Mobile app from the Apple App Store or the Android App Store.

Don't forget you can follow Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department on Facebook and get police news by following the Township on Instagram.

Please note that the website is not monitored 24/7. To report an incident or make a police report, call 911 or 215-646-5300.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY



Halloween street smarts



- Always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.
- If your older children are trick-or-treating alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you and agree on a specific time when they should return home.
- Talk with kids about the risk of distracted walking. This includes text messaging, talking on or looking at the mobile phone and listening to music.
- Cross the street as a group in established crosswalks. Most child pedestrian accidents occur mid-block, rather than at intersections. Make sure kids know not to cross the street between parked cars or out of driveways or alleys.
- Don't assume cars will stop just because they have the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing trick-or-treaters.
- Stay on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk. If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic. Only go to homes with a porch light on and, ideally, a well-lit pathway.

Stranger danger & tricky people

- Older children should travel in groups and create a "buddy system" to get each other home safely.
- Caution kids to never enter a home or car for a treat. Notify the police department immediately about any suspicious or unlawful activity.
- Review with your child how to call 9-1-1 if they ever have an emergency



Costume safety tips

- Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility.
- Make sure that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, getting caught on objects, or coming into contact with firepits.
- Look for "flame resistant" on the costume labels. Wigs and accessories should also clearly indicate this.
- Consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives to masks. Test makeup ahead of time on a small patch of your child's skin to ensure there are no unpleasant surprises or allergic reactions on the big day. Toxic ingredients have been found in cosmetics marketed to teens and tweens.



The Lower Gwynedd Police Department wants all to have a SAFE and FUN Halloween!!

LAND DEVELOPMENT & SUBDIVISION

Below is a summary of the various land development and subdivision projects currently being reviewed, approved, or under construction in Lower Gwynedd Township at the time this publication was prepared (summer 2024)



Preliminary Review

- **Whitefield Subdivision (#24-04LD):** A-Residential; Location-1348 Sumneytown Pike; Applicant-Genterra Corporation; Summary- The applicant proposes a 10-lot residential subdivision of a 15.7-acre parcel, including demolition of the existing buildings except for the existing historic home and creating 9 new building lots. As proposed, eight of the lots will have access off an extension of Forrest Drive with a cul-de-sac and the remaining two lots will be accessed from Evans Road. *Under Review.*
- **Spring House Estates- Acts Community LD (#24-01LD):** MF3-B; Location-728 Norristown Road; Applicant-ACTs Retirement Community; Summary-The applicant proposes to construct two separate building additions, install additional parking stalls, and reconstruct the entrance/drop-off area. Additional improvements include a courtyard area, including walkways, site lighting and landscaping, and a modification to an existing stormwater basin. *Pending BOS approval.*

Approved/Under Construction

- **Janssen Permanent Parking Lot LD (#21-01LD)-Amended Plan Application:** F-1 Limited Industrial; Location-1400 McKean Road; Applicant-Janssen Pharmaceutical R&D; Summary-The applicant is removing one parking lot and replacing it with a new parking lot in a different location on the site. *Approved.*
- **727 Norristown Road-Spring House Innovation Park (SHIP)- Building 14 Parking Lot and Electric Substation Land Development (#23-04LD):** D-1; Location-727 Norristown Road (SHIP); Applicant-Beacon Capital Partners; Summary- The applicant is constructing a 1,942 square foot electrical substation and adding a parking lot at Building 14 on their campus. *Under construction.*
- **1325 Sumneytown Pike- Gwynedd Mercy University Francis M. Maguire Healthcare Innovation Center Land Development (#23-03LD):** Institutional; Location-1325 Sumneytown Pike (GMU); Applicant-Gwynedd Mercy University; Summary-The applicant is constructing a 70,000 square foot two-story nursing center and associated improvements. *Under Construction.*
- **1345 Sumneytown Pike- Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School Building Expansion Land Development (#22-07LD):** Institutional; Location-1345 Sumneytown Pike (GMAHS); Applicant-Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School; Summary-The applicant is expanding the high school building and demolishing a portion of the existing building and to install other improvements including a sidewalk along the existing parking lot, walkways, and terrace area. *Under Construction.*
- **1500-1524 Cedar Hill Road Land Development (#22-05LD):** Residential development; Location- Cedar Hill Rd.; Applicant-Jon Mayer; Summary- The applicant consolidated 3 parcels, which then were subsequently subdivided into 7 individual single-family residential lots, 2 of the 3 existing dwellings are being demolished and 6 new homes will be built. The lots will be accessed from individual driveways along Cedar Hill Road. *Approved.*
- **St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Land Development (GMU Campus) (#21-04LD):** Institutional land development; Location- 1325 Sumneytown Pk-GMU; Applicant-St. Charles Seminary; Summary- Proposal to consolidate two parcels within the campus and add a new college residence hall with a chapel, new student life center, and a new maintenance building. Future plans for a gym and an additional building are also shown on the plans. Additional improvements including parking facilities, access drive, landscaping, lighting and stormwater management facilities are also proposed. Approved 9/27/22. *Under construction; anticipated completion Fall 2024.*
- **776 Johns Lane Subdivision (#21-02SUBD):** Residential subdivision; Location- Johns Lane; Applicant-DPD Johns Lane LP; Summary- 6-lot residential subdivision with 5 new building lots for single-family residential homes and 1 existing lot with home to remain. The development will take access from a private road with cul-de-sac from the intersection of Johns Lane and Susquehanna Road. Additional improvements include stormwater management facilities. Approved 11/23/21. *Under construction.*
- **1616 School House Lane Minor Subdivision (#24-03SUBD):** A-Residential; Location-1616 School House Lane; Applicant-Jack MacCord; Summary- Applicant proposes to subdivide a 2.4-acre parcel into two 1.2 acre lots. The existing home will remain as Lot 1 and a new building lot will be created as Lot 2. Lot 2 will have access off Gypsy Hill Road. A zoning variance was granted for this application as the lot width is less than required. There are no improvements planned at this time, the application is for the subdivision of the land only. *Pending BOS approval.*

PARKS AND RECREATION

LOWER GWYNEDD SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The Summer Concert Series was moved to Pen Ambler Park this year and made use of the beautiful amphitheater in the park and sloped ground. This has allowed for larger bands and more parking for attendees. Thank you everyone who came out and enjoyed our series.





FALL HAPPENINGS

IN LOWER GWYNEDD

**SEP
21** **FALL FESTIVAL**



**OCT
19** **TRICK OR TREAT
WITH THE COPS**

**NOV
2** **TAPPING THE
GREAT PUMPKIN**

**NOV
2** **FILL A COP CAR**



PARKS AND RECREATION



LOWER GWYNEDD
Fall Fest

Saturday September 21
12 - 5 pm

Houston & Dager Roads
Food Trucks-Vendors
Live Music - Kids Activities

Thank you to our Sponsors



Lowergwynedd.org 215-646-5302
LowerGwyneddFallFest

DIGITAL TRAIL MAP

After the heat of the summer, if you are ready to go outside, explore new trails and take in all the colors of the fall, check out the 25 miles of walking trails Lower Gwynedd has to offer.

A digital trail map can be found on the Parks & Recreation page of the Township website and can be added to your Google Maps.

PARKS AND RECREATION



**VOLUNTEERS
LOWER GWYNEDD
Fall Fest
9-21-2024
WANTED**

The Lower Gwynedd Township Fall Fest Committee is looking for volunteers to help with this year's event! We will need volunteers for a morning shift (9am-12pm) and an afternoon shift (3pm-6pm). If you're interested in participating, please send us an email at contactus@lowergwynedd.org with your contact information and availability.

Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law Pennsylvania Vehicle Code

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE



When a School Bus is stopped on a highway or traffic way with its red lights flashing and side arm extended, a driver following or approaching

must stop at least 10 feet from reaching the bus and remain stationary until the lights on the bus are turned off or the children who may have alighted (stepped down or dismounted) have reached a place of safety.

The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection at which a School Bus is stopped shall stop his vehicle at that intersection until the flashing red signal lights on the School Bus are no longer activated.

If you are convicted of violating Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, you will receive all of the following

Penalties:

- FINE \$250.00
- When a school bus is equipped with a side stop arm enforcement system and you pass a school bus with its red lights flashing, you may receive a \$300 total fine in the mail.
- 60 Day Driver's License Suspension
- Five (5) points on your driving record

Your requirements and responsibilities as a licensed Pennsylvania driver are to obey the School Bus Stopping Law.

- When you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- When you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- When you approach an inter section where a school bus is stopped with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- You **MUST STOP** at least ten (10) feet away from the school bus.
- You **MUST WAIT** until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm has been withdrawn before moving.
- **DO NOT MOVE** until all the children have reached a place of safety.

Our Children's Safety Is In Your Hands.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works has cleaned and replaced storm drain inlets, as needed, ahead of the annual road paving. The new inlets include a bicycle safe grate. These grates are constructed so bicycle tires do not get caught in them.



KEEPING STORM DRAINS CLEAN THIS FALL

With autumn arriving and the leaves beginning to fall, it is important to remember that leaves and debris impact our stormwater system and the health of local waterways. During or after a rainfall event, stormwater travels over streets and sidewalks collecting leaves and other materials and carries them to storm drains. The collection of leaves in storm drains can cause trouble for homeowners, stormwater systems and water quality. The leaves essentially block the drain from functioning properly by blocking the water flow. This can lead to a backup resulting in lawn and basement flooding. While the Public Works Department routinely monitors and cleans out storm drains, they can't be everywhere at once. Residents can assist in preventing localized flooding from blocked storm drains too. When raking leaves in your yard, remember to also rake the leaves out of the street as well and then recycle the leaves during the six Saturday leaf collections events offered throughout the Fall.

SMALL ANIMALS AND DEER

We often receive calls regarding dead animals in yards and along roadways. Depending on 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 would include...

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bethlehem Pike | Norristown Road |
| Evans Road | Tennis Avenue |
| Dekalb Pike | Pen Ambler Road |
| Gypsy Hill Road | Plymouth Road |
| Welsh Road | |

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

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

For small critters in your yard, such as foxes, skunks, and raccoons, you will need to contact a local critter control service.

BAMBOO

Bamboo is a problem in Lower Gwynedd Township. Our Code Enforcement Office receives bamboo complaints from residents on a weekly basis. While bamboo may provide a thick privacy buffer, it is invasive, and overtime can lead to significant infrastructural damage and threaten our natural ecosystem.

The planting or growing of bamboo has been prohibited within the Township since 2018. Any person who plants or grows bamboo is in violation of the code. For people who already had bamboo on their property before it was prohibited, they must abide by the regulations in the code. This includes:

- Preventing bamboo from invading or existing within 40 feet of the edge of pavement or traveled portion of a public or private road or sidewalk or within 40 feet of the property line of any Township/public property, or within 25 feet of the property line of an adjoining or neighboring property. Each property owner shall prevent bamboo from invading any of these areas described above.
- Each property owner shall prevent bamboo from spreading by taking necessary actions such as installing sheathing to prevent such growth or encroachment upon adjoining or neighboring properties.

GWYNEDD MERCY ACADEMY GIRL SCOUT TROOP



Daisy Troop 7083 fulfilled their Girl Scout promise to use resources wisely and to make the world a better place by donating a “Little” free library at Oxford Park. The troop chose to use some of the money they earned selling cookies to install a library that will allow visitors to both borrow and donate books for all ages. Each member of the troop will take turns maintaining the library every month. So, the next time you are at Oxford Park look for the “Little” free library. You can find it near the parking lot. Feel free to take a book to read or provide a gently used book to share with others. The Lower Gwynedd Board of Supervisors recognized the Troop 7083 community project at a meeting in May and thanked the scouts for their thoughtful donation.



INGERSOLL HOUSE UPDATE

Ingersoll House and Barn – SOLD!

The Spring newsletter highlighted some of the history of the Ingersoll House, and announced that the Board of Supervisors decided to hold a public auction to sell the property. The auction took place on July 29th, 2024, and the Board of Supervisors approve the sale to the high bidder. The winner has until September 20, 2024, to settle.

The new owners intend to restore the house and barn. Their work will have to comply with the Lower Gwynedd Zoning Ordinance regulations and the Historic Resource Protection Standards.

A link to the auction results, as well as pictures of the property, can be found on the Township website at <https://lowergwynedd.org/information/ingersoll-house-barn-auction/>.

Lower Gwynedd Township would like to thank everyone involved in the process, especially Lei Barry of Keller Williams and the auction team at H.K. Keller.



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL



TREE CITY USA
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP 3RD ANNUAL NATIVE TREE GIVEAWAY

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024

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 trees in advance. **Registration opens September 1, 2024.**

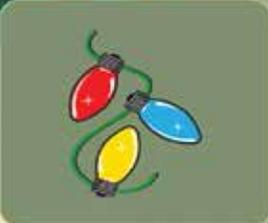
BATTERY AND TECHNO TRASH RECYCLING

Just a reminder the Environmental Advisory Council holds battery and techno trash recycling events on the 2nd Saturday of the odd numbered months for Township residents only. “Techno Trash” are CD’s, DVD’s, VHS, audio and Computer tapes and cases. If you are unsure of what is able to be recycled make sure to visit the Environmental Advisory Council page on the Township website. In 2023, 1,070 pounds of batteries, 570 pounds of techno trash, and over 200 pounds of holiday lights were recycled and kept out of landfills.

LOWER GWYNEDD EAC HAPPENINGS

 **TREE GIVEAWAY**
10/5

 **BATTERY & TECHNO TRASH RECYCLING**
9/14, 11/9

 **HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING**
November thru January

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Please mark your calendars for Monday, October 28th for the second Lower Gwynedd Township Comprehensive Plan Public Open House! Please stop by the Lower Gwynedd Township Building any time from 4pm-6pm to provide feedback on many aspects of the plan. Planners will be available to answer any questions. Now is a great chance to learn more about the planning process, view more detailed recommendations and illustrations, and provide input on other aspects of the comprehensive plan. Come share your ideas!

PET WASTE & STORMWATER

Dog poop can contain bacteria, viruses and parasites.

When left on the ground, pet waste breaks down and washes into the water supply.

Contaminants in the storm drains pollute our rivers, streams and creeks.

Despite popular belief, pet waste can't be used as fertilizer because it's too acidic.

TRASH AND RECYCLING

Fall Leaf/Yard Waste Collection Dates:

Lower Gwynedd Township has a leaf and yard waste recycling program where our contracted hauler, Republic Services, provides curbside collection throughout the Spring and Fall. The confirmed dates for this **Fall are Saturdays, October 12th & 26th, November 9th & 23rd, and December 7th & 21st.** All leaf and yard waste must be put in biodegradable bags and placed curbside by 6am on the day of pick-up. There is a limit of eight bags per pick-up.

Barnside Composting

If you miss the curbside collections, you have another option at Barnside Farms. Lower Gwynedd Township is a member of the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission (NMCRC), including composting. The NMCRC has an agreement with Barnside Farms Compost Facility, located at 991 Haldeman Road, Schwenksville, PA. Barnside is a drop-off location that accepts leaf and yard waste, which is then processed into compost and mulch for sale. They also accept grass clippings, brush, shrubs and tree clippings. While this is not a free service, Lower Gwynedd residents, haulers, and contractors are eligible for favorable gate rates and 10% discount on mulch products purchased from Barnside.

Montgomery County Recycling

Montgomery County hosts household hazardous waste collection events. Fall collections are scheduled for:

- Saturday, September 21st, 2024- Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center: 400 S. Lewis Road, Royersford
- Sunday, October 13th, 2024- Lower Merion Transfer Station: 1300 N. Woodbine Avenue, Penn Valley.

You must register before the collection event. For additional information or to register for a collection event visit www.MontcoPARecycles.org or call the recycling hotline at 610-278-3618.

New Electronics Recycling Opportunity:

Reworld and Goodwill Keystone area are bringing free electronic waste recycling to much of Pennsylvania, including Montgomery County. Made possible through the Pennsylvania Recycling Market Center, the new partnership will allow a wide range of electronics to be donated at Goodwill locations. Electronics that can be reused will be resold while those at the end of their useful life will be recycled. Items accepted include televisions, computers, mobile devices, gaming systems, telephones, toasters, vacuums, and more, with a goal of collecting half a million pounds of electronic waste within the first year. To learn more about the program and which items will be accepted, visit the Township's website, www.lowergwynedd.org.

Other Electronics Recycling:

Montgomery County has an agreement with "Retrievr" for electronic waste pick up and recycling which is available to all residents. Retrievr charges a flat \$12.50 doorstep pickup fee and convenience fees for the following items which are listed here and on the Retrievr webpage:

- \$15 for each microwave
- \$38 for each flat TV of any size, for each TV/Computer monitor less than 33 inches that uses a Cathode Ray Tube (CRT)
- \$105 for each TV/Computer monitor 33 inches or higher that uses a Cathode Ray Tube (CRT), for each wooden cabinet or rear-projection TV of any size
- \$55 for each dehumidifier
- \$55 for each window air-conditioner
- \$55 for each mini refrigerator under 50 lbs.

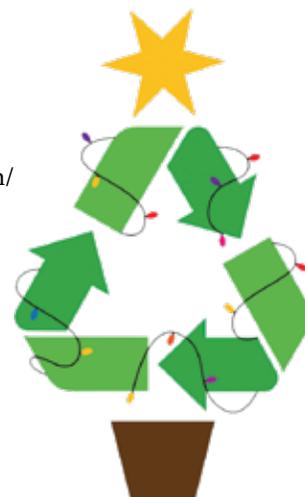
For more information about this service please visit the following link. <https://retrievr.com/location/montgomery-county-pa/>.

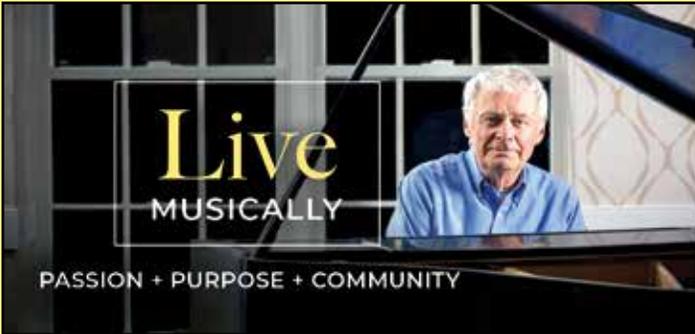
Holiday Lights:

Non-working holiday lights can be dropped off at Ingersoll Park from November thru January 31st. Look for green and red recycling bins and simply place your lights in the bins!

Christmas Trees:

Christmas trees can be dropped off at Ingersoll Park following the holidays. The park is located at 905 Wister Avenue in Penllyn.





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When It Rains, It Drains

Understanding Storm Water
and How It Can Affect
Your Money, Safety, Health,
and the Environment



Where to Go to Continue the Information Flow

Your community is preventing storm water pollution through a storm water management program. This program addresses storm water pollution from construction, new development, illegal dumping to the storm sewer system, and pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices in municipal operations. It will also continue to educate the community and get everyone involved in making sure the only thing that storm water contributes to our water is...water! Contact your community's storm water management program coordinator or the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for more information about storm water management.

What is Storm Water?

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called storm water runoff.

Why is Storm Water "Good Rain Gone Wrong?"

Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland or coastal water. All of the pollutants storm water carries along the way empty into our waters, too, because storm water does not get treated!



Pet wastes left on the ground get carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our water.

Vehicles drip fluids (oil, grease, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluids, etc.) onto paved areas where storm water runoff carries them through our storm drains and into our water.



Chemicals used to grow and maintain beautiful lawns and gardens, if not used properly, can run off into the storm drains when it rains or when we water our lawns and gardens.

Waste from chemicals and materials used in construction can wash into the storm sewer system when it rains. Soil that erodes from construction sites causes environmental degradation, including harming fish and shellfish populations that are important for recreation and our economy.



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SPRING HOUSE INTERSECTION

Hooray, the Spring House Intersection is complete!!

Everyone can breathe a sigh of relief; the Spring House Intersection is complete! What started out slow due to relocation of utility poles, moved along through the spring and summer to completion in August before the start of the new school year. We want to thank everyone for their patience with this project! To manage traffic flow better, the new and improved intersection now has:

- a left turn lane, two through lanes, and a right-turn lane on Sumneytown Pike to the intersection at Bethlehem Pike;
- a right turn lane on Sumneytown Pike into the Spring House Village Shopping Center;
- a longer right turn/through lane on Norristown Road , in addition to a through lane and left turn lane, to the intersection at Bethlehem Pike;
- traffic signal improvements, sidewalk and trail connections on both sides of the intersection, and ADA ramp upgrades.

This project was funded in part by the Multi-Modal Transportation Fund Grant through the PA Department of Transportation and the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, along with local Act 209 Traffic Impact Fees collected through new development within Lower Gwynedd Township.



Making Lower Gwynedd Township a more Walkable Community!

The Bethlehem Pike Pedestrian Improvement Project is complete! Sidewalk connections and two pedestrian bridges have been added to both sides of the roadway. The bridges connect existing sidewalk along the roadway and allow for pedestrians to remain on the sidewalk and avoid having to walk onto the road as they cross over the culvert spanning the Penllyn Creek and Pond. The pedestrian improvements stretch from Springwood Lane to slightly before Sheble Lane on the east side of Bethlehem Pike, and along the Spring House Woods Homeowner's Association property up to Locust Lane on the west side of Bethlehem Pike. This project was funded in part through two Montgomery County 2040 Implementation Grants. Happy trails!



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