

Special points of interest:

- History of Roads and Annual History night
- Smoke testing
- Upcoming Events
- Compost Bin Give-away
- Spring Cleanup
- Farmers Market



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NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP

Spring 2007



From the Chairman

Long time residents of the Township often look around the Township and reminisce about the way it was. There have been a lot of changes in the Township and in Southern Chester County over the last fifteen years and more are anticipated. A look at this Newsletter shows the diversity of the changes; articles on the history of our roads, mushroom farmers, storm water, septic systems, recreation events, the art association, a more diverse collection you will be hard pressed to find.

Our challenge is to preserve the country life while integrating the new comers while not changing the core principles of life in

New Garden. To that end the Township is making every effort to preserve open space, agriculture and provide recreational space. Our goal is to try to fit development in as well as possible with our existing community, this is often a challenge and sometimes impossible but the Board makes every effort given the legal frame work and the rights of the property owner to use and develop their property.

As the housing market slows down the Township has seen an increase in interest in retail and commercial development. With the assistance of qualified professional planners and engineers the Board of Supervisors will insure that the developments

are planned and developed to fit in as well as possible with the community.

As a hedge against future tax increases the Township is promoting economic development opportunities and planned development by acquiring the New Garden Airport and promoting a business park to increase tax ratables and provide jobs.

The challenge is before us and with your help and suggestions we believe that we can keep New Garden the way we remember it.

Robert Perrotti
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

A Look Back at New Garden Township's Roads

by Dr. Peg Jones

In 1930, Gifford Pinchot was elected Governor of Pennsylvania for a second term with the slogan, "get the farmers out of the mud." He saw paving rural roads as an economic necessity for farmers as well as a make-work program for the more than a million unemployed in the State. The roads were to be "economical, but adequate," and funds were provided to pave 20,000 miles of road. A limited amount of machinery was used so more hand labor would create more jobs. At long last there was to be State Aid so that local municipalities could stone and/or macadamize country roads. New Garden Township had a number of "Pinchot roads," some of which were Hillendale, Penn Green and Landenberg Road.

From the beginning, problems with rural roads were due largely to the policy of making road maintenance the responsibility of local townships. Although farmers were required to work on the roads, they could not be compelled to work more than 6 days a year. "Work" consisted of pushing trees and branches off the roadway, of ditching roadsides for drainage, of filling holes with stone and of rolling the surface. Although there was an elected road supervisor, he had other responsibilities, his farm, blacksmith shop, etc. In addition, farmers' work was controlled by the weather. If the weather were clear, all their time was spent in farm work and when it rained, neither farm work nor road work could be accomplished. Even after townships were able to tax for road maintenance, farmers were permitted to "work out" their tax bill and many did so. The system essentially did not change.

New Garden's early roads

Driving the secondary roads of the Township, it is easy to determine which dated from the earliest days of (Continued on next page)

settlement. Steep road banks caused by erosion and repeated digging out of mud mired wagon wheels are the clue. For instance, traveling north on Newark Road from Toughkenamon to London Grove, some of the road banks on the hillsides exceed six feet. In almost 250 years of use before the road was paved, it eroded enough to deepen the road bed by six feet or more.

The history of laying out and building roads was one of need; roads were built from mills to Meeting Houses. And the first roads were only trails marked by blazes on trees. The convention of blazing was 5 notches on a tree, marking a tree about every 100 yards. Newark Road was New Garden Township's first road, blazed in 1710, extending from Thomas Moore's mill in Doe Run to New Garden Meeting House. Eventually in 1733, the road was completed to the Delaware line. County records show repeated changes to the original route in: 1721, 1773, 1820.

The Township's other main artery in the Colonial era was the Gap to Newport Pike. In 1752, a petition to the Court in Chester read in part...."to lay out a road beginning at William Miller's mill....and thence onto the great road which leads to Newport." This road, beginning on Ellicott road south of Avondale and joining Route 7 which was called the "Great Road," would become modern day Route 41.

Although the blazed tracks of the early roads gave way to dirt roads, many roads were impassable at different times of the year. Letters of protest were published in the local newspapers. In January of 1855, one New Garden resident wrote, "Last week the roads in every direction were in terrible condition for traveling. The frost was nearly all out of the ground and the mud in many places was a foot deep. Occasionally the mud was frozen on top just sufficient to form a crust, which easily permitted a horse's foot to pass through, but not so easily allowed it to be drawn out."

Other complaints were with farmers who squared off a field and in so doing, placed a fence across a road, or who, in neglecting to fence their pastures, allowed their cattle to roam over the public road.

By the late 18th century, the process for creating a new road was established by law. A petition for a new road had to be filed with the County Court which in turn appointed a "jury of view" to determine if there was need for such a road. A bond had to be filed by one of the petitioners to cover Court fees and to pay for a survey. The petitioners also had to obtain releases in writing from all landowners involved, to cover claims of damage arising from opening the road on their land. Finally, a drawing of the road, its course, distance, landmarks and names of property owners affected needed to be prepared and filed with the Court. If a road were to be vacated, a similar procedure was followed.

Some of the early petitions for roads in New Garden Township included:

1745__Penn Green Road.... Road beginning at a black oak within the line of Samuel Miller and ending in the road leading from New Garden Meeting House to William Miller's Mill.

1807—Southwood Road....Road beginning at the place where the road leading from Evans'lime kiln intersects with the road leading from New Garden Meeting House to New Castle, and ending in the State line near the Great Road leading from Newport to Lancaster known by the name of the Limestone Road near the house of Thomas Wilson.

1814—Ellicott Road.... Road beginning in the new Turnpike Road on the east side of White Clay Creek near the New Garden Township line and ending in the road leading from Benjamin Pusey's Mill.

1822—Watson's Mill Road....Road beginning in a public road near Thomas Brown's Mill and ending in a public road at the New Castle County line.

1827__Mercers' Mill Road...Road beginning in a public road in Chandlersville near the large woolen factory and ending in a public road west of Evans' Bridge.

Turnpikes

In 1807, the Gap-Newport Turnpike was chartered with stocks sold to shareholders; by 1818, the road was finished at a cost of about \$1000 a mile. It followed the old Gap-Newport Road, commonly called the "Grain Road." Farmers from "up country" had used this road for years to bring their grain to the flour mills along the Brandywine. The road was also a drovers' road for farmers who drove their cattle and hogs to the port of Christiana for shipment to eastern cities.

Like most of the other turnpikes of the era, the Gap-Newport Pike consisted of a crown or high road of crushed stone and a low summer road of natural soil on either side. The name turnpike derived from the gate or bar which was suspended across the road to stop the traveler until he had paid the toll. Toll gates were built about every 5 miles along the road. Users found the tolls to be exorbitant, and devised schemes to avoid paying toll, such as traveling after 10:00 at night when the gates were thrown open. Examples of tolls were: .04 cents for every 20 sheep, .06 for every 20 hogs, .12 for every for every horse and if a rider, .03 more; a wagon was .12 cents.

Turnpikes were expensive to maintain because of the need for many toll-keepers. Frequently, the income from tolls could not cover road maintenance and toll-keepers' salaries. By the end of the 1840 era as railroads were being built, most of the turnpikes were taken over by State and local governments; the original stocks worthless. (The Gap-Newport Turnpike Company went bankrupt.) Nevertheless, in the period when farming was moving from subsistence to commercial farming, turnpikes served farmers needing to get their products to market.

A reminder of the turnpike days is the mile marker placed along Route 41 in front of the former township building. This mile marker, originally placed on the north side of the turnpike, was moved to township property for safe keeping.

Paved roads

With the exception of the Turnpike, stoned in 1818, all other roads in the Township remained dirt roads until in the years 1905-06, Baltimore Pike from Kennett to Avondale was stoned, using crushed stone from the quarry near the present day Tick Tock Day Care Center. This road improvement came about as a result of the Sproul Good Roads Law of 1903 which provided assistance to municipalities for roads. The stretch of road, 15,483 feet long and 16 feet wide cost \$20,841; of this amount the State paid \$13,894. Newark Road, determined a State road, was paved in 1917.

Gradually as the Township Road Supervisors (precursors to the modern Board of Supervisors) felt they could afford the cost, some of the country roads were stoned and eventually paved. Dirt roads remained the staple for the Township, however, into the mid 20th century. In 1949, residents of Pemberton Road were up in arms because their requests for a hard surfaced road were being ignored by the Supervisors. Residents said no work had been done on the road for 20 years and that at times the road was so muddy and rutted, it was impossible for cars to travel. The same could be said for New Garden Road East which was not paved until the Elementary School was built in 1956-57. It remained another decade before Bucktoe Road would be paved.

Today care and maintenance of township roads remain a local responsibility. The Board of Supervisors employs a fulltime road master and crew for snow removal and general maintenance of New Garden's township roads.

Road Department News

By Joe Yakscoe

The township has gone through another cold winter. The public works department wants to thank all the residents for their cooperation with the plowing and road deicing.

The department chipped and recycled close to 100 Christmas trees this year. This was the most from any other single year. Thanks to all residents who recycle their trees.

The township is in the process of formalizing the 2007 road improvements for this year. The focus will be to do as much repair as possible on the Sharp Road from Bucktoe Road to Route # 41. The Hartefeld Development has been built out and the repairs to Sharp Road have been backed off until the heavy equipment and work was completed. The start of pipe repairs and road improvements will begin in the spring of 2007.

The Public Works Department will be cleaning inlets and pipes in the spring along with removing old pipes and replacing with new pipes and storm drain inlets.

There will be road side shoulder work repairs of any road damage from the cold winter and pot holes will be filled also.

One week in the spring the department will do a road litter cleanup. The workers will walk the roads with the most debris and walk and bag and clean up all debris.

Signs will be posted at work zones and the department apologizes for any inconvenience and will work towards limiting any delays.

Annual History Night

A VISUAL HISTORY TOUR USING OLD MAPS AND SATELLITE IMAGERY

Join us for the 4th Annual History Night on Friday, April 20, 2007 for a program that will combine historical features with a popular mapping tool.

The historical features will be several sites in the Township that you may not have seen or heard about before. The technology is Google Earth, which will be used to illustrate the topography of the White Clay Creek and how it influenced the development of the Township. Then, using Google Earth's layer capability you will see the locations of the mills, schools, quarries, railroads, and other geographic facts that comprise New Garden's rich history.

Breou's 1883 map is another layer. When it is superimposed on satellite images of New Garden Township, you will see what the map site of your house looked like in 1883.

The Preservation Award will be presented to the owners of an older house that is lovingly cared for, and refreshments will be served. Please come! The program will begin at 7:30 PM.

New Garden Farmers Market

2007 marks the third year of operation for the "New Garden Growers Market," the township's very own outdoor, seasonal, "all local produce"

farmers market. This year the market season kicks off on Saturday, May 19th with an opening day festival. Activities will include face painting, crafts, and balloons for the children, with live music, local food, and free drawings for the adults. The hours of operation for 2007 will be 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., every Saturday, rain or shine, through October.

Once again the market will offer only the freshest, in season, fruits and vegetables, sold directly to the customer by the farmers themselves. Also available are locally made cheeses, plants, cut flowers, baked goods, eggs, and honey. New this year is the addition of several local artisans and craftspeople selling their wares.

The market takes place on Rt.41 in front of the Township Maintenance Garage. For more information call Carin Bonifacino at (610) 268-2150 or e-mail: summersun33@juno.com.

Anyone interested in setting up a mushroom stand and selling mushrooms, please contact Carin.



American Mushroom Institute CAC Launches Web Site “Great Farmers/Great Neighbors”

Sara Manning American Mushroom Institute

The Community Awareness Committee (CAC) of the American Mushroom Institute is launching its new Web site, “Great Farmers/Great Neighbors” at www.mushroomfarmcommunity.org

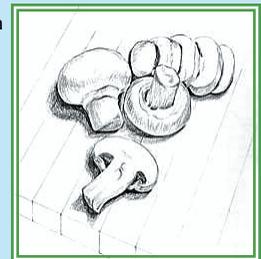
The site highlights the contributions made to the Chester County community by the mushroom growers’ organization and individual members since the late nineteenth century.



“The mushroom farm community is a big part of the history and culture of southern Chester County,” said Gene Richard, Executive Director of CAC. “The site is designed to give information on our farms and also serve as a place where the community can meet some of our members. We invite our neighbors to spend a few minutes on our Web site and learn something about mushroom farming.”

The site highlights members of the organization. Initial family farms presented are C. P. Yeatman & Sons and C. J. Mushroom Co. Also featured is a story on Artemio Camacho, head grower at the C. J. Mushroom Farm. Additional families will be added to the site in the spring and summer. Most mushroom farms in Chester County are run by area residents, many being descents of the original owners. The Web site also contains useful information, including a look at the economic impact of mushroom farms. The mushroom farm community employs approximately 9,000 people in southeastern Pennsylvania. Also the industry supports many other businesses that sell supplies and services to mushroom farms.

Besides contributing to the economic health of the community, mushrooms are healthy for consumers. Mushroom varieties share common nutritional values. All cultivated mushrooms are low in calories and are sodium free, fat free and cholesterol free. The “Great Farmers/Great Neighbors” site corrects a number of misconceptions about mushroom farming. Mushroom farming is environmental friendly. Also, workers on the farms are paid good wages, pay taxes and provide proper residency identification before being employed.



The Community Awareness Committee makes many valuable contributions to the local area. The site has a section on the good work of the committee, including educational support. The committee gives scholarships to seniors from Avon Grove, Kennett, Oxford, Unionville and Kennett high schools. The group has awarded more than \$110,000 since the scholarship program’s inception.

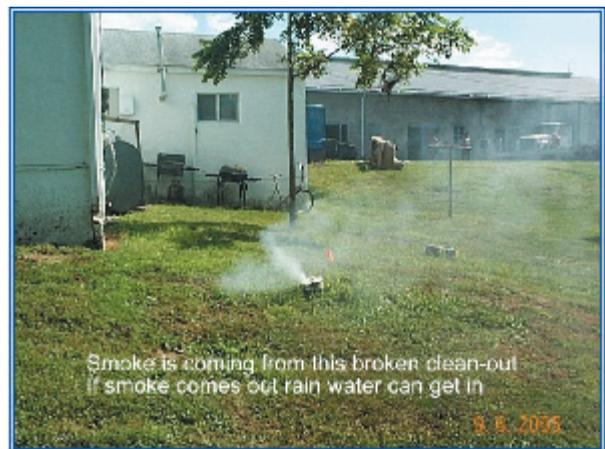
For those wishing to find out more about mushrooms from leading national associations and educational organizations, look for links on the site.

Smoking Pipes by William O’Connell

Yes, that is correct-your sewer pipes may be smoking. During the fall and winter months the New Garden Wastewater Department will be conducting smoke testing on the sewer mains. By performing these smoke tests, we will determine if there are:

- Leaking manholes
- Illegal connections
- Cracked or broken sewer pipes

Also, during the testing, your lateral line will be inspected. Things that we will be looking for are, missing or broken clean-out caps, downspouts and/or sump pumps connected to the sewer line. These cause the flows to increase during rainy times, thus making the plant have to treat waters that should not be entering. You will notice a bright pink door knocker when the crew is planning to work in your area. We will try to complete all the areas in a orderly fashion but if we install the card on your home or business, that means the test will be conducted within the following week. Pictures will be taken showing possible leaks for the owner so that they can make repairs in a timely manner.



If you get smoke into your house or business, it is not harmful but will be a sign of a leak inside of your property such as a broken pipe or a dry trap. The wastewater Department will notify the Avondale Fire Co. on the days of operation so that if smoke should set off a fire alarm they will be able to contact the crew directly and find out what area we are working. We don’t want to cause any false alarms to our volunteer firefighters. If you have any Questions please call the Wastewater Department at 610-925-0718. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Tips
for
Home Owners
with
On-Site
Septic Systems**

**How the System
Works**

Residents with Septic Systems must have their septic tanks pumped out every 3 years and submit proof of pumping to the Township.

How the system works

The septic system is a natural sewage treatment and disposal system. By natural, we mean that it relies on bacteria to digest and clean the wastewater. The bacteria in the septic tank literally eat the solids in the tank turning them into liquids and gasses. As you might expect these gasses have a foul odor. To avoid these bad odors they are vented off through pipes on the house roof. The liquid wastes flow to the drainfield. The final purification occurs by organisms living in the soil. The bacteria in the septic tank eat and digest most of the waste. But there's always some waste that doesn't even appeal to these critters. As a result, the Township requires pumping out the tank every three years. This will remove excess sludge that has accumulated

Why additives don't work?

Some of the solids in the tank are sand, grit, bits of plastic and similar materials. No enzyme or bacteria can digest these. Other organic solids are not very digestible. Hence they accumulate. Bacteria that are added must compete with bacteria that are adapted to living in your septic tank. These adapted bacteria have the home field advantage. The newly added organisms can't compete and become dinner for the resident organisms. Enzymes on the other hand are not living and cannot reproduce. Whatever is added to the tank is all that will ever be there. Most septic tanks are 1,000 gallons or larger and the quantity of enzymes added are too low to be helpful. In short, adding enzymes or bacteria usually won't cause a problem but they won't help either. The solution is simple. Pump your tank every three. This solution is easy, safe, and often cheaper than buying septic tank additives.

**Household Hazardous Waste
Collection
September 15, 2007 9:00 am to
3:00 pm**

**Township Maintenance Building
on Rt. 41**

Unacceptable materials:

- Latex paint (water based)
- Explosives
- Ammunition
- Appliances
- radioactive waste
- Tires
- infectious waste
- unidentified waste.

Compost Bin Give-Away

New Garden Township will be hosting a Compost Work Shop and Compost Bin Give-a-way on May 19, 2007. 9:00 AM

Note: YOU MUST ATTEND THE WORKSHOP TO RECEIVE A COMPOST BIN

Call the township to register

How to know if your system is failing

These symptoms tell you that you have a serious problem:

- Sewage backup in your drains or toilets. This is often a black liquid with a disagreeable odor.
- Slow flushing of your toilets. Many of the drains in your house will drain much slower than usual, despite the use of plungers or drain cleaning products.
- Surface flow of wastewater. Sometimes you will notice liquid seeping along the surface of the ground near your septic system.
- Lush green grass over the absorption field, even during dry weather. Often, this indicates that an excessive amount of liquid from your system is moving up through the soil, instead of downward, as it should. While some upward movement of liquid from the absorption field is good, too much could indicate major problems.
- The presence of nitrates or bacteria in your drinking water well. This indicates that liquid from the system may be flowing into the well through the ground or over the surface. Water tests available from your local health department will indicate if you have this problem.
- Buildup of aquatic weeds or algae in lakes or ponds adjacent to your home. This may indicate that nutrient-rich septic system waste is leaching into the surface water. This may lead to both inconvenience and possible health problems.
- Unpleasant odors around your house. Often, an improperly vented plumbing system or a failing septic system causes a buildup of disagreeable odors around the house.
- A failing system can pollute local creeks and streams and is a serious health hazard.

Kitchen Grease

Do not pour grease, fats, or oils from cooking down the drain and do not use the sinks to dispose of food scraps. Grease can cause serious and costly problems for your septic system. **Practice dry cleanup:** Use rubber scrapers to remove fats, oils and grease from cookware, utensils, chafing dishes, and serving ware. Use food grade paper to soak up oil and grease under fryer baskets. Use paper towels to wipe down work areas. Cloth towels will accumulate grease that will eventually end up in your drains from towel washing/ rinsing.

Please follow these suggestions if you are hooked to the Township sewer system or are on septic. Grease causes big problems for the sewer system and costs everybody money.

2007 Spring Cleanup

The New Garden Township Annual spring cleanup and is scheduled for April 25th thru April 29th, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, except Sunday which will be 7:00 am to 5:00 pm

Appliances and tires are acceptable

NO HHW (Household Hazardous Waste)

The New Garden Art Association is a group of artists who meet at the New Garden Township Building and draw and paint a variety of art works.

The group has fifteen members and was founded in 1972 by Ann Hagerty and they continue to meet together to create beautiful works of art. Many of their works are scenes of New Garden Township and include landscapes and historical homes and buildings found in the Township. You can view some of their works in the main hall at the Township building.

During the spring and summer they sometimes go out as a group to paint local scenes. You may see them with their brushes and canvases out in the fields, farms or just about anywhere capturing the local scenery. Although many of their works are of New Garden township their works include scenes of the all of the surrounding area.

They have a continuous exhibition at the West Grove Borough Hall and are currently working on paintings and drawings of scenes of New Garden for an upcoming exhibition.

The New Garden Art Association by Scott Gantt



Left: New Garden Art Association members getting ready for a day of painting at the New Garden Township Building

If you are interested, you can stop by the Township building between 10:30 am and 2:00 pm on Wednesdays and visit with the artists. Note: During the warmer months they may be out in the field

Photos by Scott Gantt



New Garden Township Police Department By Chief Larry E. Dampman

REMOVE ITEMS -CLOSE IT - LOCK IT Reminder to remove all visible valuables and money from your vehicle when parking in public lots, *your driveway*, and other places. We have experienced a number of vehicles being broken into and valuables taken. Garages must also be closed and locked in order to protect your property.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

The standards for North American Daylight Savings Time (DST) change in March 11 2007 starting earlier this year rather than April 1st. DST also ends a week later—Sunday November 4.

ELDERLY/SENIORS

If you know any Township Residents who are elderly and live alone that may need or require “well being checks” please notify the Police Department or the Township Office. We are committed to the well-being and safety of all Township residents.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

A new administrative Assistant has **been hired and will begin work on 3/1/07**. She will be available to answer calls and questions between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Hopefully this will eliminate callers ending up in “voice mail jail!”

PARTNERS – If you see any suspicious activity, please do not hesitate to contact the police department as soon as possible. Obtain as much information as safely possible so that you may provide details when you call. Working together with the Police Department will make our community safer for all.

Unlicensed and Un-inspected Vehicles

By *Don Suckstorf* - Zoning Officer

The New Garden Township Property Maintenance Code regulates the parking and storage of abandoned, unlicensed, uninspected vehicles and junk motor vehicles on properties throughout the township.

Motor vehicles which do not display current registration and or current inspection stickers or vehicles which are in a state of major disrepair or disassembly which are not serviceable are not permitted to be parked or stored on your premises unless the vehicle is parked or stored inside a completely enclosed building approved for such purposes.

Many residents believe, incorrectly, that they are permitted to store one such vehicle outside on their property. If you have an unlicensed, uninspected vehicle or a vehicle in a state of major disrepair or disassembly parked or stored outside on your property you are violating the Township’s Property Maintenance Code.

If you have such a vehicle on your property please take the time to place the vehicle in a completely enclosed building approved for such use or have the vehicle properly inspected and licensed before it becomes a complaint. Your neighbors, Township residents and Township staff will appreciate it. Please help keep New Garden beautiful.



Parks and Recreation Events

By Barbara Underwood
Parks and Recreation Director

Pictures from New Garden Township activities 2006. Juggling Hoffmans, Tree Lighting, Costume Parade, Carriage Rides and Mr. & Mrs. Claus and the 2nd Annual Car Show.



Hope everyone enjoyed the Holiday season and is ready for lots of park activities. We are very busy setting up many activities for 2007.

Spring 2007:

March 31st Community Easter Egg Hunt 11am – 1pm

Sponsored by New Beginnings Church, Toughkenamon

At New Garden Park, Ages: Toddler – 12yrs Rain date: 4/7

April 14th Camp Info Day 1pm – 4pm

At New Garden Administration Building, 299 Starr Rd

Stop in and learn about the camps at the park this summer.

April 21st Community Jamboree 7am – 2pm

Yard Sale, Craft Sale, Food, Face Painting and games for the kids

Benefits United Way of Southern Chester County Rain Date: 4/28

May 12th New Garden Elementary 5K Walk - 9am

At New Garden Park, back pavilion.

May 19th New Garden Growers Market Opens 9am - 1pm

Summer 2007:

Tuesday Family Fun Nights 7pm usually at the back pavilion

6/19 – Jungle John 7/31 – Juggling Hoffmans

6/26 – Fire & Ice Show (Mad Science) 8/7 - Ice Cream Night - Front Pav.

7/3 - Make Up Day 8/14 - TBA

7/10 - Flower Power - gardening 8/21 – Fuzzy, Fizzys, Fizzics Show

7/17 - TBA (Mad Science)

7/24 – Up, Up, and Away -Mad Science. 8/28 – Make Up Day

Friday Band Nights 7pm at the back pavilion.

July 6th & 13th August 3rd, 10th&17th Bands TBA.

Labor Day Fireworks – September 2nd at dusk in the park.

Summer Camps will run through out the summer come to the information meeting on 4/14 or contact bunderwood@newgarden.org for info on camps or any park activity.

Yoga and Pilates is still going strong email or call Barb at 610-972-7194 for the days and times.

Fall 2007: Third Annual Car Show September 22nd rain date 9/29

At New Garden Park Registration starts at 2pm.

Check the bulletin boards at the park as well as the website www.newgarden.org for up to date information on New Garden Township Parks and Recreation events.

For information on the above or any other event or to register an email address with parks and recreation for all the latest news at New Garden Park contact Barbara Underwood by email bunderwood@newgarden.org or phone: 610-972-7194.



**NEW GARDEN
TOWNSHIP
SPRING 2007
NEWSLETTER**

299 Starr Road
Landenberg, PA 19350

Phone: 610-268-2915
Fax: 610-268-0458

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office@newgarden.org

Board of Supervisors
Chairman:
Robert Perrotti
Vice Chairman:
Bob Norris
Members:
Stephen Allaband
Barclay Hoopes
James Neal

Police Chief
Larry Dampman

Parks & Recreation Director
Barbara Underwood

Township Secretary
Kati Parlier

**Stormwater
Recycle
Pretreatment**
Scott Gantt

**Wastewater Treatment
Facilities Manager**
Bill O'Connell

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Sewer Billing Clerk
JoAnne Hafner

Financial Director/Treasurer
Lewis Gay

Zoning Officer
Don Suckstorf

Road Master
Joseph Yakscoe

www.newgarden.org

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19350-9211

Stormwater Issues in New Garden Township

By Scott Gantt



Human Health: In general, untreated stormwater is unsafe. It can contain toxic metals, organic compounds, bacteria, and viruses. Untreated stormwater is not safe for people to drink and is not recommended for swimming. Polluted stormwater can lead to contaminated fish and ruin the recreational resources that abound in the Township.



Drinking Water: In some areas of New Garden and parts of Chester county, gravelly soils allow rapid infiltration of stormwater. Untreated stormwater discharging to the ground could contaminate aquifers that are used for drinking water.



Degraded Water Quality: All of the creeks, streams, and rivers are harmed by stormwater pollution. Stormwater is the leading contributor to water quality pollution of urban waterways in New Garden.



Increased Flooding and Erosion: Urban development increases the amount of impervious surfaces such as pavement and rooftops. This increases water flow runoff and flooding frequency and intensity. Stormwater flow also erodes stream channels. A typical city block generates 5 times more runoff than a woodland area of the same size.

Impaired Habitat: In New Garden, excess stormwater harms and pollutes streams that provide habitat for fish and wildlife. Alterations to the watershed, such as building homes and other structures and clearing away trees and shrubs, are the leading causes for stormwater pollution. Federal agencies identified habitat loss from stormwater runoff as one of the primary sources of pollution.