





# Back To School Safety

BY: THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

## **Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road:**

School days bring congestion: yellow school buses are picking up their children, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present, especially before and after school.

## **If You're Dropping Off:**

Schools often have very specific drop-off procedures for the school year. Make sure you know them for the safety of all kids. More children are hit by cars near schools than at any other location, according to the National Safe Routes to School program. The following apply to all school zones:

- Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.
- Don't load or unload children across the street from the school.
- Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.

## **Sharing the Road with School Buses:**

If your driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

- Never pass a bus from behind, or from either direction if you're on an undivided road, if it is stopped to load or unload children.
- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop.
- The areas 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.
- Be alert, children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks.

## **Getting Back to School:**

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is vitally important that they and the motorists around them take proper safety precautions.

## **Tips for Walkers:**

- Walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk and you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic.

- Before crossing the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming.
- Never dart out in front of a parked car.
- Parents: Practice walking to school with your child crossing streets at crosswalks when available.
- Never walk while texting or talking on the phone.
- Do not walk while using headphones.

## **Tips for Bike Riders:**

- Always wear a helmet that is fitted and secured properly.
- Children need to know the rules of the road: ride single file on the right side of the road, come to a complete stop before crossing the street and walk the bike across.
- Watch for opening car doors and other hazards.
- Use hand signals when turning.
- Wear bright colored clothing.

## **Tips for Bus Riders:**

- Teach children the proper way to get on and off the bus.
- Line up 6 feet away from the curb as the bus approaches.
- If seat belts are available, buckle up.
- Wait for the bus to stop completely before standing.
- Do not cross in front of the bus if possible, or walk at least 10 feet ahead until you can see the other drivers.

## **Tips for Drivers, Share the Road:**

- Do not block the crosswalks, and take extra care in school zones.
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children.
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus.

## **Tips for Teen Drivers:**

- Teens crash most often because they are inexperienced. They struggle judging gaps in traffic, driving the right speed for conditions and turning safely, among other things. As your teen becomes a new driver, learn more about what you can do as a parent to keep them safe.

## **For more information please visit :**

<https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/seasonal-safety/back-to-school>

### Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Township Building unless otherwise stated:

**Board of Supervisors Meetings** are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission Meetings** are held on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Parks and Recreation Board Meetings** are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Zoning Hearing Board** meets on an as needed basis.

**Open Space Committee Meetings** are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Environmental Advisory Committee** meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.



### Grass Clippings

When cutting your grass please be courteous and respectful of your Township and your neighbors. Blow your grass clippings back into your yard instead of into the streets and storm drains.



# News From The Code Department

## By Latta White

With Fire Prevention week starting on October 7th this year, it's a good time to review how the building codes affect fire protection and buildings systems. Many times new construction techniques, innovations in building technologies and new materials run well ahead of changes to the building codes. Numerous incidents over the last 50 years have caused public outcry for changes in the building codes to include lighted exit signs, emergency lighting, fire sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, fire extinguisher placement, panic hardware on exit doors and the list goes on. Almost every fire protection system or device found in Commercial or Residential occupancies has its background in a major fire incident with loss of lives or large property damage loss. *The International Residential Code 2009 Edition* made fire sprinklers mandatory in all new home construction effective January 1, 2011, but lobbying in Pennsylvania cause the legislature to abandon that provision. Eight years later

and fire sprinklers are still not required in new home construction in Pennsylvania; however construction materials used to build new homes are lighter weight with less mass and with more synthetic materials. When they catch fire these materials burn quicker, produce more toxic gases and structurally fail quicker. Estimates today are that in a residential fire situation you have less than 4 minutes to escape when 20 years ago you had closer to 10 minutes. Most of this is due to newer, lighter, more synthetic construction materials. The building trend is continuing to use lighter weight, less costly building materials and while that is good for construction costs it doesn't reflect well in a fire situations. This Fire Prevention week take time to practice evacuations, know how to use a fire extinguisher, never assume a smoke detector activation or fire alarm is a false alarm and know where the exits are.

## Pumpkin Carving Safety Tips

Nothing can get your family in the Halloween spirit like carving a pumpkin together. To help ensure your children enjoy a fun and safe pumpkin carving experience, we've put together a list of tips, tools and general advice.

1. Pick a pumpkin that's good for carving.
  - Smooth, less bumpy skin, and a flat front.
  - Avoid a pumpkin that feels heavy for its size, and has soft spots.
2. Take precautions when carving.
  - Don't rush, use small, controlled motions, keep hands and tools dry.
  - Choose a location that is well lit and a work surface that's sturdy.
3. Choose an easy design.
  - Consider downloading a pumpkin template.
4. Keep your child occupied.
  - Let them decorate a small pumpkin of their own while your carving.
5. Clean up quickly.
  - To minimize the risk of a fall, lay down newspaper or disposable drop cloth under your work area.
6. Skip the candles.
  - Burning candles are a potential fire hazard, and they can be especially dangerous to kids. Try an LED tea light instead of a candle, or a special effects battery operated light.

[Safewise.com](http://Safewise.com) Alexia Chianis



**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) TRAINING  
BY: CHUCK FREESE**

**MS4 Tip:**

Chlorinated water discharged to surface waters has an adverse effect on local water quality. Swimming pools are a major source of chlorinated water discharged into sanitary and storm sewer systems. An average swimming pool holds 19,000 gallons of highly chlorinated water, which is toxic to wildlife and fish. Instead of discharging pool water to the storm system or directly into a water body, residents should investigate alternative discharge options such as discharging the chlorinated water to land where it will not drain to local surface water or de-chlorinate the water before draining the pool.



**Trash and Recycling Day at  
Southern Chester County Re-  
fuse Authority (SECCRA)**

This is a **free** event for Town-ship residents **ONLY**. Residence is defined as any dwelling unit used as a place of human habitation, which is not commercial, municipal, institutional or a community activity.

For those items that cannot be recycled at the curbside this event will be Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 1-4 p.m. SHARP.

Recycling occurs at SECCRA throughout the year, fees could apply.

For more information please visit our website at <https://www.londongrove.org/recycling-waste-program/recycling-events-information/>

**Course Description:**

CERT Basic Training is designed to prepare you to help yourself and to help others in the event of a catastrophic disaster. In this event, emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using your CERT training to save lives and protect property.

**Target Audience:**

This class is open to anyone who wants to learn how to be better prepared before, during, and after an emergency. Participants must be 16 years of age. If students are between 16-18 years old, a parent or guardian must accompany them.

**Course Dates:**

**Times:**

Mon., September 10, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., September 17, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., September 24, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., October 1, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., October 8, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., October 15, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., October 22, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Mon., October 29, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Sat., November 3, 2018 8:00a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Registration Information:**

- ◆ Please visit the Chester County Training Website at : <http://destraining.chesco.org/ema/CERTFall2018>
- ◆ You will need an account to register for the course.
- ◆ **The registration deadline is Wednesday, September 5, 2018 unless the class fills early. Class size is limited to 30 participants.**

- ◆ Upon registering you will receive an email confirmation.

**Special Points of Interest:**

- ◆ The program offers an even distribution of lecture and hands on training.
- ◆ Students are given plenty of time to reinforce hands-on skills.
- ◆ Students must attend all days and participate in all modules to receive certificate.
- ◆ **This is a FREE course**



**GO CERT!**

Emergency responders do their best to respond as quickly as possible, but it is also the responsibility of individual citizens to learn how to protect themselves, their loved ones, and their communities. The Community Emergency response Team (CERT) program educated people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Protect yourself and help build a more resilient community.

All Classes Will Be Held At The Chester County Public Safety Training Campus.

**Point of Contact:**

Thaddeus Kavanagh

Training and Exercise Coordinator

[tkavanagh@chesco.org](mailto:tkavanagh@chesco.org)

610-344-5540





London Grove Township needs volunteers for various Boards and Commissions.

Periodically the Township invites residents to volunteer their time on the various boards and commissions that service the community. Please see below the available opportunities to volunteer. This is your time to give back to your community. The Township appreciates your service!

If you would like more information on the Boards and Commissions that have vacancies please contact the Township at 610-345-0100.

**Board of Auditors**

3 Vacancies

**Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals**

2 Vacancies for alternates

**Inniscrone Golf Course Advisory Committee**

2 Vacancies

**Environmental Advisory Committee**

4 Vacancies

**Open Space Committee**

3 Vacancies

# Municipal Authority News

By: Karen Linaweaver



Fire Hydrant flushing will continue into the fall months. Flushing is performed to ensure that the fire hydrants in our community are exercised, maintained, and in full service. The fire hydrant flushing program is a necessity for the health, safety, and welfare of our residents during emergencies. Please help keep our community safe by keeping your eyes open.... Unauthorized use of water from fire hydrants is illegal and offenders will be prosecuted. London Grove Township/Municipal Authority/Public Works Personnel and West Grove/Avondale Fire Companies are the only authorized users of fire hydrants. Please help us in this endeavor by reporting this immediately to the office if observed. Detailed information is important... location, license plate number, make and model of vehicle, and description of the person will be of great assistance. Thank you.



London Grove Township Municipal Authority bills their water and sewer customers on a quarterly basis. The quarterly postcard bills (bright yellow with black print) are mailed January, April, July and October by the 15th of the month each year. After 30 days, past due postcard notices (bright pink with black print) are mailed. For your convenience, water/sewer bills may be paid online at [www.londongrove.org](http://www.londongrove.org). A convenience charge is applied if you elect to use this service.

The London Grove Township Municipal Authority has a vacancy available for

an unexpired term: 1/1/14 to 12/31/18. All applicants must be London Grove Township residents. If you are interested in applying for this position, please submit a letter of intent to Karen A. Linaweaver, Manager London Grove Township Municipal Authority, 372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 300, West Grove, PA 19390 or email to: [klinaweaver@londongrove.org](mailto:klinaweaver@londongrove.org).

The London Grove Township Municipal Authority is a municipal utility who bills property owners only. Please be advised that if you have a rental property, the bill is the responsibility of the property owner to the Municipal Authority. The Municipal Authority does not get involved in issues

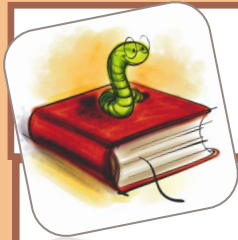


between property owners and their renters. We request that rental unit owners discuss this with their tenants and ask them to contact you

(property owner) with questions. Subsequently, the property owner can feel free to contact the Municipal Authority for any questions regarding their water and/or sewer service.

The Municipal Authority meets the 1st Monday of the month and welcomes the public. For any other information please feel free to contact the Municipal Authority Office at 610-345-0300.

Ms. Karen A. Linaweaver, Manager  
London Grove Township  
Municipal Authority  
372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 300  
West Grove, PA 19390



# Avon Grove Library News

## Lisa Sherwood

### Avon Grove Library Plans Fall Programs for All Ages and Interests

From daily storytimes, and special event weekend programming, to a teen service club, book club for adults, and crafting sessions for all ages, Avon Grove Library offers many opportunities for learning and enjoyment in fall 2018. Check the website [www.avongrovelibrary.org](http://www.avongrovelibrary.org) often for updates and additions.

Children's and Family Programs (unless otherwise noted, all programs are free and require no registration).

Babies, toddlers and preschoolers, along with their caregivers, can attend **Storytime's** held every weekday at the library. Most are themed for certain age groups, but older and younger siblings are always welcome.

**Toddler Storytime's** are held every Tuesday at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

**Preschool Storytime's** are held every Monday at 10 a.m., Wednesday at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m., Thursday at 10 a.m. and Friday at 10 a.m.

Avon Grove Library partners with Starbucks Coffee in Jennersville to offer a weekly **Storytime at Starbucks**, held every Thursday at 1 p.m.

**Pets and Friends Storytime**, a recent partnership with the Pets and Friends store in Jennersville, is held the first and third Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the store.



**Storytime at Treetops Kitty Café** is held the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. Stories, crafts and playtime fun with the cats who are up for

adoption. Kitty Café is located at 305 State Street, Kennett Square. Registration and fee required. To register and for more information, [www.treetopskittycafe.com](http://www.treetopskittycafe.com).

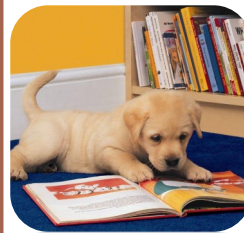
### Lunch and Stories: Teddy Bear Picnic

is held every Tuesday at noon at Penn Township Park began June 26 (weather permitting) and will continue for as long as fall weather cooperates. (Check [www.avongrovelibrary.org](http://www.avongrovelibrary.org) for details.) Listen to stories, make a craft and play outdoor games. Please bring your own lunch or snack.



**Books and Breakfast** returns on October 13 and continues on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. with season-themed stories, fun crafts and a delicious pancake breakfast. All ages are welcome to this lively family-friendly event.

On the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m., visitors can build setups with tracks, buildings and accessories using the library's collection of **GeoTrax Trains**. Children of all ages are welcome.



On the first Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. to noon, slots are available for a 10-minute session reading aloud to Cooper or Wesley, our **Paws for Reading** canine partners.

All ages are welcome. Registration is necessary for this free program.

**Lego Club** is held the first and third Thursday of each month 4:30-5:30 p.m.; **Lego Block Party** is held the fourth Saturday of each month 1-2 p.m. Legos, Duplo's and/or Mega Blocks are provided.



# Avon Grove Library News Continued...

**Cliffhangers Club** for 6- to 9-year-olds is held each Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. A librarian will read aloud from a chapter book over a series of weeks, start to finish, with plenty of “cliffhangers” in between. At the finish of each book, there will be an activity themed to the book.



Teen Programs (unless otherwise noted, all programs are free and require no registration).

The **Teen Service Club** meets every Tuesday 3:30-5 p.m. Teens can accrue volunteer service hours by preparing Storytime crafts, helping out at family programs, and participating in other activities to benefit the library.



Teens in grades 6-12 can discover more about writing and how to sharpen their creative skills during **Teen Writing Workshop**. No experience is necessary. The workshop meets the third Saturday of every month.

**Young Adult Book Club** meets the third Saturday of every month from 1-2 p.m. Teens in grades 9-12 can read and discuss young adult books of all genres.

Adult Programs (unless otherwise noted, all programs are free and require no registration).

Avon Grove Library's **Book Club for Adults** meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Participants vote on the titles to read and gather monthly for lively conversation.

**Craft and Create for Adults** meets the first and second Thursday of each



month at 6:30 p.m. Participants bring their own favorite project (painting, sewing, scrapbooking, etc.) and enjoy the company of other adults while crafting.

## Young Adult Book Club for Adults

meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. This event differs from our Book Club for Adults and Young Adult Book Club in that participants 18 years and older read a book from the YA genre. This is an evening dedicated to discussing a different Young Adult book with fellow Young Adults at heart. A new title is featured every month.



**Sit and Knit** will be held on the first and third Monday of each month, 4:30-6 p.m. Participants of any experience level should bring a project they are working on to learn tips and share ideas with other knitters. This program is also intended for crochet and embroidery crafters. All adults and children accompanied by an adult and are welcome.

Area residents can learn more about Storytime's classes and programs at [www.avongrovelibrary.org](http://www.avongrovelibrary.org), which is updated frequently with new programs and details.

Located in the heart of West Grove, Pa., Avon Grove Library is a vital educational institution, offering equal opportunity for self-directed learning, research assistance and instruction, and enriching experiences to over 30,000 people of all ages in southern Chester County. The library is a member of the Chester County Library System.



# MESSAGE FROM OUR FIRE MARSHAL: ROBERT WEER

## Fire Prevention Week: October 7-October 13, 2018

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Theme: Look. Listen. Learn: Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere. [firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org)

### **About Fire Prevention Week:**

Since 1922, the NFPA has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest running public health observance in our country. During Fire Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learn how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provide lifesaving public education in an effort to drastically decrease casualties caused by fires.

Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.

### **Importance of Fire Prevention:**

In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn't just for school children. Teenagers, adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire.

On this site, you'll find loads of educational resources to make sure that every person knows what to do in case of a fire. We have everything from apps to videos to printables and much more, to make sure you have the resources you need to keep your family, your community, and your city safe.

### **Bring Awareness:**

While children under 5 and adults over 65 are at the highest risk for injury or death in a fire, people of all ages are

vulnerable. In fact, the risk of a nonfatal fire injury is highest for those between 20 and 49, showing that fire safety education is essential for everyone. Additional risk factors include race, socio-economic status, education level, and geographic location.

The purpose of Fire Prevention Week is to bring awareness to the risk of death in case of a fire and provide educational resources to people of all ages, races, and socioeconomic status in order to keep everyone safe.

### **2018 Campaign:**

This year's fire Prevention Week Campaign, "Look.Listen.Learn. Be aware. Fire Can Happen Anywhere," works to educate people about three basic but essential steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire, and how to escape safely in the event of one:

"LOOK" for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

"LISTEN" for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.

"LEARN" two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

For more information or handouts on this topic please visit: [firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org)



# Autumn Health and Safety Tips

**Follow these tips to help you and your family stay safe and healthy this autumn!**

## **Keep your kids safe and healthy.**

Get involved with your kids' activities at home and at school to help ensure they are safe and healthy.

## **Take steps to prevent the flu.**

The single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year in the fall. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands often. Stay home if you get sick.

## **Get smart about antibiotics.**

Antibiotics can cure bacterial infections, but not viral infections. The common cold and the flu are viral infections, so avoid using antibiotics if you have one of these. Using antibiotics when they are not needed causes some bacteria to become resistant to the antibiotics, and therefore stronger and harder to kill. See your doctor or nurse to find out if your illness is bacterial or viral.

## **Have a safe and healthy Halloween.**

Make Halloween festivities fun, safe, and healthy for trick-or-treaters and party guests.

## **Test and replace batteries.**

Check or replace carbon monoxide batteries twice a year when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. Replace smoke alarm alkaline batteries at least once a year. Test alarms every month to ensure they work properly.

## **Keep food safe.**

Food is center stage during the holidays. Be sure to keep it safe by following basic food safety steps. Clean hands and surfaces often. Separate foods to avoid cross-contamination. Cook to proper temperatures. Chill promptly.

## **Learn your family history.**

National Family History Day is observed on Thanksgiving Day. Over the holiday or at another family gathering, talk about and write down the health conditions that run in your family. Learning about your family's health history can help you take steps to ensure a longer, healthier future together.

## **Be prepared for cold weather.**

Exposure to cold temperatures can cause serious health problems. Infants and the elderly are particularly at risk, but anyone can be affected. Know how to prevent health problems and what to do if a cold-weather emergency arises. Remember that using space heaters and fireplaces can increase the risk of household fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.

## **Don't drink and drive.**

Alcohol use impairs skills needed to drive a car safely. It slows reaction time and impairs judgement and coordination. Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes kill someone every 31 minutes and non-fatally injure someone every two minutes. Don't drink and drive, and don't let others drink and drive.

## **Wash your hands.**

Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. It's best to wash your hands with soap and clean running water for 20 seconds. If that's not possible, use alcohol-based hand rubs.

## **For more information, visit:**

[www.cdc.gov/family/autumn/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/family/autumn/index.htm)

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office of Women's Health**



# Beautify Your Neighborhood Save Money And Help The Environment!



The White Clay Creek is a major drinking water source for over 130,000 people in

the region, but recent storms and polluted runoff from those events make it costly and difficult to clean. In fact, stormwater washing off land during rain events is the largest source of pollution to Pennsylvania waterways. Excess stormwater causes flooded roadways and homes, bridge and road damage, erosion, and transports pollutants such as oil, fertilizers, manure, and dirt directly to the creek. Decades of increased development and a warming climate have led to larger and more frequent storm events that leave a path of destruction behind and take a toll on the health of our local waterways.



It will take all of us working together on many levels, both regu-

latory and voluntary, to alleviate some of the problems associated with stormwater runoff. It's important to recognize that any amount of impervious surface (surface that doesn't let water infiltrate into the ground such as roofs, driveways, roads, and turfgrass to some degree) creates more polluted runoff in higher volumes sent directly to the creek at higher speeds. This causes creeks to flood often, creating hazardous conditions both in and out of the creek. More runoff means less infiltration to and lowering of our groundwater table which supplies drinking water and keeps our creeks flowing during the hot and dry summer months. Alternatively, when rain falls on forest and meadow lands, natural sponge-like surfaces, it soaks gradually into the ground, pollutants are filtered, groundwater is replenished, and streams keep flowing.

The Catch the Rain Program promotes Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) practices that capture and detain rainfall, simulate natural soil filtering, and reduce stormwater volumes and speeds. Reduce lawn sizes also lessen the need for mowing and fertilizer/pesticide applications. The White Clay Wild and Sce-

nic River Program, in partnership with the Brandywine Conservancy, would like to increase voluntary involvement in good stewardship practices that mimic these natural processes and help to capture and alleviate polluted runoff. We are offering personalized site visits and 50% cost sharing incentives for homeowners who wish to install voluntary stormwater management practices including rain barrels, rain gardens, pervious paving retrofits or removal of existing paving, conservation plantings, and tree plantings.



The Catch the Rain program targets suburban homeowners and homeowners' associa-

tions with the open space lands. Your project could be as simple as planting native shade trees over your driveway, installing an eye-catching bed of native wildflowers, or catching the runoff from your roof to reuse on your lawn or garden. These small projects intended to catch water as its source can "green" your neighborhood, boost your property values, save you money, and help the White Clay flow clear. Additionally, we are now seeking projects on HOA open space lands, such as stream-side tree plantings, stormwater basin retrofits (going from mowed to naturalized basins), and community wide rain barrel drives and rain garden implementation.



If you or your community are interested in learning more about this cost share program to help the environment, please

register for the upcoming workshop at the London Grove Township Building on September 20th at 7:00 p.m. If you pre-register you can also sign up to receive a rain barrel for \$15 (Retail \$100) just for attending this workshop. Discounted rain barrels are limited to the first 20 individuals, one per household) but you must pre-register by September 12th. All rain barrel reservations and workshop inquiries can be sent to Shane Morgan at [mpc@whiteclay.org](mailto:mpc@whiteclay.org). Learn more about the Catch the Rain Rebate Program at [catchtherain.org](http://catchtherain.org).

\$\$\$  
Available

# Catch The Rain

## Is your yard beautiful *and* sustainable?

Rain gardens, shade trees, rain barrels, and native plant gardens are attractive projects that help with White Clay Creek.



Come to a

### CATCH THE RAIN

Workshop to learn more

As a Pennsylvania homeowner, you are invited to learn how to beautify your yard while keeping our waters clean. These projects help reduce flooding, recharge our wells, filter pollutants from oily roads, reduce summer heat, and keep our water clean. Your home's value will increase as plantings mature. Be a pace-setter in your neighborhood, collect water for gardens and other outdoor uses, attract birds and butterflies, enjoy year-round native flowers, and be a part of the solution.









### SAVE THE DATE!

September 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

London Grove Township Building



### LEARN HOW TO CATCH THE RAIN

-  Capture more rain on-site, reducing drought effects and lowering your water bills, install one or more Catch the Rain practices.
-  Shade your house for cooler summertime temperatures and lower utility bills, plant trees.
-  Grow native plants that feed pollinators and songbirds.
-  Reduce the size of your lawn, spend less time mowing and reduce chemical and fertilizer use.
-  Get a free rain barrel.
-  Let us help you pay part of the costs of these home improvements!

Catch the Rain will provide step-by-step guidance, clear estimates of your costs and rebate amounts, professional site visit and design consultation, reputable installers, and maintenance guidelines. You must attend a workshop to participate. Catch the Rain is a partnership between the White Clay Wild and Scenic River program and the Brandywine Conservancy, with funding in part from the Docstader Foundation and the National Park Service. Let us know if you can come!

# DIY With Recycled Products By: Dawn Maciejczyk

What's the one thing that sports teams or events, field trips, church trips, and family reunions have in common? T-shirts! Almost every time you sign up to these, or things similar to these, you are given a shirt to commemorate your participation. But how many of those shirts do you *actually* wear anymore? If you're honest with yourself, probably very few (because let's face it, the generic fundraiser shirts just aren't that cute). But you have memories tied to those shirts and you can't possibly get rid of them. But you need to do something with them because they are taking up space in your drawer or closet that could be used by clothes you regularly wear. So what do you do? RECYLCE!! You can make all kinds of awesome (and cute) things out of those shirts that will actually be used. To give you some ideas, we've gathered up some projects to recycle t-shirts and give them new life.



1. **Create A T-shirt Blanket.** Start with making sure the logo of the t-shirt is in the center of a square and cut a square out around the logo. You can do this with as many t-shirts as you would like. The more t-shirts the bigger the blanket. After you have cut all your squares sew them together. When your squares are all sewed together you can add a durable fabric to the other side of the t-shirt blanket. These blankets make wonderful picnic blankets.

2. **Creating Memory Pillows Out Of Old T-Shirts.** Based on the pillow measurements, cut the back pillow pattern pieces first. There will be two pieces overlapping (envelope-style) in the middle of the pillow. The preexisting hem on the bottom of the T-shirt will serve as the ends. Cut the front and back of the shirt's hem the same width as your pillow, and three-quarters the length of the pillow. Cut the remaining top of the shirt (the graphic), the same exact measurement as your pillow (length x width). This will be the front of your pillow. You should now have three pattern pieces: the front of the pillow (the graphic) and the two back pieces (the hems). Place the front pillow piece (the graphic) right-side up. Then place one of the back pieces on top of it, right sides together. Match up the three raw/cut edges. Take your other back pillow piece and place it on top of that, right side facing down. Place this on the opposite raw edges of the pillow, so that the hems overlap in the middle. Pin around all four edges and then sew. Use a zigzag stitch on your machine to avoid the knit from stretching. Turn the pillow cover right-side out. Stuff the pillow through the back envelope opening. Pull both of the back pieces over the pillow form and smooth. The form should now be safely enclosed inside the pillow cover. You now have a perfect pillow for your child's bed, couch or anywhere else you want to put this comfy keepsake.



London Grove Township is doing their part to reduce and recycle. The newsletter is now offered electronically. If you would like to receive the newsletter through email, please sign up on our website [www.londongrove.org](http://www.londongrove.org). If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Maciejczyk at the Township, 610-345-0100. Thank you for doing your part in keeping this earth healthy!

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London Grove Township  
372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 100  
West Grove, PA 19390