

MANOR UPDATES

NEWSLETTER For the Residents of Manor Township

FALL 2010

Vol. 19 / No. 2

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

How we are controlling costs . . .

As I look back at previous newsletters and reread the articles written on the economy and its effect on Manor Township (specifically the budget), I can't say things have changed very much. The Township Supervisors have remained committed to a fiscally conservative decision making approach. With every new budget year we continue to batten down the hatches to ride out the economic storm.

That being said, the 2011 budget will pose many challenges. With revenues flat lining and expenses continuing to climb, townships are increasingly finding themselves face-to-face with making difficult financial decisions. As these decisions arise, sometime solutions present themselves that have the potential to be problematic in the future. It becomes important to be prudent and thoughtful in decision making rather than hasty and shortsighted. For example, you may have been following the news in regards to government pension losses. Some government entities have stretched out these losses by amortizing them over a longer period; in effect, pushing the losses years out into the future. Although Manor Township Supervisors could have adopted this strategy as well, we decided not to do that. Instead, realizing those losses now gives us a more accurate assessment of the fiscal health of the Township budget as it looks today.

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WINTER WEATHER

February 2010 is surely to be remembered for the significant snowfall and drifts that winter brought to Central Pennsylvania. Manor Township is committed to continue to provide outstanding snow removal services for your safe winter travel. The Public Works Department along with five additional contractors are committed to keep the 109 miles of roads free of snow and ice.



During a recent "Tailgate Talk" on winter operations a number of the Public Works employees commented on some important reminders to share with the public:

- "If possible, parked vehicles should be removed from the street so we can achieve our goal of plowing from curb line to curb line."

- Henry Hank, Asst. Public Works Director

When snow plow operators are able to plow curb to curb there are several benefits; storm drains are cleared by the snow plow and melted snow will enter the drainage system, and water will not pond on the road and then refreeze on the street.

- "If every home owner would place one or two stakes along the edge of their property, the edge of the road would be clearly identified."

- Ron Shenk, Public Works

The township is not responsible to repair lawns that are struck by snow plows if the lawns are not marked.

- "Don't be too anxious to clean out the end of your driveway, if you wait until the street has been completely cleared you will save yourself some extra work."

- Phil Stehman, Public Works

The following suggestions can help to make snow removal more efficient and effective:

- Do not push or throw snow into the roadway at anytime. This creates hazardous driving conditions and is a violation of both Pennsylvania law and Township ordinance. Violators can be prosecuted.

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Employee Spotlight

MARK HARRIS

Public Works Director



Mark is a life-long resident and considers it a privilege to reside and work in Manor. He serves as the Public Works Director and is

responsible for the maintenance of the roads you drive, parks you visit and the cleanup after storms . . . to name a few. Mark is the kind of person that takes ownership in each job he works on and you can count on him to deliver his very best every day. Although he mostly works during the day, he's the guy who gets called at 3:00 a.m. for a downed tree, sink hole or snow storm. If you see Mark out and about, wave hello and thank him for his dedication to this community.

Tell us about your family? My wife, Denise, and I have three children - Megan, Tim and Brandon. We have lived in Highville for many years and I am the first of the ninth generation of Habeckers in Manor Township.

What do you enjoy in your free time? I enjoy gardening, growing fruit trees and going to public auctions. A lot of my free time is also tied up attending my children's athletic and school events. I am an active member at Central Manor Church.

Do you have a memorable vacation destination? I mostly enjoy going to the family cabin in the mountains of Clinton County. We took the family to Niagara Falls in 2009 and really enjoyed it.

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COMPOST AVAILABLE

This autumn Manor Township's Leaf Compost Facility will be open for the purchase of leaf compost. The cost of compost is \$10/cubic yard. Also, on the following dates Manor Township residents may dispose of their leaves free of charge. Leaves will be accepted loose or in biodegradable bags only.

SATURDAY'S ~ 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

September 25th ■ October 2nd & 23rd ■ November 6th & 20th
December 4th

WEDNESDAY'S ~ 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

October 13th



Christmas Tree Recycling

In 2010 Manor Township recycled 1,792 Christmas Trees. For your convenience you may dispose of your Christmas tree at any of our four drop-off locations: Charlestown Park, Greider Park, Washington Boro Park, and the Highville Fire Company. The drop-off program will run from December 26th through Sunday, January 23rd. Please make sure trees are free of all ornaments, lights, tinsel, plastic bags and/or covers. The trees will be chipped into mulch, which is utilized in the Township's parks.

STRAY DOGS

You may recall from the fall 2009 newsletter that we changed the handling of stray dogs in the Township. As fees from the Lancaster County Humane League grew, we looked at reducing costs and streamlining the process by dealing with stray dogs internally. This change has proven to be a real benefit to us and the residents of Manor.

To date, the police department has picked up 21 stray dogs. All but 2 were successfully returned to their owners. The 2 not returned were picked up by the Dog Warden and transported to an out-of-county shelter.

So what can you do to help make this program better? Make sure your pets are licensed and secured with a leash whenever they are off property. The less stray dogs running around, the Police Department will have to divert their this problem.

Stormwater Pollution Solutions

Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and used motor oil and other auto fluids. Don't pour them onto the ground or into storm drains.

Lawn Care

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.



- Don't over water your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.

Septic Systems

Leaking and poorly maintained septic systems release nutrients and pathogens (bacteria and viruses) that can be picked up by stormwater and discharged into nearby waterbodies. Pathogens can cause public health problems and environmental concerns.

- Inspect your system every 3 years and pump your tank as necessary (every 3 to 5 years).



- Don't dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.

Auto Care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the material directly into a waterbody.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its waste water, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.



Pet Waste

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters.

- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.



Education is essential to changing people's behavior. Signs and markers near storm drains warn residents that pollutants entering the drains will be carried untreated into a local waterbody.

Residential Landscaping

Permeable Pavement - Traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water. Permeable pavement systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through, decreasing stormwater runoff.

Rain Barrels - You can collect rain-water from rooftops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn or garden areas.

Rain Gardens and Grassy Swales - Specially designed areas planted with native plants can provide natural places for rain-water to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from the rooftop areas or paved areas can be diverted into these areas rather than into storm drains.



Vegetated Filter Strips - Filter strips are areas of native grass or plants created along roadways or streams. They trap the pollutants stormwater picks up as it flows across driveways and streets.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE

Hundreds of catch basins designed to collect storm water run-off that is piped and released into drainage easements are located throughout Manor Township. These drains are NOT to be used for disposal of unwanted items such as motor oil, paint, concrete, stones, or organic matter since they lead to local waterbodies. Since these are exclusively "drains for rains," swimming pool water is also prohibited from being drained. Citizens are encouraged to report any illicit discharges into storm water facilities at 397-4769.



During the fall of 2009, the Manor Township Public Works Department collected a record 408 truckloads of leaves. The 736 tons of collected leaves were brought to the Township's Leaf Compost Facility on Charlestown Road. Curbside collection for 2010 is scheduled to begin the week of October 18th.

Typically, the first few weeks of leaf collection is completed with one crew due to the small amount of leaves available for collection. As the number of leaves placed curbside increases the Public Works Department will then use two crews to do the bulk of the work. The first crew begins their route along Stone Mill Road and then proceeds east to Colonial Manor, the crew then proceeds to West Ridge, Bowling Green, Georgetown Hills, Leaf Park, Breezewood, Springdale Farms, Manor Oaks, and Shadowstone. The second crew will begin its collection route in the West Fairway area that includes West Fairway Drive, Joseph Road and Kent Road. The crew will then proceed to Fairway Park, West Lancaster, Manor Ridge, Wilshire Hills, Woods Edge, Holland Hills, Washington Boro, Letort Manor, and Perth Hills. Weather permitting each crew will begin the above-mentioned routes each week beginning on Monday mornings and continue in sequence until each area is covered. Residents can check for daily leaf collection information that is posted on the Townships web site at www.manortwp.org. Leaf collection usually concludes the first full week of December and can vary from season to season. For final collection information residents can check the web site.

Residents who live along Millersville Road and Columbia Avenue will receive leaf collection on the following weeks: October 25th, November 8th and 22nd, and December 6th.

Once again, we remind our residents who receive curb side leaf collection to follow these simple guidelines. Leaves must be placed in a row along the edge of the street. Leaves must be loose and not bagged. Tree branches, brush trimmings, plants, and grass clippings are prohibited and will not be accepted. Leaves must be accessible to the crews. Leaves that are obstructed by parked vehicles will not be collected.

Township residents not serviced by curbside collection may bring their leaves to the Township's Leaf Compost Facility for free disposal on Mondays thru Wednesdays between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. starting on October 18th and continuing until December 8th. Evening and weekend hours have been scheduled and posted in this edition of Manor Updates.




HALLOWEEN SAFETY

COSTUME SAFETY

- Make sure costumes fit so that children can easily walk without tripping.
- Make sure wigs and beards are properly attached so they do not obstruct vision.
- Use light colors, decals or reflective tape so children are visible to motorists at night.
- Buy flame resistant costumes or make them from flame resistant materials.
- Make sure you can see well through masks.
- Use make-up instead of mask.

STREET SAFETY

- Walk on sidewalks. If there is no sidewalk, walk on left side of road, facing traffic.
- Cross streets at intersection or crosswalk.
- Wait for proper traffic signals to cross.
- Avoid running out between parked cars.
- If riding a bike, it should have reflectors, a headlight and a horn or bell.

TRICK-OR-TREATING

- Save candy until you get home so that it can be checked by an adult before eating.
- Have parents or a responsible adult examine ALL CANDY / TREATS.
- Wash fruit and slice it into small pieces, checking it for anything inedible.
- Report any suspicious treats to the police.
- Don't go into anyone's house unless you know them.
- Trick-or-treat in groups and with parents accompanying young children.

TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT

Friday, October 29th
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
for Manor Township

Fire Company Consolidation Update

The Fire Company Task Force continues to move forward and make progress with the consolidation. Reviewing the consultant's report, working on a budget and looking into equipment and putting together a twenty year or long range plan for that. Please continue to check our website at www.manortwp.org for more updates and information. If you have any questions, please call the Township Office at 397-4769.



Financially Speaking

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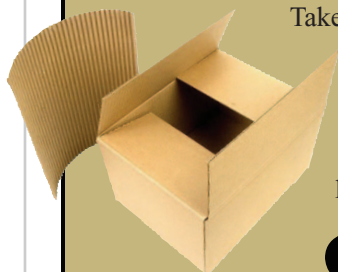
The point is, the Supervisors spend a lot of time understanding the budget and its constraints. When times are good, we will spend wisely and attempt to maintain a modest reserve. When times are bad, we are not going to incur long term debt and saddle future generations with the burden of paying it off. We'll begin the 2011 budget season with the same mindset of good financial stewardship.

Winter Weather Reminder

(continued from page 1)

- Plowed snow may damage mailboxes. Make sure your mailbox is secured tightly on a sturdy post. A mailbox damaged by plowed snow is the property owner's responsibility to repair.
- Manor Township does not have a snow removal ordinance for sidewalks. However, residents are encouraged to clear snow and ice from walks after plowing is completed.
- If you must drive, do so at a minimal speed and give the snow plow operators plenty of room to do their work. Remember, if you can not see the mirrors of our truck our drivers can not see you.

CARDBOARD RECYCLING DUMPSTER



Take advantage of the cardboard dumpster now located at the Manor Township Office building at 950 West Fairway Drive. This program is for residents only and only collapsed, corrugated cardboard should be put in the dumpster. If you have any questions, please call the Township Office at 397-4769.

Thank You!

Manor Township recycled 1,209 tons of residential and commercial materials by citizens and businesses in 2009.

NEW ORDINANCES

The following ordinances have been passed since the last newsletter:

- **Ordinance 1-2010** Crash Scene Investigative Unit Amendment
- **Ordinance 2-2010** Bank & Similar Financial Institutions
As Permitted Use In MRC
- **Ordinance 3-2010** Zoning Map Amendment R to E
(2 tracts on chestnut Grove Rd)
- **Ordinance 4-2010** Zoning Map Amendment R to I
Frey Dairy Farms/Turkey Hill
- **Ordinance 5-2010** Police Retirement Plan Amendment

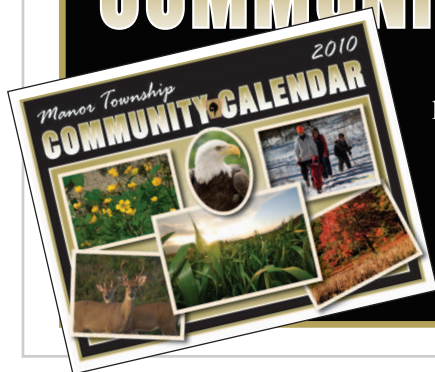
Employee Spotlight

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Why do you work for Manor Township? There are many reasons, but I find personal satisfaction interacting with the residents and seeing improvements in the community that I've lived in for my whole life. I remember growing up and playing on the turtles at Greider Park (which are still there today). I started at the Township when I was 22 years old and I've been here for 22 years. I also enjoy working with my co-workers who I also view as good friends.

What is something interesting about you as it relates to Manor Township? When I first interviewed for the job in 1988 I showed up at the wrong building. I was told where the Maintenance building was and when I got there I was greeted by Ed Goodhart and Woody Frey who looked down at their watch and asked why I was late. Fortunately they did not hold their first impression against me.

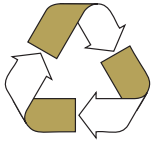
Manor Township 2011 COMMUNITY CALENDAR



As a cost savings measure, we are only printing and sending out calendars to residents that request them. If you would like to continue receiving a calendar, you can call our office at 397-4769 or return the postcard found in the front of the 2010 calendar by December 1st.

Manor Township Board of Supervisors

950 West Fairway Drive
Lancaster, PA 17603



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MANOR TOWNSHIP UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

Full details of all programs can be found at www.manortwp.org or by calling 397-4769

FAQ

- ***I locked the keys in my car, can the police unlock it for me?*** Yes, if the locks are manual and not automatic.
- ***Can I drain my swimming pool into the street or in a catch basin?*** No. The chemicals will wash into our stormwater system and eventually local waterbodies.
- ***Where can I find information on Manor Township park pavilions?*** You can call us or it is available on the website.
- ***There's a dead animal on my street, will you pick it up?*** We do not remove animals. For large animals, call the game commission at 610-926-3136.

TOWNSHIP WEBSITE

Please remember to check the Township website for up-to-date information at:
www.manortwp.org



Do You Have These Recyclables?

The materials accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility include, but are not limited to:

- Adhesives
- Auto products (transmission and brake fluids, antifreeze, used oil and batteries)
- Computers, cell phones and televisions, which were added July, 2008
- Fluorescent bulbs (including compact bulbs)
- Floor and furniture polishes and household cleaners
- Gasoline and kerosene
- Household batteries
- Old chemistry sets
- Paints and related products (stains, turpentine, thinners, rust inhibitors)
- Pesticides, herbicides and insecticides
- Photographic and pool chemicals
- Propane tanks



Call or deliver items to: Household Hazardous Waste, 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA. Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. If you have any questions concerning recyclables, please call the LCSWMA Office at: 397-9968 or visit: www.lcswma.org.