

WEST COCALICO TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Semi-Annual

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

Spring 2017

Have you noticed a new white truck in town?

The new truck belongs to the West Cocalico Authority and driving the truck is our newest road crew member and water operator, Kent Reich. Kent works for both the Authority and the Township. His time is split between the two. Part of his day is spent operating the water system, and the other is spent with the township road crew, mowing, paving, or plowing.

Kent is no stranger to West Cocalico Township. Kent resides in the township, and he is the fire chief of Reinholds Fire Company. Kent is very familiar with the water system, as he previously worked part-time for the West Cocalico Authority from 2002 to 2008. We are very lucky to have him back!



West Cocalico Township Ranked one of the Safest Small Towns in the United States

Good news! West Cocalico Township ranked #90 in the LendEDU Top 250 Safest Small Towns in the United States Report. In short, West Cocalico Township is one of the safest towns in the United States according to the FBI.

The ranking is determined by using FBI crime statistic data. The FBI data was used to calculate the ranking metric: the number of violent crimes per 1,000 residents.



Do You Own a Stormwater Management (SWM) Facility?

If a SWM facility is located on your property, then you own it. As the owner, you are required to maintain it in good working order.

Some examples of SWM facilities include the following:

*Detention Basins & Ponds
*Headwalls & Endwalls
*Rip-Rap Aprons

*Inlets & Manholes
*Rain Gardens & Cisterns
*Riparian buffers

*Pipes, Swales, & Ditches
*Infiltration beds



Most SWM facilities are located within a recorded stormwater/drainage easement that provides a means of access for township staff to conduct inspections (this easement should be described in your property deed description). We are currently beginning a program to inspect and map all SWM facilities located in the Township as required by the MS4 stormwater permit which regulates stormwater discharges. If during a routine inspection, township staff identifies any deficiencies, then we will send a letter to the property owner which lists the problem areas and provides information on how to make the appropriate corrections.

Maintenance Responsibilities: All SWM facilities shall be maintained by individual property owners or by a private entity such as a Homeowner's Association. If the stormwater system is not maintained properly, it could lead to a variety of problems such as flooding, poor drainage, sinkholes, erosion, and stormwater pollution. The maintenance responsibilities are listed in Section 230-63.B.1 of the Stormwater Management Ordinance and summarized below.

- All pipes, swales and detention facilities shall be kept free of any debris or other obstruction and in original design condition.
- Owners should remove silt from all permanent structures which trap silt/sediment in order to keep the material from building up and reducing their capacity to convey or store stormwater.
- Owners should re-establish vegetation of any bare areas where vegetation has not been successfully established in order to minimize soil erosion.

Call the Township at 336-8720 if you observe any illegal dumping or illicit discharges into the stormwater system.

SPRING CLEANING...

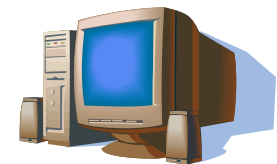
Did you know that **Staples stores** will recycle your old technology for **FREE!**

ITEMS ACCEPTED FOR FREE RECYCLING:

All-in-one computers
Cable/satellite receivers
Calculators
Camcorders
CD/DVD/Blu-Ray players
Computer speakers
Copiers (desktop)
Cordless phones
Desktop computers
Digital cameras
Digital projectors
eReaders (Trade-in eligible)

External hard drives
Fax machines (desktop)
Gaming devices
GPS devices
Pods/MP3 players (Trade-in eligible)
Keyboards
Laptops (Trade-in eligible)
Mice
Mobile phones (Trade-in eligible)
Modems
Monitors
Printers & multifunction devices (desktop)

Routers
Scanners (desktop)
Shredders
Small server
Stereo receivers
Tablets (Trade-in eligible)
UPS/battery backup devices
Video streaming devices



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.

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.

**YARD SALES**

West Cocalico Township has no limit on the number of yard sales you may have per year. No yard sale signs are permitted to be nailed, stapled or taped to utility poles.

**LANDSCAPE REMINDERS**

With spring finally here, please remember when landscaping or planting, do not plant shrubbery, trees or crops or place decorative stones close to the roads.

It's important to stay several feet from the roadway so the flow of traffic or the sight of motorists is not hindered.

Thanks for your help!

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, community events, meeting minutes and zoning hearing ads:

www.westcocalicotownship.com

**STREET LIGHT TAX BILL**

The 2017 Street Light Tax Bills were mailed 3/1/2017. If you normally receive a Street Light Tax Bill but did not this year, please call the township office at 336-8720 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

**AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP 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.

ROADS TO BE SEAL COATED/PAVED

The following roads will receive seal coat for a total of 51,294 sq. yds.

Cherry Alley
Creamery Road
Creek Road
Hertzog Valley Road
Long Lane
Paradise Road
Rail Road Street

The following roads will receive double chip seal and fog seal for a total of 4,664 sq. yds.

Linda Lane
Martin Circle



The Historical Society of the Cocalico Valley is sponsoring its second church tour on Saturday, April 22, 2017. Nine area churches will open their doors between 10AM and 3PM welcoming visitors into their buildings, and in some locations, their adjoining cemeteries. Each participating church will present its significant church/congregational history and highlight unique architectural features. Refreshments and items for purchase will be available at specified locations. Tickets will be available at all participating churches on tour day. Cost is \$15.00 for adults, and free admission for anyone under age 18. Ticket sale proceeds will be designated for general maintenance/upkeep of the Connell Mansion exterior. Contact Elaine Bowman at 336-5181 for additional information.

First United Methodist Church, Church St., Ephrata

Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Church St., Ephrata

Zion United Church of Christ, Apple St., Ephrata

Mohler Church of the Brethren, Mohler Church Road, Ephrata

Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran, Hahnstown Rd, Ephrata

Salem Evangelical Lutheran, W. Main St., Ephrata

St. John's United Church of Christ, S. 4th St., Denver

Springville Old Order Mennonite Church, Springville Rd., Ephrata

Wiest Memorial (Methodist) Church, King St., Stevens (Schoeneck)

TO RINSE OR NOT TO RINSE

It is important to properly prepare packaging for recycling in order to optimize the quality of recycled materials, but it can sometimes be confusing. How exactly do we know when it's necessary to rinse our packaging and when it is more valuable to conserve water?

Here are a few guidelines:

- * If you are making sure that every container is empty before recycling it, you've gone most of the way towards being an excellent recycler. Packaging that is still full or partially full is at high risk of being landfilled even if you place it in your recycling bin. You should compost any remaining crumbs or unused food products before recycling.
- * Any package containing a lot of thick and sticky residue, like a jar of peanut butter or a tub of icing, should be rinsed.
- * Any package containing soap (dishwasher detergent, shampoo, laundry detergent, hand soap, etc.) should not be rinsed. In fact, some plastic recyclers rely on residual soap to clean the plastics during reprocessing. After all, it is important to reduce, reuse, and recycle!
- * Rinsing does not need to be perfect. Don't worry about getting every single spot of residue off, because that uses a lot of water. Just splash that salsa jar with a little water, replace the lid, and it's ready to go.
- * If the cap or lid isn't easily removed for you to get inside it and rinse, don't worry; just make sure the package is thoroughly empty before recycling.

Look for the How2Recycle label that explains when a container should be rinsed or not.

**PAVILION RENTALS**

Anyone may reserve a pavilion in any of the parks: Chapel Gate Park, Main Street Park or Schoeneck Park. The rental fee is \$50.00 and is **non-refundable**. Please call the Township Office at 336-8720 to make your reservation. A rental agreement form **MUST** be signed and submitted with your \$50.00 to the township office. Forms can be found on the township website.

Schoeneck and Chapel Gate pavilions have a refrigerator. If you are interested in using the refrigerator area, an additional \$50.00 fee will be charged. This fee is refundable.

For pictures and more information visit westcocalicotownship.com



Alcoholic beverages are not permitted at any of the township parks.

Thank you for adhering to this.

**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.**



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

What Can You Do To Be A Safe Pedestrian

Learn the techniques that can protect you each time you're a pedestrian. Put your knowledge to work with a combination of safe attitudes and safe actions.

Some basic pedestrian safety rules are:

- * Obey signs and signals. Use pedestrian crossings, traffic lights and signs, and look in all directions before crossing.
- * Stop, look left-right-left before crossing. Walk, don't run.
- * Be alert, especially in bad weather. Concentrate on what's happening around you.
- * Walk on sidewalks. If you must walk in the street, walk single file, face traffic and stay as close to the edge of the road as you can.
- * Always cross the street at intersections or crosswalks. Don't enter the roadway from between parked cars or from behind shrubs or bushes.
- * Don't assume a vehicle is going to stop for you; the driver may not be paying attention or see you.
- * Be seen at night. Wear white or light-colored clothes, retro-reflective strips and carry a flashlight.



STAY UP-TO-DATE

Township website: westcocalicotownship.com

Visit the township website for meeting dates/times, as well as park information, meeting minutes, community events and zoning hearing ads.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

For up-to-date news and information happening in the township such as road closings, emergencies, etc.



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

2017 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, PA 17569 (717) 336-7753

March & April – Fund Drive in Progress

Saturday, June 3 – Pulled Pork Sandwich - 11am-1pm

Includes sandwich, slaw, fries & drink
Advance tickets available; limited amount at the door
Take-out ONLY

Saturday, June 10 – Classic Harley Davidson Fire Company Food Stand

Saturday, September 9 – Pit Beef Sandwich - 11am-1pm

Includes sandwich, baked beans, fries & drink
Advance tickets available; limited amount at the door
Take-out ONLY

Saturday, October 8 – Gift Card Bingo

Banquet Hall Rentals: (717) 336-6266 - leave a message.

All fundraisers are held at the Reinholds Fire Co. Banquet Hall

SCHOENECK FIRE COMPANY

125 N. King Street, Denver, PA 17517 (717) 336-6767
www.schoeneckfire.com

Saturday, April 22 – All U Can Eat Seafood Night
(Breaded Oysters, Steamed Shrimp & Fried Fish)

3pm-7pm
Advanced Tickets only available until April 15 or sold out
Dine in only - No take outs

Saturday, May 6 – Yard Sale - 7am - ?
Big John Nolt Chicken BBQ Dinner - 9am - ?

Saturday, May 20 – Consignment Auction - 9am - ?
Quilt Auction at noon

For consignment drop off dates, contact the fire hall.
No tires, AC units, windows or doors.
Fire Company can refuse any items

Banquet Hall Rentals: Contact David High (717) 271-6727

All fundraisers are held at the Schoeneck Fire Co. Banquet Hall

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:

wcocalico@gmail.com

Water/Sewer

Emergency call

Authority's Cell Phone:

(717) 629-7044

West Cocalico Township

Newsletter

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Schoeneck Fire Company.....(717) 336-6767