

TOWNSHIP TIMES

News and Information for Residents of West Donegal

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Website: www.wdtwp.com

FALL/WINTER 2024

General Election Information

November 5, 2024

- October 21:** Last day to register to vote before the November 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
- October 29:** Last day to apply for the mail-in or absentee ballots. Vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot
- November 5:** Voted mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than 8:00 PM. Vote.pa.gov/County
- November 5:** General Election Day. Polls are open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. 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.

Christmas Tree Collection

Christmas trees pick-up will be Monday, January 6th, 2025, and Tuesday, January 7th, 2025, respectively, depending on your scheduled trash collection day. Please place your tree curbside **the night before** collection. Since the trees will be recycled, they must be free of lights, tinsel, ornaments, and bags.

No artificial trees accepted. For artificial trees disposal, please contact the Township for a red tag (oversize item) and to coordinate pick up date.



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

Monday, October 21st – Southside of Bainbridge Rd
Tuesday, October 22nd – Northside of Bainbridge Rd

White Good Tag - \$15.00

Passenger or Motorcycle Tire Tag - \$5.00

Sale of tags will begin Monday, Sept 16th and ends Thursday, October 17th.

All items must be tagged and placed curbside **the night before** collection. Please visit the Township office by Thursday, October 17th, 2024, to arrange pickup and purchase your tag(s).



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 Dr, 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!

Things to Watch for 2025 Trash & Recycling

- Annual payments, per each unit, are offered a discount in the 1st quarter billing cycle if paid by due date.
- Check the Message section of billing for any updates.
- Watch for a possible rate increase in 2025.



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.



MESA Welcomes Wade Amick as Authority Manager

The Board of Directors of the Municipal Emergency Services Authority of Lancaster County (MESA) recently appointed

Wade Amick as Authority Manager. Wade replaces Scott Kingsboro, who has accepted a position with East Donegal Township.

Wade has deep roots in Lancaster County. He lives in West Donegal Township, where he has resided for nearly four decades.

With an emergency services career spanning over 30 years, Wade began his journey in the field as a student at Penn State University, where he enrolled in an EMT class as an elective. His career in EMS was solidified when he joined a local EMS agency in 1993.

Prior to his role as Authority Manager at MESA, Wade served as Operations Manager. Before that, he served in supervisory roles and as a paramedic at various EMS agencies. Wade is dedicated to assisting individuals in need and advancing the emergency services profession.

“I was drawn to EMS to directly help people,” Wade said. “But I also thrive on the fast-paced nature of the profession. Every emergency call presents a unique challenge requiring the ability to think on your feet.”

Wade is enthusiastic about contributing to the evolution of MESA’s municipal-based EMS model, which is now serving as a model for other communities.

“I’m excited to be part of this new model, which is now being used by other communities and EMS systems that are

struggling financially,” he said. “MESA is an example of how municipal cooperation and public funding can ensure EMS is ready and available on a sustainable basis.”

MESA, which began operating in February of this year, provides 911 emergency medical services previously provided by Northwest EMS to six founding municipalities including ours. Many of the people who work at MESA are the very same people who served our community when they were wearing Northwest EMS uniforms.

“We are the same great employees, providing the high-quality patient care and service that was provided by Northwest EMS,” Wade said. “All of us truly care about our community.”

For more information about MESA, visit mesalancasterpa.gov.



Northwest Regional Police Department

8855 Elizabethtown Road, Elizabethtown Pa. 17022
(717) 367-8481 Fax (717) 367-3382
Mark Mayberry- Chief of Police

Never let your gun get into the wrong hands

Talking To Your Children

It is important to start a dialogue with your children about what to do if they find a gun. The following is suggested language for talking to your kids about firearms.

Guns are very serious. An accident involving a gun can hurt or even kill you or someone you know. Most adults are allowed to own a gun by law, and many have one. This means that even if there isn't a gun in your house, you need to know what to do if you see a gun.

- If you see a gun, follow these four steps: 1. Stop. 2. Don't touch. 3. Get away. 4. Tell an adult.
- When you follow these steps, you're protecting yourself and helping to keep other people safe.

Here are some tips about what to do in specific circumstances:

- Walk away and tell a parent if your friend shows you his parent's gun.
- Tell an adult immediately if you see a gun in someone's backpack at school.
- Tell a trusted adult if you hear a girl or boy say that she or he is going to bring a gun to school.
- Follow the four steps if you find a gun in the park by your house.
- If you're not sure why a gun is dangerous, talk to a parent about it.

Tips For Talking To Parents Before Play Dates

The Center to Prevent Youth Violence has created a resource for parents who want to inquire if there are firearms where their children play. It's ASK campaign, created in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics, suggests it may be easier to open the dialogue by following these four tips.

- ASK with other questions. Include the question along with other things you might normally discuss before sending your child to someone's house –such as seat belts, animals, or allergies.
- Use the facts. Over one-third of homes with children have a gun. Many of those guns are left unlocked and loaded. That is why you are asking — you just want to make sure that your child is safe.
- Work through groups. Introduce the ASK concept through a group or community effort such as a religious organization or PTA.
- Don't be confrontational. Present your concerns in a respectful manner. You are simply trying to make sure your child is in a safe environment. Use the ASK brochure to open the dialogue.

You can learn more about the ASK campaign and how to discuss firearm safety and safe storage in homes where your child plays by visiting <http://www.cpyv.org/programs/ask/parents/what-is-the-ask-campaign/>.

The above information came from the; National Crime Prevention Council

Winter Weather Guidelines – 2024/2025

The West Donegal Township Road Department is fully staffed, and our subcontractors are in place, ready for ice or snowstorms that may occur this winter.

Please be aware of the following rules and guidelines that apply during winter weather events. To help our plows and drivers properly clear the Township roadways, please do the following:

- Remove all vehicles and trailers from streets and cul-de-sacs. This helps our plow drivers to plow to the road edge quickly and safely.
- Do not deposit snow or ice from your sidewalk or driveway onto Township roadways. This creates a safety issue and is against township ordinances.
- Clear sidewalks of snow and ice within 24 hours, following the end of the storm. A path shall be cleared at least 30 inches in width. If the snow and/or ice on a sidewalk becomes too hard to be removed without damage to the sidewalk, sand or other abrasive material shall be placed to make travel as safe as possible.
- If your mailbox is damaged by impact from Township equipment, please call the Township office for a review by management. The Township is not responsible for mailbox damage caused by snow being discharged from a plow.

Township owned roadways are plowed in the following order of priority:

1. Main Roadways (Snow Emergency Routes as defined by township ordinance)
2. Secondary Roadways &
3. Main development streets
4. Cul-de-sacs

PennDOT is responsible for plowing the State-owned roads within the Township.

If you have concerns regarding winter conditions or

operations on these roads, contact PennDOT at (717) 299-7621. The following State roads within the township are maintained by PennDOT:

- Anchor Road & Harrisburg Avenue
- Bainbridge Road (Route 241)
- Maytown Road (Route 743)
- Turnpike Road
- Market Street (North & South) (Route 230)

A common concern is driveways plowed closed after being cleared. This cannot be avoided. Your best approach is to wait until the street is completely plowed before clearing the last 4-6 feet of your driveway. Unless there is an urgent need to leave, please consider waiting until the street has been completely plowed before clearing the end of your driveway. Please note that multiple plowing passes may be required to fully clear your street.



us keep everyone safe during our winter weather operations.



If you have any issues/questions regarding snow removal on Township roads, please call the Township office at (717) 367-7178. Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. We appreciate your continued cooperation in helping

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 beside trash or recycling container. Do not bring them to the township building.
- **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. FDA advises residents to first take advantage of any local drug take-back programs available to the public. Please DO NOT flush drugs down the toilet. The sewer plant is not capable of removing this contamination from sewage and the drugs will end up in the Susquehanna River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay. 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.





Clip & Save

Trash and Recycling

WE URGE RESIDENTS TO PLACE THE TRASH AND RECYCLING CURBSIDE THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR COLLECTION DAY. There are instances when our trash hauler will begin earlier than 5 am. Waste refuse is limited to the 96-gallon containers (equivalent to 3 32-gallon each bag and shall not exceeding 30 lbs. per Township ordinance), and 64-gallon container for recycling. Republic Services provides both trash and recycling containers. Please contact the Township office if you do not have one.

Purchase Extra Bag Tags at the Township building for any bags exceeding the 96-gallon limit. Tags cost is \$5.00 per sheet of four (4) tags. Tags must be place on each extra bag and visible for the trash hauler to see. Please do **NOT** dispose of any ashes, such as coal and wood in your trash containers.

Oversized Refuse Items

Residents may dispose of two (2) oversized items per week on their regular trash collection day. They require a red tag. Cost is \$4.00 per red tag. Purchase tags and scheduled at the Township office by Thursday prior to the week of collection.

Important: Any trash, recycling, oversized item, or kraft bags missed; please contact the Township office prior to 10 a.m. the next business day or leave a message after 4 p.m. When leaving a message, please include your name, address, telephone number, and what item was missed.

White (Appliance) Goods & Tire Curbside Pick Up Monday, October 21st – Southside of Bainbridge Rd Tuesday, October 22nd – Northside of Bainbridge Rd

Stop by the Township office beginning Mon, Sept. 16, 2024, and no later than Thurs. Oct. 17, 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 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 began in April running every other week until the last week in November. Collection 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 in brown biodegradable Kraft bags which are available at the Township office. Cost is 5 bags for \$1.00 and 10 bags for \$2.00.

Effective May 1, 2024, the number of Kraft yard waste bags that are placed curbside per collection is limited to 20 bags per property. Place Kraft bags curbside regardless of weather. We ask that you keep the Kraft bags protected from the weather elements until the day of collection. Hauler will collect using a separate truck.

Do not use plastic bags for yard waste. Bundle all Woody Waste 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 dispose of them in trash bags. 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 a printable 2024 trash and recycling calendar. Go to www.wdtp.com, Services tab, Trash & Recycling, under Quick Links and click on 2024 Trash & Recycling Calendar.

Recycling

Recycling is mandatory in West Donegal Township. Our hauler provides Recycle bins. If you do not have one, please contact our office. Placed bins 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 kid 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. Flatten all corrugated cardboard.
- 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.cityoflanasterpa.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



Zoning/Code Minute – Curbs, Sidewalks and Trailer Parking

195-62. Curbs & Sidewalks - Responsibility for maintenance:

- A. The owner of the abutting property shall be responsible for keeping the sidewalks and curbs immediately in front of their property in good order and repair and free of all obstructions. The owner of the abutting property shall repair or replace any sidewalk or curb which deteriorates or becomes hazardous. Such repair or replacement shall be done in accordance with the specifications set forth in this article.
- B. Should the owner of the abutting property fail to make such necessary repairs or replacement of the sidewalk or curb, the Township may serve upon them a notice requiring such repair or replacement. The notice shall be served on the property owner by certified mail or by leaving notice at his place of residence. Where the owner resides outside the Township, notice shall be served by posting the notice on the premises in question and mailing a copy by certified mail to the owner's last known address.
- C. If such abutting property owner fails to comply with the requirements of the notice within 60 days from the date of service, the Township may make the necessary repairs or replace the sidewalk or curb. The cost of the repairs or replacement shall be paid by the owner of the abutting property, together with a penalty of 10%, or may be collected as provided by law in a civil action or by filing a municipal lien against the property.

220-34 **Trailer parking restricted.** It shall be unlawful for any person to park a trailer (which shall mean a vehicle without motive power, designed to carry property of passengers or designed and used exclusively for living quarters wholly on its own structure, and to be drawn by a motor vehicle or tractor and including but not limited to house trailers, boat trailers, and rental handling trailers) upon any street or highway in the Township without having attached to such trailer a means of mechanical traction constructed or designed for the purpose of drawing such trailer.

220-35 Parking of boats, truck tractors, trailers and trucks prohibited on streets in residential zones.

The parking of boats, truck tractors, trailers, and trucks except those not exceeding three-quarter-ton capacity, shall be prohibited on all streets in the Township, provided trucks, truck tractors and trailers shall be permitted upon any street for the purpose of making deliveries to or picking up goods, wares, merchandise or materials from premises situated upon any such street or alley.

240-78 Parking and storage of motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, boats and trailers.

Motor vehicles without current license plates and current inspection stickers shall not be parked or stored in any zoning district other than in a completely enclosed building. Recreational vehicles, boats, trailers or other similar vehicles shall not be parked or stored in any zoning district other than in a rear yard or in a garage. All such storage shall meet the same setback requirements as for accessory structures. If insufficient rear yard area exists to meet the requirements of this subsection, the Zoning Officer may permit the storage of

a motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, boat or trailer within the side yard setback, provided that such storage is located behind the building setback line, and the setback requirements for an accessory structure will be met. The requirements of this section shall not be applicable to farm implements and other farm vehicles not normally used as a means of conveyance on public highways. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to authorize the parking or storage of any motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, boat or trailer in any zoning district unless such motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, boat or trailer is an accessory use to the present use of the property. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this section, in and of itself, shall not be interpreted to prevent the unenclosed storage of motor vehicles without current license plates or inspection stickers if such storage is performed in conjunction with the legal operation of a motor vehicle sales establishment, a motor vehicle service or repair establishment, or junkyard.

To view the entire township code online, please visit <https://ecode360.com/WE2498>



PENNSYLVANIA'S SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

Keeping Children Safe

PENNSYLVANIA'S 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 approach an intersection 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.

KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1.5 million children are transported on Pennsylvania roads each day.
- These children are transported approximately 400 million miles to school each year.
- To further promote safety, school vehicles may be equipped with a yellow flashing or revolving light.
- Every year, children are needlessly injured or killed by drivers passing stopped school buses.



You **MUST STOP** on roadways with painted lines.



You **MUST STOP** at an intersection, whether it is or is not marked with a stop sign. All traffic **MUST STOP**.



You **MUST STOP** on roadways with ridged/grooved dividers.



Mandatory On-Lot Septic Pumping

Part of the Township’s Act 537 Plan approval by DEP requires the pumping and inspection of on-lot disposal systems on a regular basis. Regular pumping helps to extend the life of your on-lot system. This required pump-out occurs every three years. More information is available at the link below.

http://www.wdtp.com/zoning_permits/on_lot_disposal

Pumping District No. 2 is now active. Property owners in this district should have their systems pumped before June 30, 2025. Please review the map with this article to determine your district. Pump-out report forms are available at the township office or for download at the following link.

http://www.wdtp.com/site/2102wdtp/Septic_System_Report.pdf

There are many signs of a failing septic system; backup of sewage in your drains or toilets, decreased flushing of your toilets, decreased drain flow from showers and sinks and unpleasant odors in your home. Issues with your tank could present as an over-flowing or near over-flowing of your septic tank and high solids accumulation in your septic tank. Water accumulation and wet patches in your drain field can also be a sign of a failing septic system. Be careful of what you dispose of in your toilet or down your drains. Never put plastics or any other nondegradable items into your septic tank including wipes. It is also imperative that the toilet paper you use be septic friendly; many brands will state septic safe on their packaging. By properly managing your on-lot septic system you are helping to extend the life of your system by alerting you of potential failures. It’s important to take the time to educate everyone in your household about the importance of practicing good on-lot septic system management habits.

From the Manager’s Desk Fall/Winter 2024

MS4 Update

MS4 stands for “Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System”. We were required to apply for this 5-year permit from the PA DEP because of the population size and density within our township. 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.

The township’s MS4 Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) project has been successfully completed. This project covers approximately 1,000 feet of streambank on the Conoy Creek and fulfills our pollution reduction requirements for the current MS4 permit cycle. We are still waiting for DEP to finalize and publish requirements for the next 5-year permit cycle. They have now extended current permit cycle by 3 years as they have been unable to finalize the pollution reduction targets for the cycle that is now projected to begin in 2027.

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

Township Budget

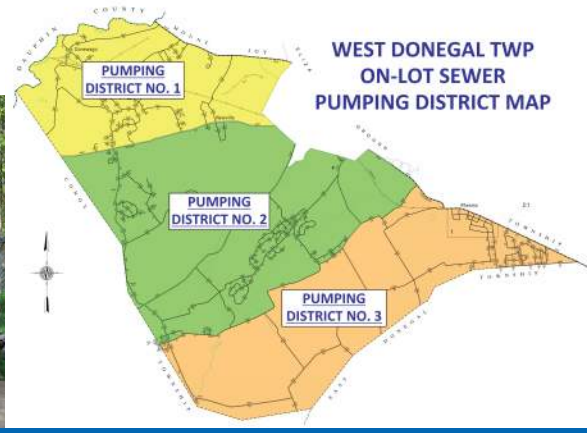
Budget season is upon us. Township staff and the Board of Supervisors will be focused on reviewing and finalizing the township’s proposed 2025 budget over the course of two budget workshops scheduled for September 23, 2024, and October 21, 2024. Our goal is to have a budget ready for public advertisement at the November Board of Supervisors meeting and then final adoption at the December meeting. We do expect a trash collection rate increase for 2025 due to the increased cost of collection.

You can view a condensed version of the 2024 budget at the following link.

<https://ecode360.com/WE2498/document/753000206.pdf>

Coffee with the Manager

Do you have a question or two about the township or township administration that you’re just dying to ask? In January we started “Coffee with the Manager”. This event occurs on the 2nd Friday of each month from 7:30-9:00 am in the township meeting room. Please feel free to drop in and say hello and ask a question or two or three. No topic is off the table. We provide the coffee, tea and water as well and occasionally some pastry treats. Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet me and increase your knowledge about the township and its administration.



Credit Card & E-Check Payments Accepted Online

Residents have the option of paying their **Trash Bill** or **permit payment** from the comfort of your home using our online payment service. Credit cards accepted: 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** - just click the option on the payment page to change your payment method.



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|  <p>GEARS live. learn. play.</p> <p>717-367-0355</p> |  <p>Holiday Parade Saturday, Dec 7 4 pm Market Street</p> | <p>GOLF TOURNAMENT</p> <p>4-Person Scramble Friday, Sept. 27, 8 am Dauphin Highlands Golf Course</p> |  <p>Fall Festival Saturday, Oct. 19 10 am-2 pm E-town Fairgrounds</p> |
| <p>Programs & Services Available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation • Childcare • Senior Center <p>GetintoGEARS.org</p> <p>Follow us on:</p>    | <p>Senior Center Bingocize Tue & Fri starting Oct 1 at 2 pm Call for more info Fall Bazaar & Pancake Breakfast Saturday, Nov 16, 2024 7-11 am GEARs Community Center 717-367-7984</p> | | <p>Kids Center For ages 3.6-11 -Preschool -Kindergarten -Summer Camp -Before & After School 717-367-0119</p>  |
| | <p>Mother/Son Harvest Hoedown Friday, Oct. 11, 6:30-8 pm GEARS Community Center Registration deadline 10/4</p>  | <p>Mother/Daughter Paint Night Friday, Sept. 20, 6-8:30 PM GEARS Community Center Registration deadline 10/31</p>  | |

West Donegal Township, Past to Present – Part 23

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

In 1682 William Penn drew up a frame of government for Pennsylvania. It began in Philadelphia because its port could be reached by ships crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Penn knew a government was needed to settle disputes, capture the bad guys and communicate between colonies. Also, taxes had to be collected to pay for the judges, policemen and other officials.

Pennsylvania was originally divided into three counties, Philadelphia, Chester, and Bucks counties. Lancaster County was formed from Chester County in 1729. Lancaster County was reduced in size when York County was cut from its territory in 1750. New counties were created, and original counties reduced in size as the population grew and moved westward.

The Scots-Irish came to Pennsylvania looking for freedom from the oppression of the English. After a month's voyage crossing the Atlantic (if the weather was



good) they landed at Philadelphia. The Scots-Irish traveled by walking (about 90 miles) to the area now called Donegal. It was named Donegal because many were from County Donegal in Ireland. And the name would draw other Scots-Irish to their community. The township of Donegal was organized by the court in 1722. Donegal ended at the Susquehanna River.

As the population grew, townships were divided. Now government could be closer to the people, otherwise people would need to walk miles to vote. In 1838 Donegal was divided into East and West Donegal. In 1843 Conoy Township was formed from West Donegal. At this time mail was slow and transportation was slower. Travel by walking was about 20 miles per day. So, when the population grew to the point that local taxes could support a local government, a new jurisdiction was created.

West Donegal comprises an area of 15.6 square miles, situated to the west and south of Elizabethtown. The township is governed by a five – member Board of Supervisors, auditors, and a constable. West Donegal also has a district justice, all of whom are elected by the voters of our township.

William Penn would be smiling.



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* 717.598.9596
 Richard Gibble, *Secretary* 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 facebook.com/WestDonegalTwp

TOWNSHIP STAFF

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



TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT

Thursday, October 31, 2024
 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm