

TOWNSHIP TIMES

News and Information for Residents of West Donegal

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Website: www.wdtwp.com

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

Northwest Regional Police

The Northwest Regional Police Department has released a new website. With the release of this new website (nwrpd.org), the department has created a form for residents to register their security cameras with the department voluntarily. The information collected will be for use within the department only and not shared with anyone outside. The department will not utilize any information to view footage/feeds directly from cameras owned by the registrants. Please see the website for more information or scan the QR code.



National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6th, 2024. The event will be held this year at the Mount Joy Township Municipal property, 8853 Elizabethtown Road, Elizabethtown. The event is scheduled from 6pm to 9pm.

SHREDDING EVENT

West Donegal Township is, once again, partnering with East Donegal Township and Mount Joy Township to host a shredding event on Saturday, September 21st, from 8 am to 12:00 noon at the West Donegal Township municipal building located at 1 Municipal Drive, Elizabethtown, PA.

This event is free of charge to all residents living in West Donegal, Mount Joy, and East Donegal Townships. Residents are allowed to bring up to four boxes or bags of paper per property to be shredded. This is a great opportunity for the community to shred sensitive documents.

We are asking those who participate in this event for donations of canned goods, boxed items, or gift cards to Giant or Weis (monetary donations also accepted). Please be generous as these donations will be given to the local food banks in our communities. Your help is deeply appreciated by those in need in our community!

New Supervisors

Lindsay Norris: Lindsay is thrilled to serve the residents of West Donegal Township. She lives locally with her husband, Cameron and their three kids, Caroline, Leann and Caden. They enjoy being involved in sports & activities in the community, school, and church. She is the Director of Development and Community Relations at Mount Calvary Christian School and is enjoying engaging with the community in both roles. Bringing her experience in business development and finance, she is committed to ensuring that the township functions in a fiscally responsible manner. Lindsay is devoted to collaborating with residents to help improve our community.



John Rudy: John and his wife Michelle have been West Donegal Township residents since 2010. They have two boys Jake (20) and Josh (19), who both graduated from Elizabethtown Area High School and now are away attending college. John is a former business executive of 20+ years and is currently an outdoors Real Estate Salesperson and Jr High Football coach. John is active in his church and the Alzheimer Association where he served on the board for almost a decade. He pursued the township supervisor role because he cares about the small-town values of the community and wants to ensure that the residents' voices are heard, and that local government is fiscally responsible.

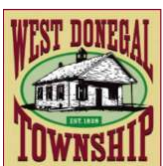
West Donegal Township's Bi-Annual White Good/ Tire Pick-up

Monday, April 22nd – Southside of Bainbridge Rd
Tuesday, April 23rd – Northside of Bainbridge Rd

White Good Tag - \$15.00

Passenger or Motorcycle Tire Tag - \$5.00

All items must be tagged and placed curbside **the night before** collection. Please contact the Township office by Thursday, April 18, 2024 to arrange pickup and purchase your tag(s).



WEST DONEGAL TOWNSHIP
One Municipal Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022
Phone (717) 367-7178 • Fax (717) 367-8982
OFFICE HOURS - Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Clip & Save

Trash and Recycling

WE URGE YOU TO PLACE YOUR TRASH CURBSIDE THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR COLLECTION DAY. There are instances when our trash hauler will begin earlier than 5 am. Waste is limited to the 96-gallon (equivalent to 3 32-gallon bags not exceeding 30 lbs. per bag per Township ordinance) container for refuse and 64-gallon container for recycling. Containers are provided by Republic Services. Please contact the Township office if you do not have one. Tags may be purchased at the Township building for any extra trash bags. Tags are \$5.00 per sheet of 4 tags. Please do NOT dispose of any ashes, such as coal and wood in your trash containers.

Oversized Refuse Items:

Oversized items can be disposed of weekly during your normal trash collection day. They require a red tag. Limit of 2 items per week. Tags may be purchased and scheduled at the Township office by Thursday prior to the week of collection.

Important: If your trash, recycling, or kraft bags are missed; please call the Township office prior to 10 a.m. the next business day or leave a message on the voicemail after 4 p.m. the day of your trash collection. When leaving a message, please include your name, address, telephone number, and what has been missed.

White (Appliance) Goods & Tire Curbside Pick Up Monday, April 22nd – Southside of Bainbridge Rd Tuesday, April 23rd – Northside of Bainbridge Rd

Stop by the Township office beginning Monday, March 11, 2024, and no later than Thursday, April 18, 2024, before close of business to purchase tags and schedule collection date. All white goods and tires must be tagged and placed curbside the night before your scheduled collection. Tags cost \$15.00 per white good and \$5.00 per passenger car, pickup truck, or motorcycle tire and must be purchased at the Township office. If you have tires larger than a passenger car, pickup truck, or motorcycle, contact the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) at (717) 397-9968 for disposal of these items.

Woody Waste and Yard Waste Collection

Woody waste and yard waste will begin in April running every other week. Pick up of Yard Waste coincides with your trash collection day (Monday for the Southside of Bainbridge Road, and Tuesday for the Northside of Bainbridge Road).

Yard waste must be placed in brown biodegradable Kraft bags which are available at the Township office. There will be a charge of 5 bags for \$1.00 and 10 bags for \$2.00. We ask that you keep the Kraft bags protected from the weather elements until the day they are placed curbside. The Kraft bags should be placed curbside the night before collection with your regular trash but will be collected by a separate truck. Any yard waste placed in plastic bags during this time will not be collected. Woody waste should be bundled with biodegradable twine. Branches should be no longer than 4' in length and not more than 6" in diameter.

DO NOT recycle Grass clippings or clumps of dirt. The Borough of Columbia, where our yard waste is taken, does not accept grass clippings. Play it green by mulching them or they can be placed in trash bags for disposal. Extra bags of trash will need a neon yellow tag. **Disposing of fruit or vegetables from a garden is NOT considered yard waste, it is food and should not be placed in the kraft bags.**

Please visit our website for the 2024 trash and recycling calendar. Go to www.wdtwp.com, Services tab, Trash & Recycling, under Quick Links please click on 2024 Trash & Recycling Calendar.

Recycling

Recycling is mandatory in West Donegal Township. Recycle bins are provided by our hauler. If you do not have one, please contact our office. The recycling materials are to be placed curbside with the trash the evening before your scheduled collection day. Do not bag your recyclables items. Lancaster County recycles the following Big 4 items:

- Corrugated cardboard
- Plastic bottles and jugs with a neck ONLY
- Metal food and beverage cans
- Glass bottles and jars

Other ways to help with Clean Recycling:

- Recycle ONLY the Big 4
- Clean out all items before placing them in the bin.
- Not ALL plastics are recyclable, only those with a neck.
- Do not dispose of pizza boxes, wires, broken glass, diapers, cat litter, plastic kids toys.
- Hold off placing corrugated cardboard in the bin if there is precipitation in the forecast. Or bring the corrugated cardboard to our roll-off container on the right side of the Township's municipal building. All corrugated cardboard should be flattened.
- Educate your neighbors if you see contamination in their bins.
- And **"When in doubt, throw it out"!!**

Visit earth911.com to see if something may be recyclable. Or visit www.lcswma.org for additional information. If you still would like to recycle newspaper, visit <https://www.cityoflancasterpa.gov/recycling-center/> for more information and find a Recycling Drop-off Center. This facility is open to all Lancaster County residents.

Safe Battery Disposal

Do not put Alkaline batteries in trash and recycling bins. LCSWMA provides the Township with battery bags and are free to residents. When the bag is full, place beside your trash container on your trash day. If not collected, please call the Township office. For specialty batteries visit www.Call2Recycle.org



Trash Hauler Information



West Donegal Township contracts with Republic Services to collect trash. As part of the service and no extra cost to the resident, they provide their 96-gallon cart for trash and a 64-gallon cart for recycling. Please contact the Township office to arrange delivery if you are new to the township and do not have them.

If you are new to the Township, do you know that Republic Services uses separate trucks for trash and recycling? This means your trash may be serviced and then, later in the day, recycling may be serviced. If your Trash or recycling is missed, please contact the Township office to report the missed collection. If you need to leave a message include your name, address, and indicated which service has been missed; trash, recycling or both.

As a friendly reminder, when placing your trash and recycling carts out for pickup, please ensure that the carts are at least 3 feet apart and are also at least 3 feet from any stationary objects such as mailboxes, walls, vehicles or trees. The carts should also be placed with the handles facing towards your house so the side opens is facing the road.

Monday collection is southside of Bainbridge Road

Tuesday collection is northside of Bainbridge Road



Credit Card & E-Check Payments Accepted Online

Residents may pay their **Trash Bill** or **permit payment** online. Credit cards accepted are MasterCard, Discover, American Express or Visa. A per transaction service fee of **2.65% or \$3.00** minimum will be charged by the payment processing company for this service. E-checks are also accepted online with a flat per transaction fee of **\$1.50**. Visit our website at www.wdtp.com on the home page scroll down to the bottom righthand side and click on the credit card icons to make a payment. If you are visiting our website using a smart phone, click on the More tab and scroll to the bottom of the page to find the icons.



Doing Your Part

Residents and non-residents play a pivotal role of recycling and properly disposing of waste. LCSWMA offers suggestions for disposal/recycling of these items:

- **Computers, electronic waste, paint and more...** FREE disposal of these items at the HHW facility – 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17603 (go to www/lcswma.org for a complete list).
- **Household batteries...** Use an orange battery bag, available at the Township office for safe disposal of household batteries and cell phones. When the bag is full, place it curbside with your trash.
- **Sharps...** For the safe management of sharps, LCSWMA provides residents with a complimentary Safe Clip. This device holds 1,500 needles and safely stores them. When full, Safe Clips can be disposed of as regular trash.
- **Prescription drugs...** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration advises residents to first take advantage of any local drug take-back programs available to the public. Visit www.lcswma.org for more details. If no disposal instructions are given on the prescription drug label, medication may be disposed of in your household trash using these steps:

1. Remove them from their original containers and mix them with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or kitty litter (this makes the drug less appealing to children and pets, and unrecognizable to people who may intentionally go through the trash seeking drugs).
2. Place the mixture in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent the drug from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag.

3. Utilize the Townships **Medication Disposal Box**

West Donegal Township now has a Safe Medication Disposal box in the lobby where residents may dispose of expired and unused prescription drugs and over the counter medications. This box is secure and will be emptied as needed by the police department who will make sure the drugs are disposed of in the proper way.

Any prescription medications and over the counter medications will be accepted. Illegal drugs, needles, lotions or liquids, inhalers, aerosol cans, thermometers and hydrogen peroxide will not be accepted. Labels should be removed from all prescription bottles before bringing them in.



Automatic Debit for Your Trash Payments

West Donegal Township offers the convenience of Automatic Draft for your quarterly trash payment. Please stop by the Township office to complete the required form. A voided check is required. Or email mfoltz@wdtp.com and a form can be emailed to you.

From the Code Enforcement Officer

Starting in the Spring 2024 Lancaster Housing & Redevelopment Authority will be accepting new applications for their Whole-Home Repairs Program. The purpose of this program is to assist qualified Lancaster County homeowners in making needed safety and security repairs to their homes.

Home Repair Program - Frequently Asked Questions:

1. WHAT IS A HOME REPAIR LOAN AND WHAT ARE THE TERMS?

It is a deferred loan from the Redevelopment Authority of Lancaster County funded by HUD through the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to rehabilitate owner-occupied homes. The interest rate is 0% and you do not have to make monthly payments. Funds are returned to the Redevelopment Authority at the time of sale, transfer of the property or refinancing for other than a lower interest rate or lesser term.

2. HOW DO I QUALIFY FOR A LOAN?

Property owners must meet the eligibility requirements based on family size and income. Owners must occupy their residence year-round and must own the property in fee simple title, (the deed must be in their name). The current homeowner must have owned the home for a minimum of two (2) years prior to the initial interview. The maximum value of a home cannot exceed \$400,000.00.

3. HOW MUCH MAY I BORROW?

A Home Repair Loan may be for the amount needed to rehabilitate the property, up to a maximum of \$25,000.00. Additionally, the cost for required rehabilitation items shall be at least \$5,000.00.

4. WHAT OTHER RESTRICTIONS OR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS APPLY?

Owners must carry homeowner's insurance on their property and have all real estate taxes paid. An owner's liquid assets cannot exceed \$35,000 (unless over age 62) and properties must be located in Lancaster County, but outside of Lancaster City limits. The program also requires that owners must meet the minimum home equity amount based on the amount of rehabilitation needed. If you own a manufactured home, a separate program has been established to assist the owners of manufactured homes in leased land communities.

5. WILL A LIEN OR MORTGAGE BE PLACED ON MY PROPERTY?

A mortgage or title lien will be secured against the subject property depending on the program. Program staff is happy to provide more information about the lien terms.

6. WHO DECIDES WHAT WORK IS NEEDED?

The Redevelopment Authority Rehabilitation staff will survey your property and advise you on the work required to meet program standards. The homeowner's input is welcomed on this inspection. The Technical Services Representative will assist in obtaining bids from reliable, insured, and licensed contractors and will award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

7. WHAT KIND OF REPAIRS OR WORK CAN I HAVE DONE?

Financing will be provided for the cost of addressing hazardous situations within major systems in the home, such as (list major repairs here) The total cost of rehabilitation shall not exceed \$25,000.00, except in special circumstances approved by the Board of the Redevelopment Authority.

8. WHAT IF THE FUNDS ARE NOT ENOUGH TO BRING MY HOME UP TO THESE STANDARDS?

A determination will be made that the property's equity justifies the rehabilitation within the allotted loan maximum limits.

9. WHEN IS A CONTRACT SIGNED WITH A HOME REPAIR CONTRACTOR?

Only after your Application and Rehabilitation Loan has been approved by the Redevelopment Authority Staff.

10. WHO INSPECTS THE WORK?

The Redevelopment Authority staff, and the homeowner will see that the work is done in a proper and workmanlike manner. Homeowners approve the work write-up and are given this write-up and the contract to follow the repairs.

12. HOW AND WHEN IS THE CONTRACTOR PAID?

The contractor will be paid in draws according to the contract signed. He is paid for the work that has been satisfactorily completed by checks prepared by the Redevelopment Authority. The contractor will not be paid until you, the owner, are satisfied and until the Technical Services Representative certifies the work has been done according to the contract and work write-up.

13. MAY LANDLORDS APPLY FOR THIS LOAN?

Mixed-use properties are not eligible for assistance. Investor-owners may apply for Rental Rehabilitation Program funds also through the Redevelopment Authority.

14. CAN I PAY ON THIS HOME REPAIR LOAN AT ANYTIME WITHOUT PENALTY?

Yes, the loan can be paid off sooner, but the deferred loan is intended to be repaid when the property is sold, or ownership is transferred.

15. HOW LONG DOES THE REHABILITATION PROCESS TAKE?

The amount of time depends on several things: 1.) Your ability to provide eligibility items for our office, such as proof of income, deed, insurance, taxes; and 2.) The amount of work that is necessary to address the hazardous situations; and 3.) Other circumstances, such as our office's workload, material shortages, or the weather.

Please visit www.lchra.com for additional information.

Board of Supervisor's Agenda

At least 24 hours prior to every Board of Supervisors meeting, the agenda is posted on our website under General Info > Meeting Minutes & Agenda. We also send the agenda to our residents who wish to receive it via email. To have your email address added to the agenda listing, please email info@wdtwp.com and ask to be added.



Trash Bills Can Now Be Emailed

If you would like to have your trash bill emailed to you, rather than sent USPS mail, please send an email to mfoltz@wdtwp.com requesting this option.

Municipal Emergency Services Authority of Lancaster County is Now Providing 911 EMS Ambulance Service

Publicly funded municipal authority to replace Northwest EMS

After a two-year process of study, public meetings and planning, on February 4, 2024 the Municipal Emergency Services Authority of Lancaster County (MESA; pronounced mā-sah) began providing 911 emergency medical ambulances services in Northwest Lancaster County previously provided by Northwest EMS. MESA is a first-of-its-kind regional municipal authority in Pennsylvania formed to address the region's emergency medical services crisis.

Like so many EMS agencies, Northwest EMS was facing insolvency due to insufficient revenue and rising costs. MESA is a new publicly funded municipal authority formed to replace Northwest EMS and ensure that 911 ambulance service is available to member municipalities on a sustainable basis. MESA's founding member municipalities are Conoy Township, East Donegal Township, Elizabethtown Borough, Marietta Borough, Mount Joy Township and West Donegal Township.

"Municipalities are responsible for many things including recreation facilities, police services, stormwater management and snow removal to name a few," said MESA Board Chair Debra Dupler. "In Pennsylvania, municipalities are also required by law to ensure the provision of emergency medical services. In the tradition of Northwest EMS, MESA looks forward to continuing to provide outstanding 911 EMS service and 24/7 readiness to respond to EMS calls in the region."

Unlike ambulance agencies that generate revenue through voluntary contributions, which leaves them deeply underfunded, MESA will charge property owners and employers in member municipalities a mandatory annual fee to fund its operations and ensure 24/7 readiness to respond to EMS calls. The first annual fee bills to property owners and employers will be arriving by mail in mid-February.

Benefits to residents of MESA member municipalities include: No residual bills for EMS services if the patient's insurance pays; 50 percent off EMS bills if the patient does not have insurance coverage; and 50 percent off EMS bills if the patient's payment applies to an insurance deductible.

"Northwest EMS is tremendously grateful for the community's partnership through the years," said Scott Kingsboro, authority manager for MESA and formerly executive director of Northwest EMS. "We look forward to serving the community with the same outstanding service for which Northwest EMS is known as we proudly wear a new uniform. And just as it was for Northwest EMS, health and safety education and community outreach events will continue to be an important part of our mission."

For more information about MESA including frequently asked questions, visit mesalancasterpa.gov.



Primary Election - Tuesday, April 23, 2024

April 8th: Last day to register to vote before the Primary Election. Voter registration forms must be received at the County Voter Registration Office by this date. Call 717-299-8293 for more information. vote.pa.gov/Register

April 16th: Last day to apply for a Mail-In or Absentee ballots.
vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot

April 23rd: Voted Mail-In and Absentee ballots must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than 8:00 p.m.
vote.pa.gov/County

April 23rd: Primary Election Day. Polls are open on election days from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. vote.pa.gov/Polls

The 4 polling places located in West Donegal Township are as follows:

- 1-D Rheems Fire Department • 350 Anchor Road
- 2-D West Donegal Township Municipal Office • One Municipal Drive
- 3-D Masonic Village • Freemason Cultural Center
- 4-D LifeGate/Cedar Hill Community Church • 5636 Bossler Road

Your voter registration card should have one of the above codes (ex. 1-D, 2-D, 3-D or 4-D) after West Donegal Township's name to designate the polling facility where you go to vote. If you are a registered voter and unsure of which polling facility to vote at, please contact the Voter Registration Office at 717-299-8293.

Elizabethtown Public Library

Don't forget to check out the Elizabethtown Public Library. They offer lots of programs for all ages. The Elizabethtown Public Library also offers Copy & Fax services, Passports services, and fingerprinting. You can find them on Facebook at facebook.com/ElizabethtownPublicLibrary or their website <https://etownpubliclibrary.org>.



ELIZABETHTOWN
PUBLIC LIBRARY

10 South Market Street | Elizabethtown, PA 17022
etownpubliclibrary.org 717.367.7467

From the Manager's Desk Spring/Summer 2024

MS4 Update

Following is my annual update on the MS4 permit in West Donegal Township. MS4 stands for "Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System". We were required to apply for this permit by the PA DEP. This permit allows the Township to discharge stormwater from our urbanized area (UA) into local streams and water courses which ultimately empty into the Chesapeake Bay. We have recently learned that DEP has extended the previous 5-year permit cycle (previously ending in Dec. of 2024) for at least two and possibly three years. They have done this to allow more time for the agency to establish new pollution reduction targets and regulations for how municipalities required to maintain an MS4 permit will be required to reduce pollutants in their stormwater. As you might imagine, these is very frustrating for municipalities who need to be able to look ahead and adequately plan for the projects and associated costs required to meet DEP's targets. We will continue to roll with the punches to the best of our ability. Watch this space and our website for future developments.

BMP (stormwater basin, rain garden, etc.) inspections continue as part of our MS4 responsibilities. These inspections have gone well with most BMP's requiring little remedial work to remain in compliance with current regulations and management practices.

Our Pollution Reduction Plan or PRP project has been completed. We rehabilitated 1,000 feet of streambank on the Conoy Creek between West Ridge Road and Stonemill Drive. If you should happen to find yourself driving south on Miller Road, look to the right as you approach the ERSA pumping station. While it looks a little baren now, we are excited to watch the plantings mature in the coming months and years. This project was funded using proceeds from the ARPA funding received by the township.

Please visit the stormwater tab of our website (<http://www.wdtp.com/stormwater/ms4>) for more information.

Coffee with the Manager

Many thanks to those of you who have attended this event each month in 2023 and continuing in 2024. I love meeting each of you and having the chance to chat and share information in a more relaxed setting. I hope to meet more of you in 2024 and beyond. This event occurs on the 2nd Friday of each month from 7:30-9:00 am in the township meeting room. Feel free to drop in and say hello and ask a question or two. No topic is off the table. We provide the coffee, tea & water and occasionally some tasty treats. Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet Manager John Yoder and increase your knowledge about the township and its administration.

Coming soon in the second quarter of 2024 I hope to introduce a quarterly evening session called "Township Citizen 101". In these sessions I plan to take a deeper dive into the history of the township, local government administration and how we compare to other townships in the region and the County among other topics.

Mandatory On-Lot Septic Pumping

A portion of the township's Act 537 Plan approval by DEP, requires the pumping and inspection of an on-lot disposal system on a regular basis. This helps extend the life of the system. The township is separated into three pumping districts.

District No. 1 is currently pumping. If you did not receive a letter along with the form and instructions, please contact the Township Manager at 717-367-7178. As a reminder, District No. 1 is due by June 30, 2024.

Letters will be mailed to property owners in Pumping District No. 2 in June 2024 when their District is due to begin pumping. Please see the District 2 streets below.

Street	Extent
Amosite	
Bainbridge	
Bossler	3709-4985
Foreman	Even Numbers
Maytown	102-486
Miller	
Orchard	
Poplar Lane	
West Ridge	
Rutts	
Stonemill	Odd Numbers
Turnpike	Even Numbers



Please visit the On-lot Disposal section of our website (http://www.wdtp.com/zoning_permits/on_lot_disposal) for additional information and for helpful tips in caring for your on-lot system.



Roadway Maintenance Projects for 2024



Our Public Works Department and roadwork contractors will be working in Rheems this season. Current plans call for the resurfacing all the streets located to the east of Colebrook Road and bounded by Harrisburg Avenue and Nolt Road. This will be a major project which will consume a large portion of our Liquid Fuels Budget this year. Our long-range plan calls for us to resurface the streets located to the west of Colebrook Road during the 2025 season.



717-367-0355

Programs & Services Available

- Recreation
- Child Care
- Senior Center
- Community Services

GetintoGEARS.org



Camp Ladybug 2024

Mon – Fri, June 17 – July 26
9 AM – 12 Noon
6-week Special Needs Camp



Summer Playground

Mon – Fri, June 17 – Aug 9
9 AM – 12 Noon
8-week Drop in Summer Program



Elizabethtown Area Senior Center

Business Expo

June 18 from 9 am - 1 pm

Free to all vendors/organizations.

Sponsorship opportunities available.

RSVP at (717) 367-7984 or

SeniorCenter@GetIntoGears.org

Kids Center

717-367-0119

For ages 3-12

- Preschool
- Kindergarten
- Summer Camp
- Before & After School



Spring Golf Tournament

Friday April 26th

1:15 pm

Dauphin Highlands
Golf Course



Fall Golf Tournament

Friday September 27th

8 am

Dauphin Highlands
Golf Course

West Donegal Township, Past to Present – Part 22

(An ongoing saga of West Donegal Township by Mary Conrad)

Ten years ago after West Donegal Township's 175th year anniversary, I wrote about the life of William Penn in the township's newsletter. The life of William Penn highly influenced the development of the government of Pennsylvania.

So how did William Penn who was born in 1644 in London receive a charter granting him ownership of land in the "New World"? William Penn's father was Admiral William Penn. King Charles II owed the Admiral a large sum of money which he borrowed during the Dutch Wars. In 1670 before the loan was repaid, Admiral William Penn died.

King Charles II decided to pay off his debt by giving a tract of land to the Admiral's son also called William Penn. The tract of land was west of New Jersey and north of Maryland. William called it Sylvania (meaning Forest in Latin). The king renamed it Pennsylvania in memory of his friend, the Admiral.

This land was now private property. It was no longer a colony. Taxes were not given to the king and the king could not take its young men for the military. In 1682, William drew up a frame of government for Pennsylvania. So having no experience in government, how did William Penn do this? He did it by using the life lessons he learned growing up.

William Penn was born in 1644. At age 5 he was educated in a private school affiliated with the Anglican Church. At age 15, he met Thomas Loe, a Quaker missionary. A year later he entered Oxford to continue his education. In two more years his parents sent him to Paris to expose him to another culture. Here he adopted a belief in free will and tolerance. In 1665, after he returned home, London was in the grip of the plague. William

observed Quakers on errands of mercy but since they were not part of the state supported Anglican Church, they were arrested.

Despite the dangers, William started attending Quaker meetings. He was arrested. In court he argued that Quakers had no political agenda and therefore should not be subject to laws that restrict political action. Humiliated, his father kicked him out of the house. William Penn was homeless until he began living with Quaker families. He became a legal defender of Quakerism and wrote pamphlets on their behalf.

Again and again he was thrown in prison because of his religious beliefs, but he continued to write tracts espousing religious tolerance and against discriminatory laws. Therefore in his new government for Pennsylvania there was a charter of liberties including free and fair trial by jury, freedom of religion, freedom from unjust imprisonment and free election.

The development of Pennsylvania's new government will continue in the next newsletter.



William Penn





WEST DONEGAL TOWNSHIP
 One Municipal Drive
 Elizabethtown, PA 17022
 Phone (717) 367-7178

PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 LANCASTER, PA
 PERMIT NO. 1746

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Doug Hottenstein, *Chairman* 717.361.9829
 Roger Snyder, *Vice-Chairman* 717.367.4416
 Richard Gibble, *Treasurer* 717.367.7178
 John Rudy, *Secretary* 717.319.0082
 Lindsay Norris, *Member* 717.287.9981

TOWNSHIP OFFICE Phone: 717.367.7178 • Fax: 717.367.8982

Address: 1 Municipal Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Website: www.wdtp.com

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WestDonegalTwp

TOWNSHIP STAFF

John Yoder III, *Township Manager/Asst. Zoning Officer/ RTK Officer*
 Melissa Foltz, *Financial Manager, Trash/Recycling Issues*
Roadmaster

Bethany Spitler, *Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer*

ELIZABETHTOWN REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY (ERSA)

235 ERSA Drive, Elizabethtown
 Phone: 717.367.5947 • Fax: 717.367.4622

ELIZABETHTOWN AREA WATER AUTHORITY (EAWA)

211 W. Hummelstown St, Elizabethtown
 Phone: 717.367.7448 • Fax: 717.367.7496

NORTHWEST REGIONAL LANCASTER COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

8855 Elizabethtown Rd, Elizabethtown
 Phone: 717.367.8481 • Emergency: 911

MEETING DATES

Board of Supervisors:

Regular Meetings – 2nd Monday @ 7 p.m.
 Workshops (**as needed**) – 4th Monday @ 7 p.m.

Planning Commission: 2nd Thursday @ 7 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board: 1st Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.

Northwest Regional Police Dept.: 4th Tuesday @ 7 p.m.

Municipal Emergency Services Authority Board: 1st and 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. in the Elizabethtown Borough Council Chambers

Pools

Both in-ground and above-ground pools require a Building Permit. Contact West Donegal Township at 717-367-7178 for permit information.

