



## *Topics of Interest in London Britain Township:*

### *How to Finance Road Repair and Special Events Permits*

If you haven't made it to a London Britain Township Board of Supervisors meeting this year, you may not know what's being discussed and what new ordinances were enacted that could affect you. Highlighted below are two of the topics being discussed. Remember the Board of Supervisors meets the second and fourth Mondays of most months. Visit the Township's website regularly for meeting dates, approved meeting minutes and important notices. Also meeting agendas are posted on the Township website by noon on meeting days.

#### ***New Special Events***

#### ***Ordinance Enacted***

LBT's Supervisors signed a Special Events Ordinance at the May 23, 2016 Board meeting. This ordinance is designed to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community in regard to events where 50 or more people are expected to attend. The ordinance encompasses both private and public properties.

The purpose of obtaining a permit is to ensure the special event is properly coordinated with respect to access/egress, sanitation, parking, safety, crowd control and any other requirements necessary for the welfare of participants and the general public.

Highlights of the ordinance include:

- Yard Sales (expected less than 50 people), events with previous contracts at Township parks and religious events (of less than 100 people) on private property are exempt from filing an application.
- From Sunday through Thursday all special events can not start prior to 7 am and must conclude by 9:30 pm. On Fridays and Saturdays Special Events can not start prior to 7 am and must end by 11 pm.
- Permits are limited to 14 per year for each tax parcel.
- Applications must be filed at least 30 days prior to event.
- Fines for not obtaining a Special

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#### ***Financing Road Repairs***

Each year, the list of roads that require major repairs exceeds the township's budget for this work. The Board of Supervisors of London Britain Township will be developing a comprehensive list of road repairs/improvements that should be addressed in the next five years and will discuss how to finance the work. The Board is looking for your input in identifying the list of work needed on the various roads and on the option of raising Township Real Estate Taxes to finance the road improvements.

Please consider attending the regular scheduled meetings of the Board of Supervisors of London Britain Township on the second Monday of each month at 7 pm to participate in the discussions.

The Township receives an annual allocation of Liquid Fuels Tax funds from the Commonwealth's Motor License Fund based on ratios of mileage and population. In 2016, the Township received \$134,274 of Liquid Fuels Tax funds and \$53,800 in State Road Turnback payments. The Township also allocated \$426,053 of 2016 Real Estate Taxes (38 percent) to be used on roads for which the Township is legally responsible.

The expenditures of these funds include:

• Construction, reconstruction, major repair of public roads	\$197,000**
• Routine & storm maintenance of roads; signage and lane marking	\$55,000
• Salt and rental of snow removal equipment	\$60,000
• Purchase of major equipment - truck	\$30,000
• Equipment maintenance, repairs, and fuel	\$ 43,000
• Wages/benefit costs of employees performing work on municipal roads and snow removal, road related building expenses, engineering fees and other admin	\$233,053

\*\*2016 Major repairs of roads will be: mill and patching the remainder of Good Hope Road, overlay of Strickersville Road from Rte 896 to Flint Hill Road, and double chip seal of Chambers Rock Road and the section of Good Hope Road that was patched in 2015. The road repairs that could not be addressed due to the budgetary restraints include Elbow Lane, London Tract Road, and several subdivision roads.

#### ***Free Electronics Recycling***

SECCRA Landfill, 219 Street Road (Route 926), West Grove is accepting TV's, computers and other electronics and appliances at the landfill for FREE until December 2016. There is a three (3) unit limit per vehicle. A complete computer system is considered one unit. All items must be intact and no disassembled items will be accepted.

Residents must be able to unload their own items. Items must be put on the appropriate pallet or in the labeled gaylord box. Appliances that are mostly metal should be disposed in the metals container for recycling.

## ***Septic Tank Pumping: a Property Owner's Responsibility***

### **SEND IN YOUR RECEIPTS**

Residents with on lot sewage disposal, which are most township properties, are required to pump at least every three years. If your property was last pumped in 2012 it was due for pumping in 2015. If your property was last pumped in 2013 it is due for pumping in 2016.

Some properties in the Township require pumping more frequently than every three years. These property owners should have their systems pumped and file the paperwork with the Township on their timetable.

Do not ignore this legal obligation of property ownership. Or assume the septic pumping company will automatically send notice to the Township. If your pumping company states they will send in the receipt, please follow-up with a call to the Township Office (610-255-0388) or email carolyn.londonbritaintwp@comcast.net to see if it was received.

This year many residents received warning notices from the Township attorney as an absolute final notice prior to court action for not sending their pump receipts to the Township Office.

Many of those who received the warning had previously pumped their systems but had not sent their receipt. Many also relied on the septic pumping companies to forward the receipt to the Township and it was not forwarded.

To avoid receiving notices, please send a copy of the receipt to the Township office each time your system is pumped.

### **The Keystone State:**

**[www.pa.gov](http://www.pa.gov)**

The fastest way to get information about all state-level government services is through the state's web portal at **[www.pa.gov](http://www.pa.gov)**.

There are links to all agencies, boards, courts, and state services, as well as links to the Governor's Office, the PA Senate and the PA House of Representatives.

## **Historic Haunting Returns**

The graveyard at London Tract Meeting House will once again come to life with the Return of the Historic Haunting on Oct. 15.

Learn about those who settled in our Township from the 1700s through to the 1960s and the contributions they made here as you take a nighttime tour of the cemetery. There will also be a Haunted Trail, campfire and Full Moon Night Hike. **Details at FriendsOfPaWCCP.org.**

### **Special Events Ordinance.....**

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Events Permit are \$500 per event plus all associated court, attorney and Township expenses.

The application can be picked up at the Township office. Details required include contact information of entity seeking to conduct a special event, organization benefiting from the event, dates and hours of event, sketch or site plan showing location, layout, roads, entrances/exits, traffic flow patterns, parking and land uses of surrounding areas, proposed route to be traveled or the area sought to be used or closed off for the event, if site distance is insufficient a traffic control security plan must be submitted, plans for sufficient toilet facilities, total number of persons, animals and vehicles expected to participate, CCHD permits (if needed) and description of food and beverages to be sold, plans for sufficient clean up, description of proposed entertainment, Certificate of Insurance may be required, all property owners of properties abutting or adjoining on the exterior limits of the property shall be notified.

The Township will issue the permit or reject the application within 10 days of filing. A permit will be rejected if the event will result as a nuisance, or be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the Township and its residents.

You can download the ordinance from the Township's website. Please call the Township if you have any questions concerning whether an event you are planning requires a Special Events Permit.

### **2015 New Homes Report**

In 2015 only two new homes were built in London Britain Township.

## **Trash Collection**

### **Neighbors please come together to save roads and money**

Have you ever counted how many times a week trash trucks are on your street? Mondays one company will do a run for trash and a separate one for recycling. Wednesday a different company will make two runs through your neighborhood. Heavy trash trucks are running through your neighborhood multiple times each week collecting trash from just a couple of the houses at a time. Does it really make sense for all the various haulers to all be covering the same territory? The multiple trash haulers in the Township are hard on the road surfaces, a concern for road safety, creates extra pollution and waste resources.

The Board of Supervisors considered the benefits for a single hauler system for residential trash removal throughout LBT. It had been a recommendation of LBT's Township Planning Commission. Much research and discussion went into developing the program, but plans were scrapped. Existing contracts with residents and haulers would have had to be broken, the collection containers would have had to be purchased by residents or the Township. Most importantly, residents would lose their choices. The Board decided not to pursue this any further.

The Township is now looking to neighbors and subdivisions to work together and pick one trash collection company for their neighborhood. It will save wear and tear on our roads and help the environment with fewer trucks traveling our neighborhood roads.

Banding together and choosing the same trash collection company could possibly save all residents money with discounted group rates.

On the next nice day, when your neighbors are out and about, start the discussion to see if you can come together to limit the need for multiple trash trucks traveling through your neighborhood.

### **WEST GROVE FIRE COMPANY**

#### **2016 INCIDENTS**

(January through May)

Total: 271 Fire 924 EMS

London Britain Fire Runs: 13

London Britain EMS Runs: 47

# *Lawn Maintenance Facts & MS4*

## *What this means to the homeowner*

*(Excerpted from Ontario-Wayne Stormwater Coalition's website. See full article at [www.OWSC.org](http://www.OWSC.org))*

### **WATER POLLUTION**

Sources of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced in recent years. Now, more than 60% of water pollution comes from things like runoff from homes, excess fertilizer, and pet waste. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. So, believe it or not, the biggest source of water pollution today is not industry – it is actually households like yours. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water. And it starts with realizing that our sewers and storm systems are separate – what goes into storm drains flows directly into the environment, untreated.

### **FACTS AND FIGURES**

- During the summer months it is estimated that nearly 40% of household water is used for lawn and garden maintenance.
- Homeowners use ten times more chemicals per acre on lawns than farmers use on crops.
- If lawns were classified as a crop, it would rank as the fifth- largest in the country, based on area.
- Even the White House lawn is “going green.” Staff there are using gardening & landscaping practices designed to protect the environment and minimize polluted runoff.

### **MOWING**

Mow your grass at your mower's highest setting or at least 3-4". The roots of your lawn grow as deep as the grass grows tall, so taller grass has deeper, healthier roots, enabling your lawn to better tolerate hot, dry weather. Not spending extra time and money on watering and fertilizing makes your lawn easier and cheaper to maintain. Sharpen your mower blade at least once per summer.

### **BARE SPOTS, TREE COVER, MULCH AND NATIVE PLANTS**

- Increase the amount of your yard in tree cover.
- Mulch circles beneath trees and around plant beds.
- Add native plants to your yard. They are low maintenance, tolerate drought, and require no fertilizers or extra watering, thus conserving water and preventing unnecessary pollution.
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard. This helps prevent soil erosion and can beautify your land at the same time. The best way to prevent erosion is by planting shrubs and plants to hold soil in place.

### **PET WASTE**

Pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly.

### **Contacting County Agencies**

All county-level services and departments can be accessed online at [chesco.org](http://chesco.org). Below is contact information to some of the most widely used departments.

#### **County of Chester**

313 West Market Street  
P.O. Box 2748  
West Chester, Pa 19380-0991  
Phone: 610-344-6000

#### **Commissioners' Office**

313 West Market Street, Suite 6202  
West Chester, PA 19380  
Phone: 610-344-6100

#### **Chester County Health Department**

601 Westtown Road, Suite 290  
West Chester, PA 19380-0990  
Phone: 610-344-6225

#### **Chester County Voters Services**

Government Services Center  
601 Westtown Road, Suite 150  
P.O. Box 2747  
West Chester, PA 19380-0990  
Phone: 610-344-6410

#### **Chester County Assessment**

313 W. Market St., Suite 4202  
P.O. Box 2748  
West Chester, PA 19380-0991  
Phone: 610-344-6105

#### **Chester County Treasurer's Office**

313 West Market St. Suite 3202  
West Chester, PA 19382  
Phone: 610-344-6370

## ***Hazardous Waste Recycling***

The next local Hazardous Waste Recycling Day is Saturday, September 10 at the Oxford School District Administration Building, 125 Bell Tower Lane (off Route 10), in Oxford, Pa. The event runs from 9 am to 3 pm.

For a list of items Accepted and Not Accepted go to: [www.chestercswa.org/DocumentCenter/View/1475](http://www.chestercswa.org/DocumentCenter/View/1475)

This is for residents only. Business and contractor hazardous waste will not be accepted.

## ***Readychesco.org: Are you ready?***

Chester County's new emergency management web portal: Ready Chesco ([readychesco.org](http://readychesco.org)) offers emergency preparedness information for before, during, and after an emergency specifically for residents of Chester County, Pa. There are links on how to prepare for various emergencies, links to PECO's outage map and road closure reports, plus resources to help you recover after a disaster affects you.

The Ready ChesCo site also offers a customizable free alert system: ReadyChesCo, which requires you to register before you can receive the alerts you want.

Visit the site now, before you need it and bookmark the page for easy access for information when the next major storm hits our area.

**In Emergencies Go to:**

**AGREM RADIO**

**1670 AM**

**or [agrem.org](http://agrem.org)**

## Township Directory

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

David Owens- Chairman  
Aileen Parrish - Vice Chairman  
Glenn Frederick - Member

### STAFF

Carolyn Matalon -  
Secretary and Parks Manager  
Dave Gargula - Zoning Officer  
Joe Ferguson - Roadmaster and  
Director of Public Works  
Dan Tracy, Steve Dudkewitz, Gary Neil, and  
Adam Brady-- Public Works Crew  
Pat Walsh, Walsh Engineering -  
Township Engineer  
Janie Schnelle- Tax Collector  
Nette Stejskal - Treasurer and  
Project Coordinator

### CONTACT INFO

#### **Office/Meeting Hall/Garage:**

81 Good Hope Road  
Landenberg PA 19350

#### **Mailing address:**

P.O. Box 215, Kemblesville PA 19347

Phone: 610-255-0388

Fax: 610-255-3542

### WEBSITE

[www.londonbritaintownship-pa.gov](http://www.londonbritaintownship-pa.gov)

### EMAIL

[carolyn.londonbritaintwp@comcast.net](mailto:carolyn.londonbritaintwp@comcast.net)

## Township Meetings

All meetings are held at the LBT Meeting Hall on Good Hope Road, 7 p.m.

Agendas are posted on the Township website by noon on the day of the meeting

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Second and fourth Mondays of the month (except December, plus call or check website for other dates and/or cancelled meetings)

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Each Tuesday following a Board of Supervisors' meeting

*This newsletter is published by the London Britain Township Board of Supervisors, and produced by Secretary Carolyn Matalon and Lucas Communications and Publications.*

## London Britain Township

P. O. Box 215

Kemblesville, PA 19347

## *Ten facts about the London Tract Meeting House*

At the intersection of Indiantown, Sharpless and South Bank roads stands the London Tract Meetinghouse. Here's 10 facts about one of the oldest inhabitable structures in our Township.

1. The exact date that the London Tract Meetinghouse was built is unknown, but estimated between 1725 and 1731.
2. John Evans, Sr. and John Evans, Jr., donated the parcel of land on which to build a house of worship.
3. Settling in London Britain from Welch Tract, in New Castle County were the Evans, Whitting and Davis families. These families were released from the Welch Tract Church of Christ, in 1780. It is believed the split came about because of tensions from the Revolutionary War. The Baptists at Welch Tract had supported the English, while the Baptists at London Tract supported the Colonists.
4. Thomas Fleeson was the first preacher at the new London Tract Baptist Church. Among the first 18 members were John, Jane and Mary Evans, Sarah and Deborah Whitting.
5. Over the years changes were made to the original structure. The original entrance was stoned in and the entry was moved to the side of the building (current configuration). It is thought this was done to make room in the cemetery for additional graves. Photos from the 1930s show the building without the addition of the lavatory facilities.
6. Church records between 1780 and 1830 were destroyed as a servant girl in the home of the church clerk tore pages out of an "old book" to start fires.
7. Although the gravestone has never been found, the oldest documented burial at the cemetery was for Nioma Thomas in 1730.
8. Congregants of the London Tract Baptist Church worshiped at the London Tract Meetinghouse until the mid-1960s when the few remaining members disbanded.
9. It is now part of the White Clay Creek Preserve and was turned into a natural history museum of the area. Signs of the structure's use as a church can still be seen as the pulpit remains. In 2013 the pews were removed when the floor was replaced.
10. A colony of bats resides year-round in the roof of the Meeting House. At dusk, during the warmer months, you can watch the bats come out to begin their evening's feeding through small gaps in the stone near the roof line.

