



London Grove Gazette



Winter 2018 Newsletter

London Grove Township
Phone: 610-345-0100
Fax: 610-345-0455
Email: admin@londongrove.org
Website: www.londongrove.org
Office Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Board of Supervisors:

Richard Scott-Harper, Chairman
Stephen Zurl, Vice Chairman
David Connors
John Lee Irwin
Thomas Szakas

Codes and Inspections:

Latta White, Code Administrator

Fire Marshal:

Robert Weer, Fire Marshal

Planning Commission

Frank Scarpato, Chairman
Colleen Preston, Vice Chairman
Kevin Runey
Rick Schroder
Geoffrey Stroud
Charles C. Shock

Township Office:

Ken Battin, Township Manager
Shane Kinsey, Public Works Director
Jacqui Guenther, Finance Director
Dawn Maciejczyk, Township Secretary
Latta White, Code Administrator
Lois Zunino, Codes Admin. Asst.
Gloria Anderson, P.M. Receptionist
Carolyn Kirby, A.M. Receptionist

Zoning Hearing Board

William Grandizio, Chairman
Ed Hatchigian
Bob Gillespie
Bob Dando, Alternate

Zoning Officer:

Ken Battin

Right-To-Know Officer

Ken Battin

Tax Collector:

Kurt Engleman, Real Estate Tax
Keystone Collections Group, EIT

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Please – Help your Neighbor

The London Grove Board of Supervisors are tasked to ensure that your health and safety are protected. During the winter season, you never know what weather will come our way, but we can be prepared. Our recently passed balanced budget includes the necessary funding to ensure that our roads will be plowed and salted during and after a snowstorm. Considering the numerous miles of roads that need care in London Grove Township, our top-notch road crews make it look easy.

However, when snow starts falling, the Township needs some help from you. When it comes to the street plowing, we need you to make sure that your cars are not parked on the street. London Grove Township has an ordinance that does not allow cars to be parked on the street at any time. During snowfall, it is very important to obey this ordinance to help make sure our streets are properly cleared for safe travel and to ensure that our road crews are kept safe by not having to navigate obstacles.

While the township takes care of the roads, we also need to take care of each other. During the winter, please take notice of any neighbor who may need help shoveling or clearing off their sidewalks. Reaching out to help a neighbor makes the difference between living on a street and living in a community.

By being good neighbors, we can continue to keep London Grove Township a great place to live.

Have a safe winter season.

If you have any comments regarding this article, feel free to email me directly at TSzakas@londongrove.org

Tom Szakas – Board of Supervisors Member





Christmas Tree Collection Dates

*Not sure what to do with
the Christmas Tree when
the time has come to
take it down? Your trash
haulers are here to help!*

**Please contact your trash hauler directly
to confirm/schedule a pick-up at your
residence in advance.**

AJ Blosenski– 610-444-2341

Advanced Disposal– 610-313-9710

Eagle Disposal– 717-355-9560

Trash Tech– 610-274-1306

Republic Services– 610-869-2222

Waste Management of DE– 800-633-9096

News From The Code Department

By Latta White

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.



Many people ask why building permits are required. Below are some of the reasons why permits and inspections are necessary.

The purpose behind building codes is to give reasonable assurance that a home is safe from structural failure, fire hazards from electrical and heating systems, electrical shock, and health risks. The permits provide a permanent record of the work performed and inspections conducted on the project. Another reason to obtain a building permit is that it's illegal not to. If you fail to get a permit for work that requires it, you can be fined. You may be forced to remove a building or tear out completed work, or you may have trouble selling your home without proof of permitted work. But there are plenty of positive reasons for following the permit process as well.

It keeps your contractor honest. To beat out the price of a competitor, a profit-driven contractor might be tempted to cut corners.

Would you know it if he did? Most construction work ends up hidden behind walls and under floors. A building permit requires that a contractor use sound and safe methods and materials. And inspections assure you that he does so.

It guides your do-it-yourself project. No matter how handy you are, you aren't likely to know everything about modern building practices. When you get a permit, you'll have to show the building department your plans. If they don't follow the codes, the building inspector will ask you to revise them. But if you

never apply for a permit, you might go ahead with work that's dangerous or unsound.

It keeps your insurance valid. Building done without a permit can mean that your insurance company may not honor your policy. A fire resulting from work without a permit could leave you holding the bag. If someone falls off a deck that was built without a permit, your liability insurance may not cover his or her injuries [source: Redondo Beach].

It's valuable when you sell your home. If you perform work without a permit, you can assume a potential buyer will know about it. The permit process is a matter of public record. In addition, you may be required to sign a Property Disclosure Statement, in which you have to reveal all problems or defects in the property. Having all the necessary permits makes the sale proceed much more smoothly.

Our highly trained staff work with homeowners and builders to review plans and perform field inspections in order to verify that the project complies with the minimum requirements of all the adopted codes.

The benefit of getting permits for homeowners is so that we can assist and contribute to the process, and to the best of our abilities, make sure the project complies with the codes and is ultimately a safe place in which to live or work.



“Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers.”

-KAHLIL GIBRAN

MS4 Tip: Ice & Snow Removal



Please think about environmentally-friendly ways to control ice. Traction agents help prevent slipping on ice but don't melt it. Sand, kitty litter and ashes can hurt vegetation, clog sewers, and degrade aquatic habitats. Rock salt is the most common product because it's effective and cheap, however, it is highly corrosive and ecologically damaging. A water-friendly option is Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA) products which are low in phosphorus. Use only the recommended amount. CMA is less problematic for soils, vegetation, water supplies, and concrete, and it is non-corrosive, made from corn or petroleum and converts ice into an oatmeal-like mush.

TOWNSHIP INFORMATION EMAILED TO YOUR INBOX

Log on to www.londongrove.org and click on the "Notify Me" tab to sign up and receive text or email notifications for the latest Township Documents and publications. Information Available (Click any or all):

- ◆ Calendar of events
- ◆ Goddard Park
- ◆ Agendas and Minutes
- ◆ Newsletters
- ◆ Recycling
- ◆ And many more

IS YOUR VEHICLE WINTER READY CHECKLIST
BY: CHUCK FREESE



In order to protect yourself in the event of an emergency or a breakdown during the winter months please check to make sure the following items are in your vehicle and are readily available.

- Cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries
- Shovel
- Windshield scraper
- Battery-powered radio with extra batteries
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Water
- Snack food
- Extra hats, coats, and mittens
- Blankets
- Chains or rope
- Tire chains
- Canned compressed air with sealant for emergency tire repair
- Road salt and sand to help tires get traction
- Booster cables
- Emergency flares
- Bright colored flag or help signs
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Road maps
- Compass
- Waterproof matches and a can to melt snow for water
- Hazard or other reflectors
- Emergency flares
- Emergency distress flag
- Water
- Necessary medications
- Tow chain or rope



NEWS FROM THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

It's been an interesting year for farmers, crops have literally molded in the fields, standing water has contributed to a host of mosquitoes, and well levels are at an all-time high. Property owners might want to consider creating rain gardens to manage standing water on their land, and rain harvesting programs to gather runoff from roofs. For more information, contact Shane Morgan at 484-716-6836.

If you own property with running water, you might want to consider a buffer of trees to filter pesticides and herbicides in the runoff, and to prevent erosion and reduce flooding. The township has information and even financial incentives available for property owners interested in protecting their waterways and placing their land into agricultural easements. For more information, contact David Sweet at 610-436-6585.

By: Tina Skinner

Municipal Authority News

By: Karen Linaweaver



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

2 Vacancies



Cold Weather is Approaching! Here are some cold weather tips for the winter season:

Before leaving your property for any length of time, turn off the water by closing the main shut-off valve on your property. This valve is located in your basement or utility room before the water meter. London Grove Township Municipal Authority suggests this procedure for all seasons. Make sure all outside hoses are disconnected from faucets.



Close garage doors and windows near water pipes. Close foundation vents. By closing the vents it keeps the cold air out and can help prevent pipes from freezing. Insulate all pipes and faucets in unheated areas.

London Grove Township Municipal Authority is not responsible for water problems from the curb stop into your home, with the exception of the water meter. The curb stop is at the Township Right-of-Way by the street. Make sure you have the telephone number of a reliable plumber on hand in case there is a problem on your property.

If your water meter freezes, please call London Grove Township Municipal Authority at 610-345-0300.

If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please make every effort during the winter to shovel around



the hydrants to assist the fire departments' ease in locating the hydrant. Precious minutes during fires may make a difference between life and death. The LGTMA has installed fire hydrant markers on all of their fire hydrants to assist in locating the fire hydrants in times of emergency.



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. Please feel free to visit our website at www.londongrove.org and view the Municipal Authority menu for more information.

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

Public Works Winter Operations

The Department of Public Works currently maintains approximately 132 lane miles of roads, 172 intersections, and 63 cul-de-sacs within London Grove Township.

Starting in 2012 the Township began pre-treating all roadways with a 23.3% solution of Liquid Sodium Chloride (NaCl) blended with a protein (Beet Juice) prior to forecasted winter storms. This “brine” application reduces the costs associated with winter maintenance of the roads, and make the roads safer by limiting the bond of snow to the road surface. Utilizing beet juice allows the Township to blend for each storm to reduce costs and the corrosive nature of the brine. Storms of 1” or less of Snow, along with ice storms are typically maintained by applications of de-icing materials during the storm. Storms producing greater than 1” of snow typically require the use of plows.

ROUTES – The Township Roads are divided into 7 routes, with a truck equipped with a plow and material spreader assigned to each of the routes. During periods of moderate to heavy snow additional equipment with snow plows are assigned to supplement the trucks.

Roads are plowed and de-iced in order of priority. Main roads are addressed first with special attention to steep hills, bridges, curves and intersections. Side streets are done next, then dead-end streets. A single pass will be made on side streets to keep them open, but primary emphasis will be placed on main roads until the storm has stopped.



BLOCKED DRIVEWAYS – In performing plowing operations, in almost all cases the plow operator must push snow to the operator’s right, this is especially true when plowing turn around’s and cul-de-sac’s. When going by they can not avoid pushing the snow in front of a driveway. The best way to avoid having your driveway “plowed-in” is to wait until crews have completed their final clean up on the street, typically this is when the street is only wet or bare, to clear your driveway.

Another way to reduce the amount of snow which ends up in your driveway is to clear an area to the right of your driveway, when looking at your driveway from the street, to give the snow on the blade of the plow a place to empty before it gets to your driveway.

PRIVATE PLOWING AND SHOVELING – London Grove Township Regulations and Pennsylvania Law make it illegal to push or blow snow from sidewalks, driveways or parking lots onto public roads. This practice is dangerous and impedes the Townships snow removal efforts. If there is no other alternative to pushing snow into the street, the plow driver must plow off the windrow left across the street by re-plowing until the road is safe. This may not necessarily mean bare pavement, but certainly it should be no worse than when the driver began work.

HOW CAN YOU HELP – winter operations are very expensive to the Township and the assistance of the Township Residents is an integral part of this operation.

Winter Operations Continued

Placing markers along the roadway in the front of your property can help the operator locate the road. This also reduces the chances for the Right-of-Way to be damaged by the plow leaving the road surface. This is especially important in area where the roadway curves. Additionally, marking the edges of driveways in cul-de-sac's can help the operator locate your driveway so that a large pile of snow is not plowed into it. Reflective markers are available at low cost from most home improvement stores, and on-line.

Stay off the roads during storms when possible. The more vehicles on the road during a storm, the slower and more expensive a winter operation becomes. It is best only to travel during a storm when absolutely necessary.

Do not block maintenance vehicles. Attempting to block a Township plow, to avoid having your driveway plowed in is illegal in Pennsylvania; additionally, this practice slows down the operations resulting in an increased expense to the Township and the residents. The Township is required by law to maintain the road surface, and this almost always means plowing the snow to the operator's right.

Do not place snow on the roadway. This practice decreases the effectiveness of de-icing materials, and slows the plowing operation. Additionally it is illegal to place snow on the roadway in Pennsylvania.



Avoid parking on the roadway when possible. This is especially true in cul-de-sacs. Vehicles parked in the roadway slow the winter operations, and in many cases make it difficult for the operator to remove snow from the road. Parking off the roadway also decreases the chances of your vehicle being damaged during a storm.

Trim trees and growth, and relocate items such as basket ball nets so that there is a minimum of 14 feet clearance above the road surface. Most of the Townships winter equipment is in excess of 12 feet in height, and must get close to the edge of the roadway to properly clear the road.

Be sure your mailbox has a strong support. You also may wish to use reflective tape or other material to make the mailbox easier to see during storms or during dark hours.

Stay away from winter maintenance equipment. The equipment that the Department of Public Works is using is large and hazardous, has many blind spots and most often is operating in slippery conditions. When operations are occurring in your area move away from the area until the operation is complete, this is especially true for children who are often attracted to the equipment.

Thank You!

Mr. Shane Kinsey,
Director of Public Works
London Grove Township
374 Rose Hill Road,
West Grove, PA 19390

IS A LOW SALT DIET IN ORDER FOR OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS?

BY: SHANE MORGAN, WHITE CLAY WILD AND SCENIC RIVER PROGRAM

It's wintertime! Along with the cold, snow and ice comes another element, less recognized as a pollutant, but becoming an increasing threat to water quality—salt. Every year salt is dumped in mass on roads and other paved surfaces to help de-ice and improve safety. Once applied to the ground it is then either caught in the snowmelt as runoff when temperatures return back above freezing, or it is brushed into the environment by the cars driving over it.

Road salt, most commonly comprised of chloride and sodium (or chloride and another substance), dissolves readily in fresh water releasing chlorides

into the environment. Chlorides are a growing concern to water scientists because they don't break down, and once they're in a water body there are no biological processes to remove them. Natural Chloride concentrations in fresh water are between 1 and 100 ppm (parts per million), that's at or less than 0.01%. Chlorides can be toxic to aquatic plants and animals when levels go above these natural background concentrations, and they can also remain in the soil where they accumulate and become toxic to terrestrial plants and animals.

Chlorides interfere with an organism's ability to regulate levels of salt and other substances within their bodily fluids. The effects vary by species type and location, but animals such as frogs and amphibians who

lay eggs in "vernal pools," or isolated bodies of water, may be especially at risk, as those water sources have no way of flushing out excess chlorides. Additionally, salt concentrations tend to spike in early spring (with the thawing of ground and snowmelt) and summer (when evaporation exceeds precipitation thereby concentrating salt), two critical times of year for amphibian reproduction and development.

Chloride pollution is challenging to address. Public safety and safe road conditions are paramount concerns, but protecting water quality needs to be considered as well. There are steps

that can help address environmental concerns while still allowing safe road conditions and many groups are working to implement them. For example, London Grove Township keeps its salt supplies covered and out of the elements to protect salt from weather directly carrying these chemicals into nearby water bodies. The Township is taking steps to reduce salt usage, including anti-icing prewetting with a brine solution mixed with a protein such as beet juice. Anti-icing is applying a brine solution to the road surface 24 to 48 hours before a storm to reduce the bond between snow and the road surface. Prewetting is applying a brine solution directly to the rock salt as its being spread, this "activates" the salt quicker and reduces scatter.



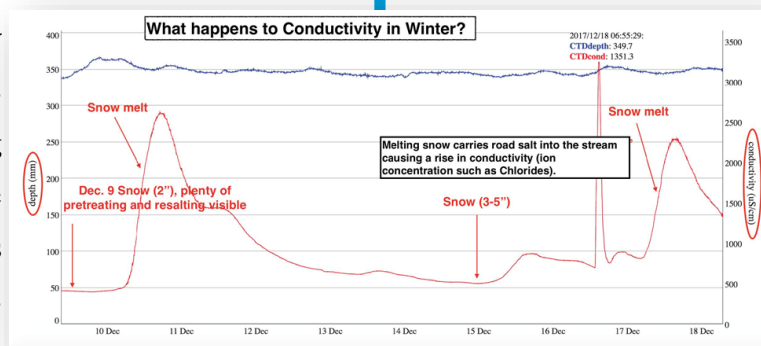
IS A LOW SALT DIET IN ORDER FOR OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS? CONTINUED...

The use of a brine containing a protein, such as beet juice, provides for a more effective solution that works better at lower temperatures and results in less pollutants reaching our creeks in snowmelt and infiltrating our groundwater.

To understand the potential issues with road salt, volunteers and staff from the White Clay Wild and Scenic Program are monitoring our local streams. The graph below illustrates how average conductivity (a measure related to the level of dissolved salts) shows large spikes over the winter season as melting snow and rain flush salt into streams and groundwater. These high peaks— which correspond to winter rain and snow events— are not seen during other times of the year. The long-term effects of chloride are still under study; as is research to find the most environmentally sound way to ensure public safety. Until a better solution is discovered try using some of the tips below on your property to help lessen chlorides from entering our waterways!

1. Shovel early and as much as possible to minimize the need for deicers.
2. Consider using a salt brine (23.3% salt and water mixture) to minimize the amount of chlorides released. You can make your own by mix-

ing 13 pounds of salt in 5 gallons of water. Mix until all the salt is dissolved. Add to a masonry sprayer (available at Lowes or Home Depot) and apply the liquid 1-2 hours before a storm. Be careful not to over apply and create a slippery condition!



3. Sweep up any excess salt and reuse or dispose of it in the trash.

4. Temperature matters. Below 15 degrees F salt is ineffective so try using an

alternative to salt, like pine needles or sand for added traction on walkways.

5. Refrain from using kitty litter, ashes, fertilizer or any product containing urea to de-ice. This adds both salts as well as other pollutants to the waterway. Instead try spreading pine needles or birdseed to add more traction to icy walkways.
6. Help monitor our local streams! Become a stream steward for the White Clay Wild and Scenic River Program by sending an email to: mpc@whiteclay.org.



WHITE CLAY CREEK
National Wild & Scenic River

Ours to Enjoy. Ours to Protect.

Community Risk Reduction Program

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Community Risk Reduction Program.

Community Risk Reduction is defined in the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 1035, as “programs, actions, and services used by a community, which prevent or mitigate the loss of life, property, and resources associated with life safety, fire, and other disasters within a community.”

As part of our Community Risk Reduction Program the London Grove Township, Fire Marshal, Robert Weer, has been working with the local Emergency Services to identify ways of reducing risk to our community.

One of the identified risks within our community is sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). According to the American Heart Association, SCA is a leading cause of death in the United States. When a sudden cardiac arrest occurs if the heart rhythm is not quickly restored, death is imminent. An automatic external defibrillator (AED) is a small device that analyzes the heart and then prompts the user to deliver a shock to restart the heart. Having an AED close to the public will enhance a person’s survival rate should an emergency arise.

London Grove Township recently received a grant to reduce the cost of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) System that will be placed at Goddard Park. The



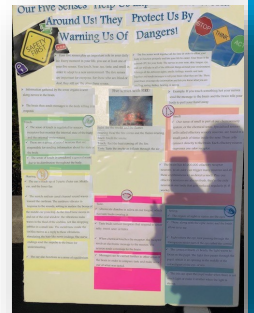
Avon Grove Lions Club donated \$1,500 to cover the cost of the AED as well as a cabinet to secure the system.



London Grove Township Fire Marshal, Robert Weer and Township Secretary, Dawn Maciejczyk participated in the Avondale Emergency Services Recognition Day.

The focus of their display was to explore how you can use your five sense to identify materials and various situations in which your five sense help to keep you safe.

Our five senses help us explore the world around us! They protect us by warning us of dangers. Information gathered by the senses organs is sent along nerves to the brain. The brain then sends messages to the body telling it to respond. Example: If you touch something hot your nerves send the message to the brain and the brain tells your body to pull your hand away.



To find out more information about our Community Risk reduction Program contact
Mr. Robert Weer,
Fire Marshal
London Grove Township
372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 100

Community Risk Reduction Program

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

As part of London Grove Township's Community Risk Reduction Program, Mr. Robert Weer, Township Fire Marshal, has been working with several Emergency Personnel Members to better the programs, actions and services used by the community, which prevent mitigate the loss of life, property and resources associated with life safety, fire and other disasters within a community. Some of the Emergency Personnel that Mr. Weer has been working with are Mr. Robert Hotchkiss, EMS Chief/Chief Executive Officer, Southern Chester County Emergency Medical Services (SCCEMS), Ms. Tammy Whiteman, EMS Sergeant, Southern Chester County Emergency Medical Services (SCCEMS), Mr. Steve Cole, Fire Chief, Avondale Fire Company, and Mr. Shawn Carroll, Deputy Fire Chief, Avondale Fire Company.



Mr. Weer has been working alongside the men and women named above as well as Mrs. Rhonda Quinlan, Administrator at Twin Pines Health Center to make some lifesaving advances to the Twin Pines Center. Some of the changes include but are not limited to a Fire Evacuation Plan, Practice Fire Drills, moving the Evacuation Area from the front of the building to the back of the building. Having all the records on digital and print so they are available in case of an emergency, having an area for evacuation medication carts so that patients can still receive their medications in the event of an emergency.

The Twin Pines Facility has secured a lifesaving AED unit and are working to obtain a second one in 2019. All staff from the front-end reception area to the cooks in the kitchen have been trained on first aid, CPR and AED as well as having highly skilled nurses and administrative staff. The Twin Pines Facility have added reflective wing names so that they can

still be read in the event of a power outage. The way the Twin Pines Facility is laid out they are able to contain within by closing of an entire wing with the fire doors.

Twin Pines Health Care Center is located in the rural, scenic Village of Chatham. Our patients enjoy the area's beautiful scenery and nearby attractions during community outings to Longwood Gardens, Delaware Park Casino, a yearly

Philadelphia Phillies game and more!

Twin Pines is conveniently located near U.S. Route 1, making visits from family and friends an easy and enjoyable trip.

At Twin Pines, we offer specialized programs and individualized care plans designed to achieve the best outcomes for you or your loved one.

Whether you are seeking short-term services or long-term care, our team is

committed to meeting your individual needs. Our services include skilled nursing, rehabilitation and long-term care. Our nursing staff is available 24 hours a day to assist in meeting the needs of our patients.

As part of Saber Healthcare Group, our facility provides Telemedicine technology to our residents. By using Telemedicine, our clinical teams can consult the patient's attending physician at bedside, avoiding unnecessary emergency room visits and readmission to the hospital. We have the compassion, experience, expertise, skills and programs to provide the quality care that results in the best possible quality of life. Please give us a call to schedule a tour to see for yourself just what makes Twin Pines Health Care Center so special.

Twin Pines Website: https://www.saberhealth.com/locations/twin-pines-health-care-center/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=google-my-business&utm_term=SHGPA17

Message From The Fire Marshal

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Winter Holiday Fires By The Numbers:

Christmas Trees:

- * Between 2011-2015, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 200 home fires that started with Christmas Trees per year. These fires caused an average of 6 deaths, 16 injuries, and \$14.8 million in direct property damage annually.
- * On average, one of every 32 reported home fires that began with a Christmas Tree resulted in a death, compared to an average of one death per 143 total reported home fires.
- * Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in two of every five (40%) of home Christmas tree fires.
- * In one-quarter (26%) of the Christmas tree fires and in 80% of the deaths, some type of heat source, such as a candle or equipment, was too close to the tree.
- * One quarter (24%) of Christmas tree fires were intentional.
- * Forty-two percent of reported home Christmas tree fires occurred in December and 37% were reported in January.
- * More than one-third (37%) home Christmas tree fires started in the living room, family room, or den.

Source: NFPA's "Home Structure Fires Involving Christmas Trees" report

Holiday Decorations:

- * U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 840 home structure fires per year that began with decorations, excluding Christmas trees, in 2011-2015. These fires caused an annual average of two civilian fire deaths, 36 civilian fire injuries and \$11.4 million in direct property damage.
- * Ten percent of decoration fires were intentional.
- * The decoration was too close to a heat source such as a candle or equipment in two of every five (42%) fires.
- * More than one-fifth (21%) of the decoration fires started in the kitchen. Fifteen percent started in the living room, family room or den.

- * One-fifth (19%) of the home decoration fires occurred in December.

Candles:

- * Candles started more than one-third (36%) of home decoration structure fires.
- * More than half (55%) of the December home decoration fires were started by candles, compared to one-third (32%) in January to November.
- * The top three days for home candle fires were Christmas, New Year's Day and New Year's Eve.

Source: NFPA's "Home Structure Fires Involving Decorations" report

Holiday Cooking:

- * Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by the day before Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.
- * Cooking equipment was involved in 19% of home decoration fires. This can happen when a decoration is left on or too close to a stove or other cooking equipment.

Source: NFPA's "Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment" report

Fireworks:

- * Ten percent of fireworks fires occur during the period from December 30 through January 3, with the peak on New Year's Day.

Source: NFPA's "Fireworks" report

Mr. Robert Weer,
Fire Marshal

London Grove Township
372 Rose Hill Road, Suite 100
West Grove, PA 19390
610-345-0100



Avon Grove Library

Avon Grove Library Plans December Programs for All Ages and Interests

West Grove, Pa., – From daily Storytime's 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 this December. The website www.avongrovelibrary.org will have updates and additions.

Please note that there will be no Storytime's or programs the week of December 24 – January 1. Happy holidays!

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. and Friday at 10 a.m.
- **Bilingual Storytime** is held Thursdays at 10 a.m. Participants will have the opportunity to hear stories and songs in both English and Spanish. The session also includes a craft and open playtime. This Storytime is open to all ages and no previous experience with



Spanish or English is necessary.

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



- **Pets and Friends Storytime**, a 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., including stories, crafts and playtime fun with the cats that are up for adoption. Treetops Kitty Café is located at 305 State Street, Kennett Square. Registration and a fee are required. To register and for more information, visit www.treetopskittycafe.com.

- 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 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.
- Families are invited to join our "**Winter Celebration**" at **Books and Breakfast** on Saturday, December 8 at 10 a.m. with fun stories, an opportunity to create themed crafts, and a delicious breakfast.
- **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



Avon Grove Library



of each month 1–2 p.m. Legos, Duplos and/or Mega-Blocks are provided.

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.

- Students in grades 6–12 are invited to participate in **Gingerbread House Building**

on Saturday, December 15.

Teens will use graham crackers, icing and various forms of candy to create their own elaborate gingerbread structures. All materials will be supplied.



- On Saturday, December 15 from 1–5 p.m., Avon Grove Library is partnering with The Princeton Review to offer a free **SAT Practice Test**. Registration is required. Tests will take place in the Community Room. Test-takers should arrive by 12:45 p.m. as the test begins promptly at 1 p.m. Be sure to bring a #2 pencil and a calculator.



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

- **19th Century Christmastide** – Traditional Christmas carols will be performed along with audience sing-alongs at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 8. Families are welcome.

- 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. This month's title is *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng.

- **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. Participants 18 years and older read a book from the YA genre and discuss it with their fellow Young Adults at heart. This month's title is *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik.

- **Sit and Knit** is held on the first and third Monday of each month, 3–4:30 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 em-

broidery 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, which is updated frequently with new programs and details.





Blood Drive

Save a life. Eat a cookie.
(That's a good day.)

LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, February 15, 2019

10:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.

London Grove Township Building

Log on for helpful tips and to reserve your appointment time.

www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation

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

Search by sponsor code: **londongrove** to schedule an appointment.

For Donor Eligibility Guidelines: Call **1-800-REDCROSS**

***Please contact tedra.farrell@redcross.org if you experience issues

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE DIRECTOR

London Grove Township's

2019 Final Budget Approval

On Wednesday evening (November 7, 2018) at the Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved the 2019 Budget. The 2019 Budget is balanced at \$3,517,172.00, this is a slight increase from the 2018 Budget. The Board of Supervisors are happy to announce that the approved 2019 Budget does not have a tax increase. Significant projects for 2019 include; continued equipment replacement, continued roadway management (paving, sealing, striping and signage), the State Road sidewalk project and our MS4 (Stormwater) Program. The complete Budget is available on the London Grove Township website www.londongrove.org.



RECYCLING CORNER BY DAWN MACIEJCZYK

NAUGHTY



Lights



Bows & Ribbons



Toys



Depot Drop-Off ONLY

Batteries



Foil Gift Wrap



Padded Envelopes



Compostables



Electronics

NICE



Eggnog Cartons



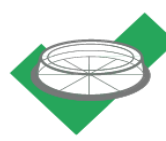
Paper Cups



Shipping Boxes



Cookie Tins



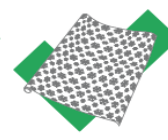
Plastic Trays



Paper Gift Bags



Greeting Cards



Paper Gift Wrap

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. 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!

EDITOR'S NOTE



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