

London Grove Township Gazette

Fall 2021

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Trash & Recycling Day at Southeastern Chester County Refuse Authority (SECCRA)

This is a free event for Township residents only. Residence is defined as any dwelling unit used as a place of human habitation, which is not commercial, municipal, institutional, or a common activity. If you have questions about the Township SECCRA Days please call the Township at 610-345-0100. For items that cannot be recycled at the curbside the event date is October 9, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. SHARP.

May Not Participate

- Businesses
- Commercial Entities
- Landlords
- Non-residents
- Organizations

Accepted Items

- Appliances: refrigerators, washers, dryers, air conditioners, humidifiers, stoves, empty grills
- Electronics: computers, monitors, televisions, stereo equipment, printers, cell phones, DVD players, basically anything that has a circuit board.
- Automobile Tires: limit 4 per load per residence, large batteries, such as those in automobiles or tractors
- Bulky Waste: furniture, mattresses, carpet, doors, windows, etc.
- Residential 20 lb. propane tanks (empty)
- No materials will be accepted from "clean outs" of residences.

When

October 9, 2021- 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. SHARP

Where

SECCRA Community Landfill
219 Street Road
West Grove, PA 19390

Be a Part of Something Bigger! VOLUNTEER!

There is no "I" in team, but there is a "U" in Volunteer!

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!

- Golf Course Advisory Board (2)
- Township Auditors (2)
- Environmental Advisory Council (2)
- Tree Committee (2)
- Historical Commission (3)
- Agricultural Security Area (1)
- Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals (3)

If you would like more information on the Boards and Commissions that have vacancies please contact Dawn Maciejczyk dmaciejczyk@londongrove.org at London Grove Township.

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

- Calendar of Events
- Goddard Park
- Agendas and Minutes
- Newsletters
- Recycling
- And Many More

Water & Sewer News

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

What Makes Your Tap Water Cloudy When Coming From The Faucet?

Why is my drinking water cloudy then clear?

Have you ever gotten a glass of tap water that appears almost milky or cloudy when it first comes out of the tap? You let it sit for a few seconds while you're contemplating what to do and miraculously it clears up. If you experience this, don't panic, it's usually nothing to worry about.

The cloudiness might be caused by the water in the pipes being under a bit more pressure than the water in the glass, but is more likely due to tiny air bubbles in the water. If you fill a glass up with water and leave it sit for a few minutes and the color begins to change, the cloudiness moves from the bottom to the top of the glass and it clears, it means that the discoloration has been caused by excess air. It is completely harmless.

This usually happens when it is very cold outside because the solubility of air in water increases as water pressure increases and/or water temperature decreases. Cold water holds more air than warm water. In the winter, water travels from the reservoir which is very cold and warms up during its travel to your tap. Some of the air that is present is no longer soluble, and comes out of solution.



MS4:

By practicing healthy household habits, residents can limit the pollution dumped into our storm drains, which empty into the waterways. Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks and roads.

Things You Can Do To Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution

- *Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams.
- *Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
- *Compost your yard waste.
- *Use least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems.
- *Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff.
- *Pick up after your pet.



WE'RE ALL
IN THIS
Together



London Grove Township Blood Drive

Thursday, September 23, 2021

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

London Grove Township Building

www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation

For helpful tips and to reserve your appointment time click the link above. Search for 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.



**London Grove Township Building
372 Rose Hill Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-345-0100**



Fire Marshal News

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Learn the SOUNDS of Fire Safety

Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm? What does it all mean? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family! Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and knows how to respond. Learn the sounds of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms by checking the user guide or search the brand and model online.

What is your alarm telling you?

SMOKE ALARMS

- A continued set of three loud beeps-beep, beep, beep- means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out.
- A single "chirp" every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARMS

- A continuous set of four loud beeps- beep, beep, beep, beep- means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call 9-1-1 and stay out!
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- CO alarms also have "end of life" sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it's time to get a new CO alarm.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

For more information visit www.nfpa.org

Fire Safety Prevention Week October 3-October 9, 2021

"Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety"

Hear a Beep, Get On Your Feet!

(Get out, stay out! Call 9-1-1 from outside.)

Hear a Chirp, Make a Change!

(A chirping alarm needs attention. Replace the batteries or the entire unit if it's over 10 years old. If you don't remember how old the unit is replace it!)

Make sure your smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of everyone in your home, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

Some Tips:

- ✓ Install a bedside alert device that responds to the sound of the smoke and CO alarms. Use of a low frequency alarm can also wake a sleeping person with mild to severe hearing loss.
- ✓ Sleep with your mobility device, glasses, and phone close to your bed.
- ✓ Keep pathways like hallways lit with night lights and free from clutter to make sure everyone can get out safely.



Community Risk Reduction Program

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Halloween Safety Tips

(www.kidshealth.org)

From the candy to the costumes, Halloween is a fun-filled time for kids and parents. To help make it a trick-free treat, follow these simple safety tips.

Dressing Your Little Ghouls & Goblins

- Choose a light-colored costume that's easy to see at night. Add reflective tape or glow-in-the-dark tape to the costume to the trick or treat bag.
- Only buy costumes labeled "flame-retardant." This means the material won't burn. If you make your own costume, use nylon or polyester materials, which are flame-retardant.
- Make sure wigs and beards don't cover your kids' eyes, nose, or mouths.
- Masks can make it hard for kids to see and breathe. Instead, try using non-toxic face paint or makeup.
- Don't use colored or decorative contact lenses, unless they're prescribed by a licensed eye doctor.
- Put a nametag-with your phone number-on your children's costumes.
- To prevent falls, avoid oversized and high-heeled shoes. Make sure the rest of the costume fits well too.
- Make sure that any props your kids carry, such as wands or swords, are short and flexible.

Trick-Or-Treating Basics

Kids under age 12 should:

- Always go trick-or-treating with an adult
- Know how to call 911 in case they get lost
- Know their home phone number or your cellphone number if you don't have a landline

Older Kids Who Go Out On Their Own Should:

- Know their planned route and when they'll be coming home
- Carry a cellphone
- Go in a group and stay together
- Only go to houses with porch lights on
- Stay away from candles and other flames
- Know to never go into strangers' homes or cars

For All Kids:

- According to Safe Kids Worldwide, the risk of kids being hit by a car is higher on Halloween than on any other day of the year. So make sure all kids:
- Walk on sidewalks on lit streets (never through alleys or across lawns)
- Walk from house to house (never run) and always walk facing traffic when walking on roads
- Cross the street at crosswalks and never assume that vehicles will stop
- Give kids flashlights with fresh batteries. Kids may also enjoy wearing glow sticks as bracelets or necklaces.

When Kids Get Home:

- Help them check all treats to make sure they're sealed. Throw out candy with torn packages or holes in the packages, spoiled items, and any homemade treats that weren't made by someone you know.
- Don't let young children have hard candy or gum that could cause choking.



Recycle the present, Save the future.

Composting...It's Recycling ...Naturally

By: Penn State: College of Agricultural Sciences

What is composting? - It's when you use natural materials such as grass clippings, food scraps, and leaves all together. The natural process of decay takes place to change the organic materials into a valuable humus-like material called compost.

Composting – Speeding up the natural decay process. A compost pile or bin allows you to control factors to speed up the otherwise slow natural decay process. You control the air (oxygen), water, food and temperature.

Why should we compost yard and kitchen waste? Pennsylvania's goal is to recycle 35% of municipal waste and composting helps! The National Composting Council estimates the average U.S. household generates 650 lbs. of compostable every year. The limited landfill space should be reserved for materials that cannot be recycled or composted. Did you know that garbage handling is the 4th largest expense for many cities? Composting can help reduce those costs. Fun fact... 34% of landfilled waste in Pennsylvania is food and another 30% is paper.

So now the question is what do you need to make compost? You need a composting work crew- decomposers. These are the microbes (mainly bacteria and fungi) that do all the work for you. Food for the decomposers is the organic materials to be composted. You also need the right amount of air, water, and warmth to keep the work crew happy.

Where does your work crew come from? If you build it, they will come! Each of the materials below will add microorganisms to the compost pile.

- Soil
- Leaves
- Food scraps
- Manure, and
- Finished compost

What is the best food for your decomposers? All organic materials will compost, but not all should be added to a backyard compost pile. Organic waste that should be composted include:

- Garden trimmings
- Kitchen scrapes
- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Used potting soil
- Sawdust, and
- Hair

Materials to avoid when composting. Avoid organic materials that could cause problems during and/or after composting.

- Oils, Fats, Grease
- Meat, Fish
- Dairy Products
- Unwashed egg shells
- Hard to kill weeds (bindweed, quack grass)
- Weeds that have gone to seed
- Cat or Dog waste
- Wood ash
- Lime

For more information please visit: chestercountyswa.org/114/Composting---Its-RecyclingNaturally

Parks and Recreation News

By: Toinette Neilson

The Parks and Recreation Board is moving forward with the creation of a seating area surrounded by gardens to memorialize Steve and Marna Goddard. The location will be adjacent to the dog park and community gardens, overlooking the park.



DIGITAL RENDERING OF MEMORIAL SEATING AREA

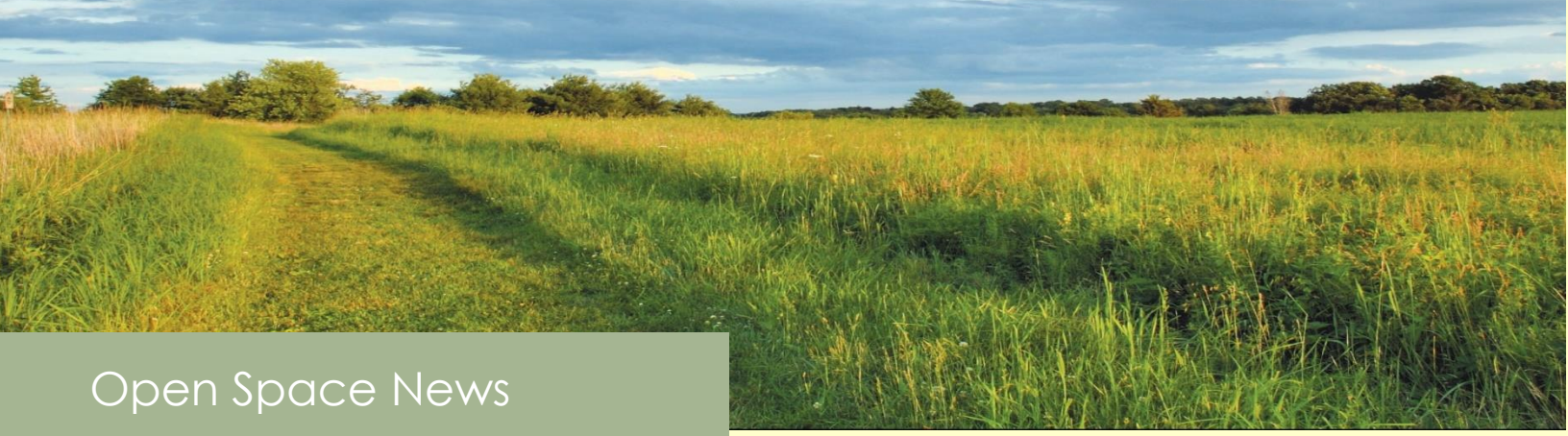
We are so appreciative of the donors who have sent in gifts to the Township so far for this memorial project, and we need your support to get us closer to the goal of \$10,000. By making a gift today in the memory of Steve and Marna, you help us honor their time walking the trails at Goddard Park, and of course their original land parcel donation that began it all. We are so thankful for their vision and generosity to London Grove Township for Goddard Park.

The Parks and Recreation Board would also like to recognize Eric Schott for his years of leadership and service on the Parks and Recreation Board. After 21 years serving on the Board (and several years as the Chairman, a few times!), Eric will be stepping down off the committee in October. He and his wife Ann will be moving out of our Township, and therefore no longer eligible to serve. Our loss!

Eric was there at the beginning, from developing the trail system in the Township, to the lengthy creation of Goddard Park.

For over two decades of work, wisdom, and enthusiasm, we thank you Eric!





Open Space News

By: Stephen Rifici

2020 Protected Open Space Numbers- Continuing to Preserve Chester County

The Chester County Planning Commission tracks and reports the acreage of permanently protected open space within the county each year- including farmland, nature preserves and parks-through its Protected Open Space Tracking System (POST).

While there were many uncertainties throughout 2020, one thing that remained consistent is the county's total of 144,000 acres, or 29.7% of the county's total land protected. More acres were preserved in 2020 than in each of the previous two years, which is a significant accomplishment given the administrative and technological hurdles the pandemic caused.

Of these 2,100 acres, 600 acres on 20 farms were preserved through the county's Agricultural Preservation Program, and land trust partners preserved over 380 acres using conservation easements.

Depending on the size and location, protected open space can add significant value to nearby homes and businesses by providing a healthy amount of outdoor recreational benefits and activities, and by helping local governments and school districts avoid higher costs of services that would otherwise be required if the land was developed. Protected open space also promotes naturally occurring environmental processes-such as flood mitigation and wildlife habitats- that would be costly to replace.

Particular to London Grove, the township has about 28% of its land area preserved. The preserved lands are mostly through conservation easements and about 3% of the land conserved is owned by homeowner associations. The most recent acquisition is the 20 acre parcel referred to as the Blosser Open Space located near the intersection of E. Avondale and Wickerton Roads.

Chester County's protected open space is a testament to the coordinated efforts between county leadership, municipalities/townships, nonprofit partners, local organizations, and many supportive citizens.

The London Grove Open Space Committee meets monthly to discuss topics relevant to preserving land within our township. Interested township residents are welcomed to attend these open meetings that occur on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building.



Avon Grove Library Thrives in Difficult Times

2020 was a year like no other. Dealing with a pandemic meant that Avon Grove Library had to adapt to new realities in order to serve its community. In spite of the challenges, the library staff was able to keep their vision for community transformation at the heart of their work, fulfilling their mission to “foster lifelong learning and deliver enriching experiences” to the best of their ability.

Once the threat of Covid-19 became clear, the library closed its doors to the public from March 13 to July 13. Library staff adapted quickly, providing their first virtual program- a storytime featuring the book *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak- starting only one week after the shutdown began. The library then expanded its online services to include contactless book reservations and pickup, bigger collections of eBooks and other materials, and new virtual programs.

Despite the four-month Covid-19 shutdown, in 2020 Avon Grove Library was among the top libraries in Chester County for total number of programs for children ages birth to 11. Its 376 children’s programs drew 8,400 attendees over the course of the year. The library offered not only virtual storytimes, but also online LEGO club, family trivia nights, and other programs. Staff took pre-existing programs, such as the teen volunteer program and an adult writing workshop, and adapted them to allow for virtual participation. The library was even able to offer its annual Summer Reading Program virtually. Once restrictions began to ease, Avon Grove Library started offering outdoor programs as well as grab-and-go craft projects.

Avon Grove Library re-opened as soon as was safely possible, making sure to protect everyone with Plexiglas barriers, extra cleaning routines, and regular use of masks and hand sanitizer. Patrons and staff expressed their delight at being able to see each other in person again. As Covid-19 vaccines became available and case numbers began to decline, the library continues to expand its outdoor programming to include weekly storytimes at Penn Township Park, an ice cream making workshop, a science program for elementary students, and even the return of its beloved Books and Breakfast event.



Avon Grove Library is more than just a building with books- it is the beating heart of its community, a safe haven where young and old alike can come to read, learn, and meet other people from all walks of life. The following words from a library patron sum up the impact Avon Grove Library had during this unprecedented year.

“The past year has been extremely challenging for almost all of us and there are many, many workers who deserved to be thanked, but I want to recognize one group that has made a difference for me and my family: the staff at the Avon Grove Library. The Library has been a bright spot for us and I want to publicly express my appreciation to the board, staff, and volunteers who make it work even during challenging times.”

As library staff look ahead to the fall and consider emerging safety guidelines, they plan to continue offering many of their current virtual and outdoor programs as well as new ones. No matter what the future has in store, Avon Grove Library will continue to thrive and find creative ways to provide invaluable resources and opportunities to the community it serves.

Area residents can learn more about storytimes, classes and programs at www.avongrovelibrary.org, which is updated frequently with new programs and details.

Enjoy a Safe and Healthy Fall Season (www.nsc.org)

Drive safely as it gets DARKER- Daylight Savings Time ends every year on the first Sunday in November. This means it starts to get darker earlier. As we set our clocks backwards by one hour in most areas of the country, here are some tips for driving at night.

As we “Fall Back” to shorter Days, Take Extra Care on the Road- shorter days, fatigue, compromised night vision, rush hour and impaired drivers are some of the risks we face when driving at night. These risks become especially pronounced moving into the weekend, with fatal crashes peaking on Saturday nights, according to NSC analysis of NHTSA data. When Daylight Savings Time ends- for 2019, that was 2:00 a.m. Sunday, November 3- many people found themselves spending more time driving in the dark. Depth perception, color recognition and peripheral vision can be compromised in the dark, and the glare of headlights from an oncoming vehicle can temporarily blind a driver. Even with high-beam headlights on, visibility is limited to about 500 feet (250 feet for normal headlights) creating less time to react to something in the road, especially when driving at higher speeds.

What should you do to combat darkness?

- Aim your headlights correctly, and make sure they're clean.
- Dim your dashboard
- Look away from oncoming lights
- If you wear glasses, make sure they're anti-reflective
- Clean the windshield to eliminate streaks
- Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping time.



Township Departments and Staff

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

London Grove Township consist of many different departments, buildings and staff to keep day to day operations running smoothly. Below is a breakdown of the buildings, hours of operation, contact information and staff.

Administration Building:

The Administration Building is located at 372 Rose Hill Road, West Grove, PA 19390. Hours of Operation are from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Main Phone Number is 610-345-0100, Fax Number is 610-345-0455. The office staff consist of 3 main departments, Administration Department, Codes Department and Finance Department.

Public Works Building:

The Public Works Building is located at 374 Rose Hill Road, West Grove, PA 19390. Hours of Operation are from 6:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Main Phone Number is 610-345-0100, Fax Number is 610-345-0455.

Inniscrone Golf Course:

The Inniscrone Golf Course is located at 15 Athelone Way, Avondale, PA 19311. Hours of Operation are from 6:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Sunday- Saturday (7 days a week). Main Phone Number is 484-577-2700.

Administration Department:

Township Manager, Ken Battin
Township Assistant Manager, Robert Weer
Office Manager/Township Secretary, Dawn Maciejczyk

Codes Department:

Building Code Official, Latta White
Fire Marshal, Robert Weer
Codes Administrative Assistant: Tracy Kellett

Finance Department:

Finance/HR Director, Jacqui Guenther
Utility Billing, Linda Dowdy
Accounts Payable, Tracy Kellett

Public Works Building:

Public Works Director, Shane Kinsey
Public Works Foreman, Nate Hughes
Water, Wastewater Operator, Richard Mattson
Laborer, Joey Swift
Laborer, JT Harvey
Laborer, Ryan Yerkes
Laborer, Mike Hughes
Laborer, Joe Zdun

Inniscrone Golf Club:

Director of Golf Club, Thomas Bolko
Golf Club Manager, Amy McLaughlin
Guest Services Manager, Kelly Quinn
Pro Shop Manager, Jesse Connors

2021 Public Meeting Schedule

Most meetings are being conducted in-person with Covid-19 precautions in place. We ask that you wear a mask and practice social distancing. If the meeting is being held virtually, via Zoom, we will announce it as Zoom meeting on the calendar on our website. Please email admin@londongrove.org for the link or phone # to attend.

- Municipal Authority Board Meetings- 1st Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
- Board of Supervisors Meetings- 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- Open Space Committee Meetings- 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Meetings- 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meetings- Last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- Zoning Hearing Board Meetings- As Necessary.

All meetings will happen on the day above as listed unless it is a holiday or other announcements have been made. All meetings are listed on the Township Website Calendar.



Inniscrone Golf Club

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT AT INNISCRONE GOLF CLUB

Championship Golf Conditions

Casual Private Banquet Space

Variety of Delicious Menu Options

Outstanding Customer Service

All at Affordable Pricing

Host your next event with us- so you, your friends and family can enjoy your special event to the fullest.

Golf Outings

Baby Showers

Birthday Parties

Charity Events

Anniversary's

Bridal Showers

Holiday Parties

Corporate Meetings

Graduation Parties

Baptism Celebrations

Brunches & Luncheons

Communion Celebrations

www.inniscronegolfclub.com

484-720-8442

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

