



Winter 2015

# CHARLESTOWN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

4030 Whitehorse Road, Devault, PA 19432 - (610) 240-0326 phone (610) 240-0328 fax

*Published by the Board of Supervisors:*

*Kevin R. Kuhn • Charles A. Philips • Frank A. Piliero • Michael J. Rodgers • Hugh D. Willig*

## *New! Announcing the Publication of the 2014 Annual Report*

The Supervisors have prepared a comprehensive Annual Report outlining the accomplishments of the various boards, commissions, committees and personnel for the previous year along with various details and statistics about Charlestown. The report is a summary of the municipal activity occurring in the Township during 2014. Its purpose is to highlight township accomplishments and noteworthy events during the past year. The full 25 page report is available to you on the Township Website, [www.charlestown.pa.us](http://www.charlestown.pa.us) or upon request to the Township Office. It can be picked up at the office, mailed, or emailed to you as outlined below.

### CHARLESTOWN TOWNSHIP

### 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



### ACCOMPLISHMENTS & NOTABLE EVENTS

Published by the Board of Supervisors:

Frank A. Piliero, Chairman	<a href="mailto:fpiliero@charlestown.pa.us">fpiliero@charlestown.pa.us</a>
Michael J. Rodgers, Vice Chair	<a href="mailto:mrodgers@charlestown.pa.us">mrodgers@charlestown.pa.us</a>
Kevin R. Kuhn, Member	<a href="mailto:kkuhn@charlestown.pa.us">kkuhn@charlestown.pa.us</a>
Charles A. Philips, Member	<a href="mailto:cphilips@charlestown.pa.us">cphilips@charlestown.pa.us</a>
Hugh D. Willig, Member	<a href="mailto:hwillig@charlestown.pa.us">hwillig@charlestown.pa.us</a>
Linda M. Csete, Township Manager	<a href="mailto:manager@charlestown.pa.us">manager@charlestown.pa.us</a>

### Highlights include:

- Activities of our Boards & Commissions
- Special Projects and Committees
- Land Development Projects
- Open Space and Trails
- Zoning Hearings
- Legislation
- Budget and Financial Data
- Building & Code Enforcement
- Parks, Open Space & Trails
- Roads & Public Works
- Ecology and Recycling
- Public Safety
- Other Municipal Services

### *How to View or Obtain a Copy of our Annual Report:*

1. View it on our website: [www.charlestown.pa.us](http://www.charlestown.pa.us)
2. By email: request a copy at: [manager@charlestown.pa.us](mailto:manager@charlestown.pa.us)
3. By regular mail: call the Township office at (610) 240-0236
4. Visit the Township Office: 4030 Whitehorse Road, Devault PA between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. to view or pick up a copy.

# SAVE THE DATE - CHARLESTOWN DAY 2015

**October 3, 2015 at Charlestown Park**

The Charlestown Township Parks and Recreation announces **Charlestown Day 2015 will be held October 3, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Charlestown Park.** This will be a great opportunity for the community to join together for a day of wellness, community spirit and to enjoy the beauty of our township and neighbors.

The day will kick off with a **5k run/walk** around beautiful Charlestown Township. The run is geared to runners of all ages and will go through the beautiful rural countryside of Charlestown Township. There will also be a **1 mile fun run/walk** which will go through the township park. A **Kids Dash** will take place after the 5k. Prizes will be awarded for all 3 events by age group.

**Charlestown Day 2015** activities will include many vendors displaying their goods, local non-profit organizations, music, food, Kid Zone activities and demonstrations.

How can you help? We are currently looking for:

1. **Volunteers** to help plan and run the 5K and Charlestown Day events.
2. **Vendors** to show off their wares
3. **Demonstrations** from local schools, clubs, teams, etc. to come and show off your talented students
4. **Sponsorship** from companies/individuals



Please follow us on our **Facebook page** ([www.facebook.com/CharlestownDay](http://www.facebook.com/CharlestownDay)) and visit our website [www.CharlestownDay.org](http://www.CharlestownDay.org) for updates and announcements.

If you have any questions or want more information please feel free to contact the **Charlestown Day 2015** committee.

**Charlestown Day Chair:** Karen Schlichter  
[Karen@CharlestownDay.org](mailto:Karen@CharlestownDay.org)

**5K/1K/Kids Dash information:** Jen  
[NelsonRun@CharlestownDay.org](mailto:NelsonRun@CharlestownDay.org)

**Sponsorship:** Amy Kokas and Erika Benowitz  
[Sponsorship@CharlestownDay.org](mailto:Sponsorship@CharlestownDay.org)

**Community Day information:** Laura Assayag  
[Info@CharlestownDay.org](mailto:Info@CharlestownDay.org)

## DRAFT COUNTY-WIDE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW



Chester County has recently completed the draft version of our county-wide hazard mitigation plan. The mitigation plan aims to reduce the impacts from future disasters by outlining actions that can be taken now, before the emergency begins. The County is looking for our input and local knowledge to aid them in ensuring that they have covered the concerns of the community in this plan.

The plan is broken into two sections. The first is an overview of the hazards facing the county and the county-wide hazard mitigation actions. The second half focuses on the hazards and mitigation actions specific to each municipality, with two to three pages per municipality. The County has a

draft version of the plan and a comment form available online for your review at [www.ReadyChesco.org](http://www.ReadyChesco.org) as well as hard copies available at the 18 libraries throughout the county. They'll accept comments on the plan through March 1st.

# Summary of the Township Budget 2015

Category	Total of All Funds	General Fund	State Fund	Open Space Fund	Bond Fund
<b>CARRYOVER AND REVENUE:</b>					
Carryover from Previous Year	8,995,920	649,461	100,000	8,100,000	146,459
Real Property Taxes	450,000	450,000			
Local Tax Enabling Act (Act 511) Taxes	3,630,000	430,000		3,200,000	
Business Licenses & Permits	95,120	95,120			
Non-Business Licenses & Permits	5,750	5,750			
Fines & Forfeits	1,500	1,500			
Interest on Investments	2,230	200	25	2,000	5
Rents & Royalties	9,600			9,600	
State Capital & Operating Grants	224,190	76,500	147,690		
Local Govt Units Capital & Operating Grants	121,133	96,133		25,000	
Sale of Fixed Assets	1,250,000			1,250,000	
Charges for Services	5,250	5,250			
Public Safety inc. Building Permit Fees	205,500	205,500			
Culture & Recreation	3,000			3,000	
Applicant Escrow Deposits	153,000	153,000			
Act 209 Traffic Impact Fees	126,000	126,000			
Interfund Transfer	300,000	300,000			
<b>TOTAL: CARRYOVER &amp; REVENUE</b>	<b>15,578,193</b>	<b>2,594,414</b>	<b>247,715</b>	<b>12,589,600</b>	<b>146,464</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>					
Legislative Body	7,800	7,800			
Financial Administration	7,050	7,050			
Tax Collection	4,500	3,500		1,000	
Solicitor/Legal Fees	66,500	66,500			
General Administration	150,871	150,871			
IT & Networking	20,000	20,000			
Engineering Services	51,000	51,000			
General Government Buildings	15,000	15,000			
Fire Protection	343,172	343,172			
Building Code Enforcement	205,500	205,500			
Planning & Zoning	74,500	74,500			
Emergency Management	4,800	4,800			
Other Public Safety	400	400			
Animal Control	3,000	3,000			
Public Works Administration	183,000	183,000			
Cleaning of Streets & Gutters	25,000	25,000			
Winter Maintenance - Snow Removal	307,715	160,000	147,715		
Traffic Control Devices	24,500	24,500			
Traffic Studies	2,000	2,000			
Machinery & Equipment	4,000	4,000			
Road Construction	426,000	426,000			
Parks	849,900	16,700		833,200	
Historical Resources	57,500	5,000		52,500	
Conservation of Natural Resources	3,198,964			3,052,500	146,464
Subdivision & Hearing Expenses	153,000	153,000			
Employer Paid Benefits & Withholding	33,453	33,453			
Insurance, Casualty & Surety	39,000	39,000			
Bonds & Notes	1,093,825			1,093,825	
Transfers	300,000			300,000	
<b>TOTAL: EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>7,651,950</b>	<b>2,024,746</b>	<b>147,715</b>	<b>5,333,025</b>	<b>146,464</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - CARRYOVER TO 2016</b>	<b>7,926,243</b>	<b>569,668</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>7,256,575</b>	

## Trail Walks and Activities

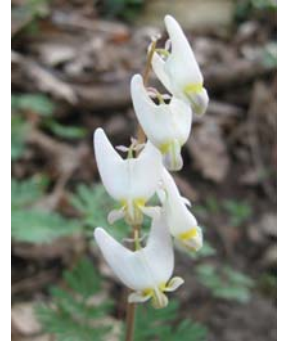
### Winter on the Trails:

Cross Country Skiing at Brightside: Only if we have enough snow – 6” plus. Come try cross country skiing at Brightside. Parking will be limited – park near the Barn; but please allow room for the residents of the farmhouse to pass. This is a first! We count on you all to use our beautiful township farm with respect and love! If you have questions, contact Alix Coleman, Farm Manager, [alixc@verizon.net](mailto:alixc@verizon.net); 610-827-1577

### It's Spring!

**Sunday, April 12, 1:00 p.m.** Wildflower Walk on the Pickering Trail

This should be a good time to look for those woodland flowers that only show their faces early in the spring. We'll walk along the Pickering Creek and listen to the water while looking for Dutchman's Breeches, Trout Lilies, and Wood Phlox. If you have a wildflower guide, bring it along to help us identify other flowers we find. We'll meet at the Charlestown Woolen Mill on the West side of Charlestown Road, where the road crosses the Pickering Creek. If you have questions contact Esther Underhill, [underwalt@aol.com](mailto:underwalt@aol.com), 610-827-7776 (484-716-9036 day of walk)



*At Right: Dutchman's Breeches (Dicentra cucullaria)*



**Sunday, May 3, 8:00 a.m.** Bird walk on the Pickering Trail

Meet at the Charlestown Woolen Mill. Join us to see how many warbler species we can find! Target birds include both Louisiana and Northern Waterthrush, Black and White Warbler, Northern Parula and Black Throated Green Warbler. If you have questions contact Lisa Tull, [lisajtull@gmail.com](mailto:lisajtull@gmail.com), 610-608-4353

*At left: Black and White Warbler*

**Sunday, May 24, 8:00 a.m.** Nature walk on the Thompson Trail.

Meet at the Nature Center Parking lot. This will be a treasure hunt! Our first birdwalk on this new and beautiful trail! Target birds include Field Sparrow, Willow and Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Orchard Oriole, Gray Catbird and Blackpoll Warbler – and maybe a surprise? Who knows!

**Trail Work Days: Saturday, June 13, 9:00 to 12:00 and Saturday, July 11, 9:00 to 12:00**

We have two days scheduled for work at Brightside Farm and the Pickering Trail. We will do mostly invasive plant removal. There will be mile-a-minute vine removal, perhaps some woody vine removal and trimming. Wear long sleeves and pants, and heavy gloves, in case of stickers and poison ivy. Wear a hat and sunscreen. Bring loppers, clippers, and water. Someone will be at both locations from 9:00 to 12:00. You can get a lot done in a half hour, so come when you can.

At Brightside: Park by the community gardens and enter on the trail between the house and the gardens.

At the Pickering Trail: Park at the Woolen Mill on Charlestown Road or across Charlestown Road on the shoulder. Follow the trail until you find one of us. We'll have plenty to do!

Check the township web site, <http://www.charlestown.pa.us> for future dates and time.

# Charlestown Township Directory 2015

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:** Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each Month, 7:30 P.M., at the Great Valley Middle School

Frank A. Piliero, Chairman	fpiliero@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 458-1090
Michael J. Rodgers, Vice Chairman	mrodgers@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 827-7817
Kevin R. Kuhn, Member	kkuhn@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 917-9960
Charles A. Philips, Member	cphilips@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 933-4154
Hugh D. Willig, Member	hwillig@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 935-3539

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Linda M. Csete, Manager/Secretary-Treasurer	<a href="mailto:manager@charlestown.pa.us">manager@charlestown.pa.us</a>	(610) 240-0326
Jan C. Bird, Assistant Township Secretary	admin2@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 240-0326
Lisa Gardner, Recording Secretary		(610) 240-0326

**BUILDING INSPECTOR/BUILDING CODE OFFICIAL**

Anthony Merklinger	amerklinger@conerstoneis.comcast.biz.net	(610) 451-5200
--------------------	--	----------------

**PROPERTY & PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATOR (Including Fire Marshal, Emergency Management, Parks & Property Coordinator):**

Timothy J. Hubbard	thubbard@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 614-6119
--------------------	----------------------------	----------------

**ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Roadmaster/Project Manager : Jim Thompson	publicworks@charlestown.pa.us	(610) 656-9315
---	-------------------------------	----------------

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER/ZONING OFFICER**

Daniel T. Wright, P.E.	dwright@advancedgeoservices.com	(610) 840-9100
------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------

**OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:**

*Pennsylvania State Police (610) 486-6280*

*PennDOT Maintenance for State Roads (484) 340-3200*

*SPCA (610) 692-6113*

**Taxes:**

*For Township & County: Chester County Treasurer (610) 344-6370*

*For Great Valley School District (610) 889-2125*

**Dead Deer:**

*Along State Roads: Call PennDOT at (610) 340-3201*

*Along Township Roads: Call the PA Game Commission at (610) 926-1966*

# COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT

*Co-Sponsored by*

*Schuylkill Township, Borough of Phoenixville, Charlestown Township and East Pikeland Township*

Protect yourself from identity theft by shredding confidential and unwanted documents at this **FREE** community shred event.

Paper clips, staples, and report covers are okay but please **do not bring** plastic, 3-ring binders, binder clips, metal or electronics of any kind.

Date: Saturday May 2, 2015

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. sharp

*(or until truck is full)*

*Rain or Shine*



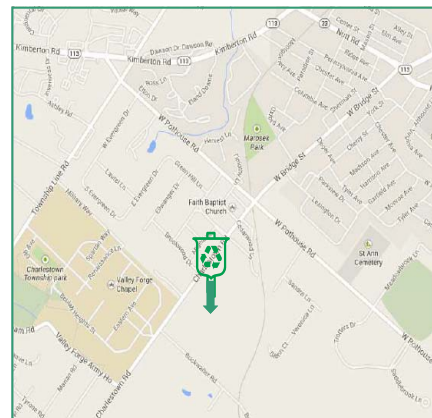
*at the* CCIU Technical College High School Campus  
*(formerly CAT Pickering Vo-Tech)*  
1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville

**FOR RESIDENTS OF PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES ONLY  
LIMIT OF 4 STANDARD FILE BOXES PER VEHICLE  
NO COMMERCIAL SHREDDING WILL BE ACCEPTED**

*Shredding will be provided by PROSHRED™, a locally owned and operated company based in Paoli.*

## **Location Details:**

CCIU Technical College High School Campus  
(formerly CAT Pickering Vo-Tech Campus)  
1580 Charlestown Road  
Phoenixville, PA



# 2015 Chester County Household Hazardous Waste Events Tentative Schedule

Charlestown Township is a 2015 Participant in the Chester County Hazardous Household Waste Event Program. Bring unwanted hazardous household, automotive products, home maintenance, and lawn and pest control products to the next Collection event. There are six events as listed below.

## Tentative Schedule of 2015 Drop-off Dates & Locations: (all 9 AM - 3 PM)

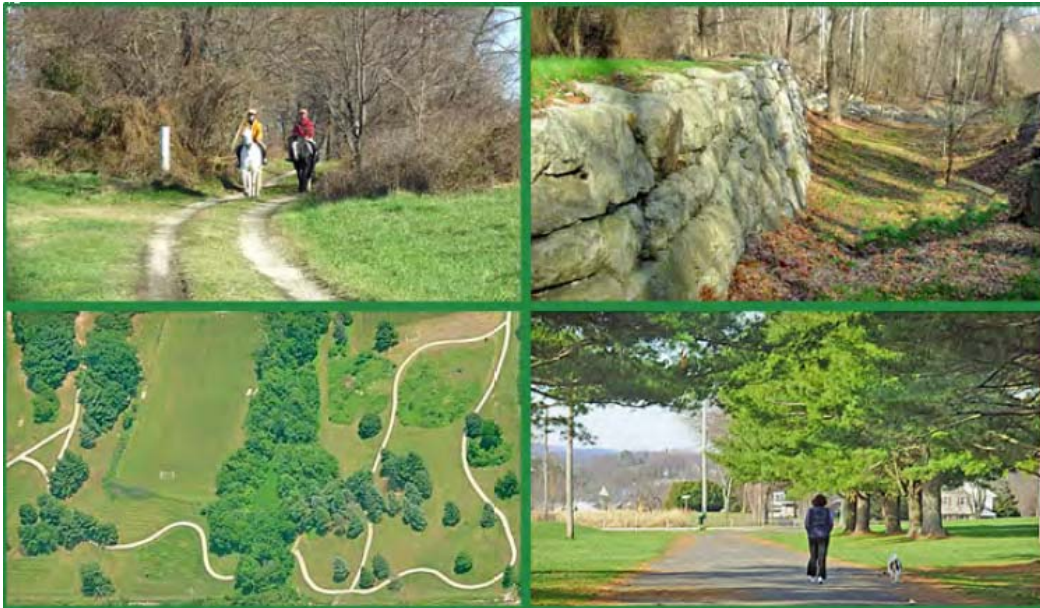
<p>Saturday, April 11, 2015 <b>CAT Pickering Campus</b> 1580 Charlestown Road Phoenixville, PA 19460</p> <p>Saturday, April 25, 2015 <b>Octorara High School</b> 226 Highland Road Atglen, PA 19310 <i>(Proof of County Residency May be Required)</i></p> <p>Saturday, May 16, 2015 <b>Owen J. Roberts Middle School</b> 981 Ridge Road Pottstown, PA 19465</p> <p><b>Friday, June 26, 2015</b> <b>Coatesville Learning Center</b> 1425 East Lincoln Highway Coatesville, PA 19320 <i>(same entrance as CAT Brandywine- Rt. 30 across from Dairy Queen)</i></p> <p>Saturday, Sept. 12, 2015 <b>New Garden Township Maintenance Building</b> 8934 Gap Newport Road (Rt 41) Landenberg, PA 19350 <i>(Proof of County Residency May be Required)</i></p> <p>Saturday, October 10, 2015 <b>Government Services Center</b> 601 Westtown Rd West Chester, PA 19380</p>	<p><b><u>General Instructions:</u></b></p> <p><u>This is an event for residents only: businesses and contractors will be turned away.</u> Do not mix Materials. Bring all substances in original containers with labels. Items must be identifiable. Tighten lids on all containers. If containers are leaking, pack in larger container with newspaper to soak up leaks.</p> <p>Maximum Amount Accepted: 25 gallons or 220 lbs. No metal drums or Freon appliances.</p> <p>Please take your cardboard boxes home to recycle at the curb.</p> <hr/> <p><b><u>Acceptable E-Waste:</u></b> * <b>Please note:</b> At the time of publication of this newsletter, a location for E-Waste Drop-off has <b>not been confirmed.</b></p> <p>CPU's/Laptop Computers Monitors Printers Copiers (desktops and stand-alone) CRT Televisions and Non-CRT Answering Machines Camcorders Cell Phones Docking Stations Electric Typewriters Fax/Copy Machines/Duplicators Microwaves Radios Pagers Remote controls/Gaming Consoles Stereo/Tape/CD Players Telephones and Equipment Toner/Ink Cartridges VCR/DVD Players Testing Equipment</p>	<p><b><u>Not Acceptable:</u></b></p> <p>Tires Latex Paint Trash Infectious or Medical Waste Pressurized CFCs or HCFCs Alkaline Batteries Fire Extinguishers Appliances with Freon Propane or Helium Tanks Explosives &amp; Ammunition Appliances Asbestos Radioactive Waste Gas Cylinders 50 Gallon Drums</p>
---	---	---

For More Details, Go to [www.chestercountyswa.org](http://www.chestercountyswa.org)

# Charlestown Park Improvements starting in 2015

- by Chris Lawrence, Parks & Recreation Board Chairman

Regular physical activity is important in maintaining health for people of all ages. Having a place to exercise is just as important, and with organized youth team sports, walking, running, gardening, bird watching, and even skiing, Charlestown Township has wonderful resources for doing just that! In 2014 we preserved more open space and added the new Thompson Trail, began an investigation into the possible future uses of the not-in-service Devault train line for public purposes, and held a very successful Charlestown Community Day and 5k run.



In 2015, Charlestown Park will begin some long-planned improvements, starting on the north side near the entrance off of Township Line Road. First, parking will be expanded to improve access to the park, without cutting into any existing park space. While this work is going on, the pavilions and the playground equipment will be rebuilt to be both safer and more attractive.

Once this work is completed, the next step of the project will commence. The details are not yet finalized, but should include improvements to the buildings already present at the park, along with the addition of bathroom facilities and improvements to at least one of the park's sports fields.

Smaller projects will be ongoing through the year as well – replacing old picnic benches, fixing the bridge over the stream on the west side of the park, and adding historic and environmental education signs to the nature trail area.

The 2012 township-wide survey of outdoor recreation resulted in the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Plan, found here: [http://www.charlestown.pa.us/misc\\_docs/2012\\_parks\\_plan.pdf](http://www.charlestown.pa.us/misc_docs/2012_parks_plan.pdf). The Charlestown Township Supervisors will continue working alongside PMYC, the Phoenixville Soccer Club, park users and township residents during this process.

If you have any suggestions or questions regarding the project or are interested in volunteering, please contact Chris Lawrence, the Township Parks and Recreation Board Chairman at [river\\_wind@mac.com](mailto:river_wind@mac.com). Alternately, feel free to attend one of the public Parks meetings, held the third Thursday of the month at 7:30PM in the Great Valley Middle School (room 154).





# Snow Reminders

The first objective is to have the roadways open for emergency vehicles. This is basically one lane with anti-skid and road salt applied only to areas that require extra traction such as hills and major

Intersections. The other roads are then opened. After the snow has ended, the cleanup begins, that is, trying to get the roadways opened "curb-to-curb" and clearing snow and ice from the intersections, fire hydrants, storm water drains and inlets. We ask for your continued patience and understanding during these snow events.

When a plow operator is pushing back the snow and slush from a roadway, the plow must be run at a speed that throws the snow and slush off the road and over what has previously been plowed. This precludes the plow operator from stopping at each driveway and mailbox. If a plow is lifted at a driveway or mailbox, all of the snow and ice in the plow would be dropped on the road causing additional problems.

We ask for your cooperation in the following ways:

**Driveways:** When you or your contractor removes snow from your property, please make sure that the snow is not left on the roadway. Remind your contractors if you see them do this that this is against State Law. To avoid frustration, don't shovel or plow the end of your driveway until the road is cleared.

**Plants:** Please make sure plants on your property won't bend over and block the roadway during ice and snow events. Please trim your shrubbery in order to improve the sight distance and general safety along your section of the roadway.

**Park Cars off the Street:** By removing your car from the street, plowing can be done most efficiently and prevents the car from being plowed in. It also protects the car from being splashed with slush and salt.

**Trash Containers:** Please don't put trash containers in the road if a storm is forecast, during a storm or until snow removal operations are completed.

**Neighborhood:** Kindly check on your neighbors who live alone. If you're able, clear the snow around any fire hydrant on your property to save valuable time in an emergency.

**Contact Us to Report Unsafe Conditions:** Our Roadmaster, Jim Thompson is generally available via cell phone at 610-656-9315. During office hours, problems can also be reported to the Township office at 610-240-0326.

## Which Roads in Charlestown are State Roads?

For Maintenance Issues on State Roads listed below, call the PennDOT maintenance number at 484-340-3200.

Bodine Road Charlestown Road Church Road Coldstream Road Conestoga Rd (Rt. 401) Foster Road	Hollow Road Merlin Road Morehall Rd (Rt. 29) Newcomen Road Phoenixville Pike Pickering Dam Road	Pikeland Road Seven Oaks Road State Road (Rt. 29) Valley Hill Rd (East of Rt. 401) Whitehorse Road	Yellow Springs Road (north of Hollow Rd)  Yellow Springs Rd (east of Morehall/Rt. 29)
--	--	--	---



## ***Earth Day Tentatively Scheduled for April 18<sup>TH</sup> Charlestown Township Seeks Volunteers for Tenth Annual Spring Roadside Clean-up***

The Township has sponsored an Earth Day clean up event for the past 9 years and will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this program in 2015. We continue to be pleased at the increased participation we see each year. So again, this April the Board of Supervisors seeks volunteers to help organize and undertake a clean-up of the township roads and open space areas on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of April 25<sup>th</sup>.

We would love to have involvement from the business community, homeowners' associations, Scouts and other organizations, either in the form of providing volunteers or offering sponsorship. Safer, off-road tasks can be planned for younger children.

The Township will provide trash bags, gloves, and safety vests for volunteers. Filled bags may be left at the side of the road for the Township and PennDOT crews to pick up later. Volunteers start from the Township office fortified with a continental breakfast before going out onto the roads.



If you are not available on April 18<sup>th</sup> but still wish to participate on a different day, contact the Township Office to obtain supplies and safety instructions. **Call or e-mail Linda Csete at the Township office if you'd like to participate: (610) 240-0326 or [manager@charlestown.pa.us](mailto:manager@charlestown.pa.us)**

## ***Tax Information for 2015***

Real Estate Taxes: The millage rate for real estate taxes is .75 (3/4) mills, unchanged for TWELVE YEARS.

Your real estate taxes for 2015 will be collected by the Chester County Treasurer Department.

Tax bills are mailed the week of February 1<sup>st</sup> to the property owner's address of record. For questions, call the County Treasurer's office at 610-344-6370 or email them at [TreasurerDept@chesco.org](mailto:TreasurerDept@chesco.org).

*Important Note! If your address is incorrect, you are the only one authorized to correct it by sending a letter to: Chester County Assessment Office, P.O. Box 2748, West Chester, PA 19380-0991*

Earned Income Tax and Local Services Tax: Both collected by the Keystone Collections Group.

Charlestown Township's Earned Income Tax is 1% for residents. The rate for non-residents is ½%.

The Local Services Tax is \$52.00 per year, deducted by your Charlestown Township employer. Persons earning under \$12,000 per year are exempt from this tax.

Employers throughout Chester County are required to withhold all earned income and local services taxes quarterly. Forms and instructions, including e-filing, can be found at [www.keystonecollects.com](http://www.keystonecollects.com).

If you have questions regarding local tax filing, call Keystone's **Taxpayer Helpline** at 1-888-328-0565. You can also email your questions to "Taxpayer Support" at [www.KeystoneCollects.com](http://www.KeystoneCollects.com).

### Historical Commission

A subcommittee including members of the Historical Commission, Board of Supervisors and township staff is working with consultants at Interpretative Solutions to design a series of panels to be installed at the Charlestown (Woolen) Mill that will allow for visitors to enjoy a self-guided tour to learn more about this fascinating structure and its role throughout Charlestown’s history. Richard Frunzi’s ongoing work to re-install the surviving equipment at the Mill is nearly complete and will add interest to the tour.

### Yellow Springs Road Bridge

The PA Turnpike’s bridge replacement project is in the final design stage and is anticipated to be under construction in Spring 2016, going out to bid this fall. It will be realigned with a longer sweeping curve. Hiker, biker and equestrian movements will be on the western shoulder. Work is expected to last 8 months with completion in Fall 2016 and will require construction of a stormwater basin.

### Brightside Farm

The Community Gardens at Brightside continue to be extremely popular with our residents. If you would like to be placed on the waiting list for the 2015 season, contact the Garden managers: Sid and Marguerite Buck at [garden@charlestown.org](mailto:garden@charlestown.org)

### Roads

We welcome your help with road safety concerns. Please contact us if you see a hazardous road condition, particularly during winter weather events.

Call the Roadmaster, Jim Thompson, at (610) 656-9315, the Township Office (610-240-0326) or email [admin2@charlestown.pa.us](mailto:admin2@charlestown.pa.us) to report any problems.

### Website - [www.charlestown.pa.us](http://www.charlestown.pa.us)

Keep our official township website in mind when you have questions about permitting, ordinances, public safety matters, or to keep current by reading the meeting minutes from our Supervisors, Planning Commission, Historical Commission and Parks & Recreation Board. The **complete 2015 budget** is now available to review. We constantly update our website and welcome any comments and suggestions.

If you’d like to be notified when items are posted to the Website, sign up by clicking on the link in the center of the homepage. Updates are typically emailed to participants once a week. We currently have over 150 people signed up and would like to add you to our list!

### Recycling

Now is a good time to prepare for our Spring Recycling events. Check out the details in this newsletter for Chester County’s Household Hazardous Waste events in April – May - June and our multi-municipal shredding event on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Planning Commission

The Planning Commission is holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual strategic planning session on February 7<sup>th</sup> to identify items to be considered in the coming year. Preliminary work is now underway to update the Comprehensive Plan in 2015. The Township will seek a Visions Partnership Grant from the County, which, if approved, would cover the majority of the cost.

### Parks & Recreation Board

In recent years, the Parks & Rec Board, along with its Trail Subcommittee, has been very fortunate to have the help of scout troops on various projects at Charlestown Park, Brightside Farm and along our many trails. If you are involved with a youth group that would like to participate, please contact us and we’ll refer you to the right person to work with.

## *Charlestown Township Meeting Schedule*

Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. Call the Township Office if you'd like to confirm a particular meeting. (610) 240-0326. Any changes are advertised in the Daily Local News.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Board of Supervisors</b> Great Valley Middle School, Room 154 255 N. Phoenixville Pike, Malvern, PA, 7:30 p.m.	5	2	2	6	4	1	6	3	1	5	2	7
<b>Planning Commission</b> Great Valley Middle School, Room 154 255 N. Phoenixville Pike, Malvern, PA, 7:30 p.m.	13	10	10	14	12	9	14	11	8	13	10	8
<b>Historical Commission</b> Great Valley Middle School Guidance Office 255 N. Phoenixville Pike, Malvern, PA, 4:00 p.m.	20		17		19		21		15		17	
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Board</b> Great Valley Middle School, Room 154 255 N. Phoenixville Pike, Malvern, PA, 7:30 p.m.	15	19	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	17

**Charlestown Township**  
**P.O. Box 507**  
**Devault, PA 19432**