

# WEST COCALICO TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

*Semi-Annual*

*PO Box 244, 156B West Main Street, Reinholds, PA 17569*

*Fall/Winter 2016*

## NEW IMPROVEMENTS AT TOWNSHIP PARKS

### Chapel Gate Park ~ Boardwalk & Walking Trail



### Main Street Park ~ Cocalico Creek Improvements



# Municipal Snow Removal Policy

As we approach winter, we are taking this opportunity to provide a summary of the Municipal Snow Removal Policy and share some helpful guidelines:

At the start of the storm, all trucks are sent out to their assigned areas with the instructions to salt hills, intersections and curve areas first, then all other areas. When there is sufficient depth to the storm to warrant plowing, the drivers are instructed to make one pass in each direction on the street and to make one pass in and one pass out in the cul-de-sacs. Heavily traveled roads will be plowed first and then less traveled areas, as well as developments and cul-de-sacs. After each one is passable, the procedure of pushing back the snow to the road edge and cleaning out the cul-de-sacs will begin. This operation may not begin until the following day or days depending upon the severity of the storm. The road crew does their best to keep the roads passable and to not push snow into driveways, around mailbox areas or damage grass in the right-of-way.

*Thank you for your patience during the winter season.*

### Helpful guidelines to follow:

- ❖ Park off the road and in your driveway or in one of our township owned parks. If your driveway is steep or you have multiple vehicles, please park at the mouth of your driveway and off the road. In cul-de-sacs, please park all vehicles off the roadway.
- ❖ Wait to shovel snow from the last five feet of your driveway until the roadway is plowed to full width.
- ❖ Do not put snow on streets or on neighboring properties. It is illegal to shovel or blow snow onto township or state roads.
- ❖ For your safety, if there is a fire hydrant on your property, please clear the snow from the hydrant.

## SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTE

A snow emergency route has been created for: **Chapel View Drive, Redstone Circle, Highland Court, Parkview Drive, Steeple Court, Village Spring Lane, Farrow Lane, Pheasant Lane, Krueger Drive, Hollow Road, Pelham Rd, Cedar Court, Circle Drive, Bridle Path Way, Hill Drive, Walnut Lane, Green Court, Pine Crest Drive, Martin Circle, Boulder Drive, Pebble Lane, Sandra Circle, Clearview Drive, Joshua Circle, Sunrise Lane, and Linda Lane.**

Road Crews will clear the roads completely allowing emergency vehicles easy access in these restricted areas. From the time there is an accumulation of any measurable snow or sleet until it has been substantially removed from the streets, a snow emergency will exist and there will be no parking permitted on the designated streets.

During that time, parking will be permitted on grass and sidewalks without ticketing. Additional parking will also be available in Chapel Gate Park. Cars parked on those streets during a snow emergency route will be issued tickets by the police.



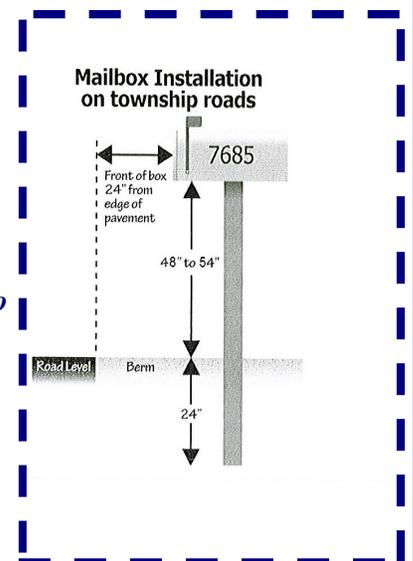
## Information on care of mailboxes

Please keep the face of the mailbox a minimum of 2 to 3 feet off the edge of the road. It would be good to have a pull off area at the mailbox. Please keep in mind that the cutting edge on the plow is 18" from the edge of the plow.

*(Please see diagram for installation)*

***The mailbox owner is responsible for repair or replacement of the mailbox if the mailbox was damaged by the pressure of the plowed snow and there was no physical contact with the snow plow equipment.***

Please maintain your mailbox throughout the year by checking for deteriorating wood, rusty nails and screws. Also, if your mailbox is made of hard plastic, it could become brittle in cold weather and be damaged by heavy snow.





Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit/update their phone number in the event of a water/sewer emergency. By using SwiftReach Networks, we can quickly alert you to any emergency situations that may affect your water supply.

Please notify our office whenever your phone number changes so we can update our SwiftReach emergency notification list.

WEST COCALICO TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY



**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

If you notice a street light outage, please obtain the two pole numbers located at the bottom of the pole, the one begins with a "4" and the other with an "S" and call the township office (336-8720) with this information. We need this info to report the light outage to PPL. Thanks for your help!

**BURN PERMITS**

If you are planning to do open burning of woody yard waste/ brush, you will need to pick up a burn permit.

Burn Permits are available in the Township office Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



**BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS**



Permits **ARE** required for all construction projects as well as a fence, shed, or a change in use of a property.

Permits **ARE NOT** required for sealing driveways, painting, wall-papering, new flooring, sidewalks, replacement windows, swings, and replacement of siding or roofs (unless there is a structural change)

**TOWNSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE**

Meetings are held monthly in the township meeting room on the following days:

**Supervisors:**

- 1st Thursday at 7 p.m.
- 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

**Planning Commission:**

- 2nd Monday at 7 p.m.

**Authority**

- 2nd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

**Zoning Hearing:**

- 3rd Thursday at 7 p.m.

**Park Board:**

- 4th Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Please visit the township website for meeting dates and times, as well as, park information, meeting minutes and Zoning Hearing Ads:

[www.westcocalicotownship.com](http://www.westcocalicotownship.com)



**AVAILABLE AT THE WCT OFFICE**

The following items are available at the township office for use in recycling:

- \* Household Battery Collection Bags
- \* Recycling Bins
- \* Cell Phone drop off box

**BEFORE YOU DIG**



Safe digging is no accident! If you are installing a fence or deck, or digging for a mailbox post, patio or other excavation project, it is important to Know What's Below.

Dial 8-1-1 or 1-800-242-1776 before you dig.

**Tree Donation**



If you would like to donate a tree to one of the Township parks in memory of a loved one, please contact the Township Office during regular hours or attend a Park Board Meeting held the 4th Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. in the Township Meeting Room.



### Sediment

Sediment is the loose sand, clay, silt and other soil particles that settle at the bottom of a body of water. Sediment can come from soil erosion or from the decomposition of plants and animals. Wind, water and ice help carry these particles to rivers, lakes and streams.

Water polluted with sediment becomes cloudy, preventing animals from seeing food. Murky water prevents national vegetation from growing in water. Sediment increases the cost of treating drinking water and can result in odor and taste problems. Sediment can clog fish gills, reducing resistance to disease, lowering growth rates, and affecting fish egg and larvae development. Sediment deposits in rivers can alter the flow of water and reduce water depth, which makes navigation and recreational use more difficult.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Sweep sidewalks and driveways instead of hosing them off. Washing these areas results in sediment and other pollutants running off into streams, rivers and lakes.
- Use weed-free mulch when reseeding bare spots on your lawn and use a straw erosion control blanket if restarting or tilling a lawn.
- Put compost or weed-free mulch on your garden to help keep soil from washing away.
- Avoid mowing within 10-25 ft. from the edge of a stream or creek. This will create a safe buffer zone that will help minimize erosion and naturally filter stormwater runoff that may contain sediment.
- Either wash your car at a commercial car wash or on a surface that absorbs water, such as grass or gravel.
- Notify local government officials when you see sediment entering streets or streams near a construction site.

### Erosion

Erosion occurs when the energy of raindrops falling on bare soil is great enough to break apart soil aggregates, separating sand, silt, clay and organic matter into individual particles. The individual particles are then carried downhill as sediment in the stormwater runoff.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Employ a rain barrel or other form of water catchment system. Divert water to the garden or store it.
- Plant trees and shrubbery especially near slopes and shorelines. These plants can reduce runoff by 50%. Trees can also be used to shade your house.
- Grow plants on slopes. Grass does not stop erosion on slopes.
- Plant a rain garden to soak up excess moisture and stop runoff.
- Use mulch whenever possible.
- Bald spots in your yard or garden are bad news. Cover them with mulch and get something growing there ASAP.
- Build terraces or a retaining wall. Any mid-yard structure will do a good job of stopping water and soil from leaving your yard.
- Plant native plants with absorbent root structures.



**The West Cocalico Water Authority reads your water meters four times a year. Sump Pumps may not be connected to the public sewer system as this overloads the sewer treatment plant.**

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**Water and Sewer bills are mailed on a quarterly basis. You should receive your bill, per the following schedule:**

- 1st Qtr. (Jan/Feb/Mar) by April 15th**
- 2nd Qtr. (Apr/May/June) by July 15th**
- 3rd Qtr. (July/Aug/Sept) by October 15th**
- 4th Qtr. (Oct/Nov/Dec) by January 15th**

**If you don't receive a bill or have any questions, please call the Authority at (717) 336-6265.**



**Going away?  
Don't worry about a thing!**  
The Ephrata Police Department will come and check up on your home while you're away as a courtesy to you.  
Call Ephrata Police Department (717) 738-9265



**Trick OR Treat**  
Trick or Treat night will be held on Monday, October 31 from 6:00-8:00 pm

**MARTIN'S MULCH**  
55 Woodcrest Road, Ephrata, PA 17522



For a small fee, Martin's Mulch will help dispose of your Woody Waste such as tree branches, shrubs, etc. You can contact them by calling (717) 733-1602.

**TOWNSHIP WEBSITE**  
[westcocalicotownship.com](http://westcocalicotownship.com)

Stay up-to-date! Visit the township website for meeting dates/times, as well as park information, meeting minutes and Zoning Hearing Ads.

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**TAX INFORMATION**

The **County and Township Tax Bill (Spring Taxes)** is sent to you by the County of Lancaster. Payments are to be made to the Treasurer of Lancaster. If you have questions about your Spring Taxes, please call (717) 299-8222.

Your **School Tax or (Fall Taxes)** is mailed to you by the Cocalico School District. If you have questions, please call the tax office (717) 336-1406.

The West Cocalico Township Office mails the **Street Light Tax** to residents that have a street light on their street. If you have questions, please call (717) 336-8720.

**WEST COCALICO TOWNSHIP**

**2016 TAX RATES**

REAL ESTATE TAX	2.175 Mills
REALTY TRANSFER TAX	0.005%
EARNED INCOME TAX	0.005%
STREET LIGHTS \$1.56 per street front foot with a 100 foot maximum	

**REINHOLDS FIRE COMPANY**

138 W. Main Street, Reinholds (717) 336-7753

**November 2 - Clam Mix Sale**

To order, contact any active fireman or call (717) 336-7403. Deadline for orders is 10/24/16.

**November 8 (Election Day) - Soup & Sub Sale** 

**February 12, 2017 - BINGO** 

**February 25, 2017 - Chicken & Waffles**

**\*\* October thru April - First Saturday of the month Blue Grass Festivals held in the Reinholds Banquet Hall**

**BANQUET HALL RENTALS**  
(717) 336-6266 - leave a message.

**SCHOENECK FIRE COMPANY EVENTS**

125 N. King Street, Denver (717) 336-6767  
[www.schoeneckfire.com](http://www.schoeneckfire.com)

**October 22 - Soup & Sub Sale**   
8:00 AM - until sold out

 **November 8 (Election Day) -Sub Sale**

**November 19 - Craft Show**  
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**West Cocalico Township**  
156B West Main Street  
P.O. Box 244  
Reinholds, PA 17569  
(717) 336-8720

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
REINHOLDS PA  
PERMIT No. 15

**Township Office**  
156B West Main Street  
PO Box 244  
Reinholds, PA 17569  
(717) 336-8720

**Authority**  
156B West Main Street  
PO Box 95  
Reinholds, PA 17569  
(717) 336-6265

**Hours**  
Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Except Holidays

**Township Website:**  
westcocalicotownship.com

**Email:**  
westcocalico@dejazzd.com

**Water/Sewer  
Emergency call  
Authority's Cell Phone:**  
(717) 629-7044

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Here

**Emergency: 9-1-1**

**Ephrata Police Department.....(717) 738-9265**  
**Reinholds Ambulance.....(717) 336-0217**  
**Reinholds Fire Company.....(717) 336-7753**  
**Schoeneck Fire Company.....(717) 336-6767**