



# CONNECTIONS

*Doing What's Right to Protect What's Left*

Spring 2022

## TOWNSHIP NEWS



### Board of Supervisors:

Meetings held on the 1st (workshop meeting, if needed) and 3rd Monday (regular meeting) of Month at 7pm

### Human Relations Commission

4th Monday of Month at 7 pm

### Historical Commission:

2nd Tuesday of Month at 7 pm

### Open Space Review Board:

4th Tuesday of Month at 7 pm

### Parks and Recreation Commission:

1st Wednesday of Month at 7pm

### Sustainability Committee:

3rd Wednesday of Month at 7 pm

### Environmental Advisory Council:

1st Thursday of Month at 7pm

### Planning Commission:

3rd Thursday of Month at 7pm

### Zoning Hearing Board:

Hearings scheduled as needed

### Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee:

Last Wed. of Month at 7:30 pm at Schuylkill Township Building

All meetings held at the West Vincent Township Building, unless noted otherwise.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Bernie Couris, Chairman  
Sara Shick, Vice Chairman  
Dana Alan, Member

[westvincenttpw.org](http://westvincenttpw.org)

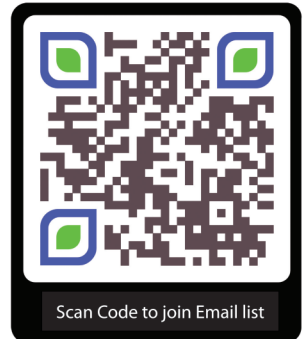


Follow West Vincent Township and the West Vincent Police Dept. on Facebook & Instagram

The township's new website has been live for over 6 months. We are committed to providing a website that allows you to receive personal, timely updates, to find information quickly, and to easily communicate with the Township.

### Personalized Updates

- **Join Our Email List** to receive email notifications on Township topic(s) of your choice. **Why choose to receive email notifications?** It's personalized! You choose which topic(s) in which to receive updates for events, meetings, and latest program and resource information.
- Our monthly **eNewsletter** provides upcoming meetings, events, and programs for the coming month, as well as important news and updates you may have missed. Choose to receive monthly eNewsletter directly in your email inbox. **Why choose to receive the eNewsletter?** It's a consolidated look at the month ahead, so you don't miss meetings or events that interest you.
- Our semi-annual newsletter is printed and mailed directly to your home address—all residents receive a printed newsletter. It also contains the Township's achievements and accomplishments towards our stated goals and important one-time special projects or events around the township. **Do you have to do anything to receive the printed newsletter?** No, ALL residents of the township receive a copy in their mailboxes.



If you prefer an electronic copy, all current year newsletters can be found under Resources/Newsletter or simply by clicking the Newsletter hot button on the home page.

**Should you subscribe to both email notifications and monthly newsletter or just one?** You choose how you would like to receive your information based on your need and interest in the meetings, programs, and activities.

*continued on page 2*

## COMMUNITY DAY

**Saturday, May 14 – Evans Park**  
**see page 6 & 7 for details**

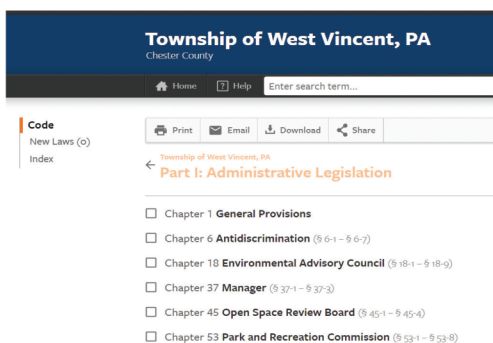
*continued from page 1*

### Contact Us and Find Information

- **How Do I?** Provides succinct answers and links to the most frequent resident inquiries.
- **Let's Chat!** Use our live chat, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We will answer your question or direct you to the right resource. We have held over 100 Let's Chat conversations...such as confirming Fellowship Community Garden plots, redirecting to the appropriate web resource, and providing permit information and guidelines.
- **Call** our main office at 610-458-1601 to follow up on a specific task, status of a permit, or for any questions not answered using our website pages, **How Do I?** section or **Let's Chat**. Call our Police Department for non-emergency inquiries at 610-458-3205.
- **On-Line Forms** – Nothing to print, write, or mail—fill out your forms from any device. A Township Administrator will follow up with you. Current on-line forms:
  - **Evans Park / Gazebo Rental Form** – Evans Park and/or the gazebo can be rented for any occasion. Reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Fees are charged for gazebo rental and electricity.
  - **Volunteer Application** – submit your desire to join or assist one of our advisory committees.
  - **Report a Road Concern** – if you see a tree down, local road flooding, or another road hazard.

### Township Code

Our township ordinances have been codified and placed on-line, using ecode360. Our codes and ordinances can be easily searched using one or many search terms and printed.



### Community Links

We have expanded our Community section (Resources/Community) to include links to Government (your federal, state, and county government links), Community (links to our library, post offices and county parks), Transportation (regional and local transportation options), Education (our school district schools), and Neighboring Townships (links to our neighbors bordering our township).

## FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY GARDEN



Our 2022 gardening season has begun. All of our gardeners from last season have returned and have held their first seed swap with over 20 varieties of seeds exchanged. A plant seedling swap is tentatively scheduled for early May.

Girl Scout Troop 4082 is planning to install the Little Free Library outside the garden in late spring. The troop is currently gathering gardening books, putting the last touches of paint on the door and adding a plaque. Local woodworking artisan, Dan Rich ([www.thelatheofheaven.com](http://www.thelatheofheaven.com)) helped the troop construct their little library. Gardners have been selecting gardening books, new and old, to share with neighbors.





## APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS AND RUNOFF

Stormwater management not only focuses on flood control but also involves sustaining and improving water quality in our watersheds. Stormwater runoff can affect the chemical, physical, and biological properties of our streams, rivers, and lakes.

Increased development reduces naturally absorbent vegetation, such as meadows and wetlands, increasing the flows of stormwater, creating flash floods. Consider incorporating some of these best practices of storm water management, to help increase water filtration, remove pollution, prevent erosion, and sustain wildlife habitats:



- **Clear your storm drains:** Keep your storm drains clear of leaves, grass clippings, trash, debris, snow and ice.
- **Create a rain garden:** Rain gardens are bowl-shaped gardens designed to capture water, allowing it to soak into the ground. They can drain water from roof downspouts, yards, driveways, walkways, impervious surfaces, and can reduce the amount of runoff from your property.
- **Plant some trees:** Trees provide many benefits to the environment and are one of nature's best stormwater managers. Trees clean our air and filter stormwater. Their canopies intercept water. Their roots stabilize the ground and increase infiltration. Fallen leaves help by slowly absorbing and releasing water.
- **Plant riparian buffers with native trees and shrubs:** Riparian buffers are the vegetated areas adjacent to streams, which protect them from the adverse impact of suburban and agricultural land use.
- **Convert your lawn to a meadow:** Consider using native perennials and grasses on your lawn or on a small portion of your lawn. Native plants have more extensive root systems than turf grass. Meadows are aesthetic and create a natural habitat for wildlife.
- **Keep your greens, green:** Do not apply fertilizer before spring or within 15-20 feet of a stream or waterway. Use grass clippings, which are high in nutrients, as natural fertilizer. Chemicals and salt affect your grass. Add sand or kitty litter as a natural alternative for increased traction in winter weather.
- **Add rain barrels:** Rain barrels are used to capture from downspouts and store rainwater. Collected water can then be used to water plants, gardens, wash tools, extinguish campfires, fill bird baths, etc.
- **Disconnect and redirect downspouts:** Check to ensure downspouts drain into a garden, yard, or rain barrel rather than into storm drains or onto impervious surfaces such as driveways and sidewalks.
- **Pervious pavers:** Consider pervious pavers when constructing a patio or walkway. The thick stone base underneath allows water to soak into the ground.
- **Participate in litter clean ups:** Come out and help reduce the amount of plastics and other trash from entering local waterways and join the West Vincent Litter Lifters at [litterliftersofwestvincent@gmail.com](mailto:litterliftersofwestvincent@gmail.com).

Each small adjustment we make as individuals creates an impressive collective impact and keeps our watersheds and community healthy.

## Clean Energy Transition Team (CETT) - Kirk Reinbold, Sustainability Committee Chair

The WV CETT and the Administration work together to ensure the Township develops and implements clean energy goals, such as energy efficiency and on-site renewable energy generation technologies. The expectation is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve overall resilience to climate change, while simultaneously lowering operational expenses.

One example of the combined energy efficiency and cost savings has been realized in the Police Department's 2020 purchase of a hybrid SUV. Within the first four months of operation, that vehicle cost 45% less to operate and had improved vehicle power performance, compared to a standard gas vehicle. A second hybrid purchase has been authorized and a fully electric police vehicle fleet is currently under consideration by the Board of Supervisors and the Administration.

CETT is also working with businesses and residents interested in improving energy efficiency and transitioning to a cleaner and healthier environment. The Team is identifying mechanisms such as grants, special loans, rebates, and incentives that can assist in funding many of these projects.



### How You Can Help

CETT would like to engage our residents and businesses to help catalog our community's tangible efforts to improve energy efficiency and clean energy use in township businesses, homes, and personal and fleet vehicles.

Clean energy projects may include insulation and weatherstripping, replacing incandescent with LED light bulbs, HVAC improvements, alternative fuel vehicle purchases, installing vehicle chargers, and/or installing solar arrays.

If your home or business has completed projects incorporating cleaner energy sources or more efficient systems, we want to know!



Please share any energy improvements you have made or are planning to make by sending a brief description of the project to the Team at [WVCETT@gmail.com](mailto:WVCETT@gmail.com).

This information will help the CETT map our township's commitment to clean energy and provide a valuable community resource for us all.



# RECYCLING - Saving dollars and making “sense”

THANK YOU to all West Vincent Township residents who are committed to reducing, reusing and recycling their waste plastic, glass, metal, and paper !

Recycling is an important component in preserving our environment and creating a sustainable community. Recycling reduces the amount of raw materials needed to create new products, lessening the overall impact on natural resources. It also creates jobs, decreases pollution, and helps improve our health.

The WVT **Sustainability Committee** and Administration are committed to be your “go to” resource for recycling information and education. Did you know :

- Each resident (or their development HOA) in West Vincent is required to find their own private trash hauler. All haulers are required to register with the township and provide recycling services to their customers, meeting the requirements in our township code. Check with your trash hauler for guidance on how to maximize the effectiveness of your recycling efforts.



## Most of the recycling haulers in WVT have these three basic rules for their customers:

- o **RULE #1: Recycle clean bottles and cans, paper and cardboard.**
- o **RULE #2: Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.**
- o **RULE #3: No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.**

- Some of the recycling haulers that service residents of WVT are contracted directly with a Home Owners' Association (HOA), others are contracted directly with the resident. The contracts may include “single stream” recycling, which allows for all recycled items to be placed into a single bin for collection, or it may be “dual stream”, which requires the resident to separate material into categories, like mixed paper and commingled containers (plastic, glass & metal). All residents are encouraged to check with their contracted hauler or HOA to understand their requirements. Don't forget to rinse out glass, metal and plastic food containers before placing them in your recycle bin.
- The PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provides incentives to townships for implementing recycling programs and providing recycling education. Our township receives DEP grants which amount to thousands of dollars each year, based on the amount of recycling private haulers removed from our township.

Keep on recycling and check our Sustainability Committee webpage for expanded recycling content and education!







# WEST VINCENT COMMUNITY DAY

**Saturday, May 14**  
**10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Evans Park**

So many things to do right in our backyard--- grab your lawn chair, bring your pet to the pet parade, enjoy local fare and artists, listen to local musical groups and performers, take part in a yoga session, explore our energy expo, and electric car show! Alpacas, local farm fresh produce and products, and artists will be on site!

## *Where's Vincent?*

Introducing our West Vincent Township gnome! Vincent will be on the move all summer at various township businesses and will begin his journey at Community Day!

Find Vincent during the event, snap a picture with Vincent and post to our Instagram account, **wvtownship**, with the tag **#wvtifoundvincent**. He will be in a different location every hour.

You will be assigned a raffle entry for each picture posted. Post all five locations at Community Day and you will be given an extra raffle entry! Raffle winner will be selected at random and will receive a \$150 gift certificate to Birchrunville Café. Contest runs from May 14 through September 30. Winner will be notified on our Instagram account October 3.



Our committed sponsors, vendors, and exhibitors to date:





## First Responders

**Our West Vincent Police Department, Kimberton Fire Company, Ludwig's Corner Fire Company, Ridge Fire Company, Uwchlan Ambulance Corps, and West End Fire Co. EMS** will be onsite. Stop by-- say hello--let them know how much you appreciate their service to our township!

## Artists & Artisans

**Show us your talent!** There is still time to join our event as an artist or artisan! If you make jewelry, home goods or designs, craft food items, accessories, clothing, etc., please complete the on-line Participation & Registration Application. Simply click on our Community Day hot button located on the home page of our website.

## Energy Expo

**Our Energy Expo** will have vendors and exhibitors who will provide information and examples of energy efficiency, Energy Star appliances, rebates, home energy audits, geothermal and advanced HVAC systems, commercial/residential solar arrays, electric landscape equipment, electric cars and chargers. We will also have electric vehicles on display.



## Activities to Keep All Ages Moving

**Mat Pilates - 10- 11** – Jen Buckley from Ignite Fitness, Ludwig's Village. Bring your mat, bottle of water, and your limber limbs!

**Stretching, Warm up Moves, and Post-Workout Techniques –11-12** – Rebecca Mackey –Work out your kinks and stretch your muscles. Learn some easy moves to incorporate into your morning and night routines and to relieve your muscles after a workout with personal trainer, Rebecca Mackey of BecFitness

**Yoga in the Park - 12-1** Sheila Keating of Yoga with Sheila K – certified in yoga, meditation and Reiki, a former performer and choreographer. Sheila will help you move with intention using her unique inspirational creative sequencing. Bring your yoga mat, water bottle, and open mind!

**Soccer Drills and Footwork - 10-3** - ages 7 -12 , boys and girls - one hour slots – Lionville Soccer Club – join the team members in 30-45 minute soccer drills and footwork skills!

**Bouncy House, Egg Toss, 3-Legged Race, Tug of War, Corn Hole – ages 5 -10** – fun games for families all day!

## Entertainment

Our announcer for the event is West Vincent resident and author, Melinda Arcara. Melinda has been an active volunteer in our schools, with two children who attended West Vincent Elementary, one a freshman in college and one a junior at Owen J. Roberts High School. Her enthusiasm and energy will guide us through our activities and entertainment.

We will have continuous music for all to enjoy. Our local talent for the day includes Dan Frantz, Chris Lebresco, Dave Loves Donna, Rhythm Road, Tom Emery, and local Bollywood singers, Raju Kunaparaju and friends.

## Food

**Enjoy a wide range of food including ice cream, Kona Ice, Dallas' French Fries, Why Not Farm, Manam Indian Cuisine and Buenos Aires Empanada Bar.**



**DALLAS' FRENCH FRIES**



Check out the Community Day page on our website for daily updates and a complete entertainment schedule, list of food vendors, and artisans!

WHAT'S INSIDE

New Website	Cover & Pg. 2
Township News	Pg. 2
Fellowship Community Garden	Pg. 2
May Flowers and Run Off	Pg. 3
Clean Energy Transition Team	Pg. 4
Recycling	Pg. 5
Community Day	Pg. 6 & 7
Upcoming Events	Pg. 8
Congratulations Litter Lifters	Pg.8

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 23, EAC – Nature Event – Opalanie Park Clean Up

May 17, Election Day – Township Building is a polling location for Precinct 690.

Township administrative offices will also be open normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

June 18, EAC – Bird Walk at Opalanie Park



### Ocean Conservancy Recognizes

#### Litter Lifters of West Vincent and Green Valleys Watershed

for outstanding and dedicated service to  
the International Coastal Cleanup and commitment  
to achieving trash free seas.



PICK UP PENNSYLVANIA 2021  
Supporting the Ocean Conservancy's  
International Coastal Cleanup



JANIS JONES  
CEO, Ocean Conservancy



SHANNON REITER  
President, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful



International  
Coastal Cleanup



Ocean  
Conservancy

## Congratulations The Litter Lifters of West Vincent!

The Litter Lifters of West Vincent have been acknowledged for the second year by the Ocean Conservancy and PickUp Pennsylvania. The Litter Lifters of West Vincent joined the efforts of PennDot and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful in the summer of 2020 by participating in Adopt a Highway.

On March 19, The Litter Lifters of West Vincent completed a cleanup of Route 100 between Blackhorse and Horseshoe Trail collecting 140 bags of litter. Read more about their successful event and pictures in our April eNewsletter and on our home page!