

# Abington Township

## Newsletter

### Recent Board Actions

- Adopted Resolution No. 16-006 for an alternative to the proposed EPA total Phosphorous maximum daily load for the Wissahickon Creek Watershed
- Ordinance No. 2100 adopted to amend the Stormwater management requirements of the Township.
- Promotion to the Rank of Sergeant, Officer Joseph Blythe.
- Landscape Bid authorization for Economic Development Business District.
- Adoption of Resolution No. 16-010 for the Final Township Master Bicycle Plan.
- Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 2102-An Ordinance amending Chapter 162 "Zoning" Section 600 Flood Plain Conservation Overlay District.
- Appointed Elizabeth Smith, Matthew Vahey and Erin Vizza to fill vacancies on the Economic Development Committee.
- Appointed Charles DiCello as a member of the Planning Commission.
- Appointed Thomas True, Bob Greaves, Lorena Trujillo to the new Vacant Property Review Board.
- Adopted Resolution 16-014 in opposition to Senate Bill 1055 expanding the sale, usage, and storage of consumer fireworks in Pennsylvania.
- Accepted a \$15,000 grant from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Penbryn and Crestmont Pools Feasibility Study.
- Approved the DCNR C2P2 development grant application for improvements to the Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary.

### Contact Your Township

7:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Telephone: 267-536-1000

Fax: 215-884-8271

[www.abington.org](http://www.abington.org)

Address: 1176 Old York Road Abington, PA  
19001

Public Works/Trash 7:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.  
Tax Office

Monday- Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

267-536-1025,1026,1027,1028

Spring 2016 Volume 20, Issue 1

### Abington PAL Comedy Night of Hilarity

Looking for a night of laughter? Come to PAL Comedy Night on Friday, April 22 at the Keswick Theater in Glenside. This mature audience event features three comedians a: headliner Chuck Nice, along with Dena Blizzard and Eddie Clark, all with outstanding comedic pedigrees. Showtime is 7:30 PM. Tickets are general admission - \$25—a bargain night at the theater. Call your family and friends and make it a fun night out to benefit the Abington Police Athletic League programs for Township boys and girls. Headliner Chuck Nice is a stand-up comic from Philadelphia, who can boast a long list of comedic TV and radio credits. He was heard for many years on New York City's Radio Chick show. He hosts Buy Like A Mega Millionaire on HGTV, is seen regularly on the Today Show, and has co-hosted The View. Chuck currently co-hosts Star Talk Radio with Dr. Neil Degrasse Tyson where he provides humorous commentary on one his favorite subjects, science.

Rounding out this evening of laughter are Dena Blizzard, known as "One Funny Mother," and well established comedian Eddie Clark. Dena has performed from Los Vegas to New York City and was Miss New Jersey in 1995. Among her many credits, she has hosted the TV Land Red Carpet and PBS's Real Simple and has co-hosted Anderson Live with Anderson Cooper. Eddie, a comedian of three decades, actually served as a police officer earlier in his life and was a security officer for the U.S. State Department. Buy your tickets now for this all-star lineup before they sell out: [www.abingtonpal.org](http://www.abingtonpal.org), 267.536.1100 x.1509 or [www.keswicktheatre.com](http://www.keswicktheatre.com), 215.572.7650.

### Annapolis Day Trip

Let us drive you to and from Annapolis where all roads lead to the water and a nautical heritage that runs as deep as the Chesapeake Bay is wide. Founded as Anne Arundel Town in 1649, Annapolis became the capital of Maryland in 1695 and the nation's first peacetime capital in 1783. Today, Annapolis boasts more 18th-century brick buildings than any other city in the country and the oldest State House in continuous legislative use in the nation. A Museum without Walls, Annapolis is a lively, upbeat, contemporary city where four centuries of architecture embraces 21st-century living. The homes of Maryland's four signers of the Declaration of Independence still stand, and three of them are open to the public. If one-of-a-kind boutiques, galleries, and specialty shops are on your list, stroll through the Historic District where Maryland Avenue, State Circle, Main and West Streets have earned worldwide reputations as shopping hot spots. A bustling port town in the 18th-century, Annapolis is home to the U.S. Naval Academy and its 4,000-strong Brigade of Midshipmen. Stop by at lunchtime during the academic year to see future officers of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps in noon formation. Please visit [tourinfo@usna.edu](mailto:tourinfo@usna.edu) to arrange a walking tour of the Academy.

Date: Saturday, July 16, 2016 at 7:00AM to 7:00PM Cost: \$50 per person  
Depart & Return: Alverthorpe Park Main Parking Lot

## Briar Bush

• Briar Bush is happy to announce that their Family Nature Night program for children with ASD and other sensory issues and their families was chosen as the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators (PAEE)'s Outstanding Environmental Education Program for 2016. Also, Public Programs Educator Melissa Eldridge received the Daisy S. Klinedinst award from PAEE this year. The award recognizes an educator who shows dedication to expanding involvement in environmental education.

• Briar Bush's EarthFest is Sunday, April 17 from 1-4. This is a free family event with hikes, animals programs and crafts. Come make a grocery bag out of an old t-shirt, and learn other ways to reduce.

• Registration for Briar Bush Summer Camps is open. See the website at [www.briarbush.org](http://www.briarbush.org) for more information and to register. Unplug your kids this summer!

## Flea Market

Location: Alverthorpe Park

Time: Saturday, April 23, 2016

Rain Date: Sunday, April 24, 2016

Market Open at 9:00 AM (8:00AM set up)

Space Rental: \$15/space- FREE to shop!

For more information call 215-884-6538 or visit our website at <http://abington.org/departments/parks-recreation>

## Engineering Department

To contact the Engineering Department please call: 267-536-1041.

The following is a list of the 2016 construction season Engineering Department's projects:

\* Sidewalk installation on east side Rockwell Road from Roy Avenue to Old Welsh Road

\* Old Welsh Road Sanitary Sewers from Paper Mill Road to Huntingdon Road.

\* Storm sewer projects on 1010/1016 Henrietta Avenue, 1070 Old Ford Road and 316 Filmore Street

## 26th Annual Homicide Vigil

The Abington Township Police Department (APD) will host the 26th Annual Homicide Vigil presented by the Victim Services Center of Montgomery County, on Tuesday, April 26, 6:00 PM, in the Township's Board of Commissioners room. This event honors both civilian victims and police officers who have lost their lives to violent crime in the past year. As part of the program, the Abington Police Honor Guard will present the colors and the names of all the deceased will be read. Anyone who has lost a loved one in this way is welcomed to attend as well as interested members of the community.

The APD has a Victim Services Unit headed by Jan Harris and located in the Community Policing Division. Anyone who is a victim of crime in Abington receives a follow-up phone call to express support and offer resources in order to help people heal from victimization. New volunteers to assist with monthly phone calls are welcome. Information: 267.536.1079.

## Gettysburg-Guided Tour

Join us as we travel by motor coach to Gettysburg for a guided tour to Gettysburg National Military Park Battledied along with combination admission to "A New Birth of Freedom" film and Gettysburg Cyclorama Painting Experience at Gettysburg Visitors Center and Museum. Included is a lunch buffet at historic Farnsworth House! We will leave from the main parking lot of Alverthorpe Park at 7:30 AM (sharp) and travel non-stop to Gettysburg. We will return to the park around 7:30 PM.

Date: Saturday, May 21, 2016

Time: 7:30 AM to 7:30 PM

Cost: \$115 per person

Depart & Return: Alverthorpe Park main parking lot

## Spring/Summer Season Safety Tips

- Spring has sprung, and so has favorable weather inviting more people outdoors. Remember to BE WATCHFUL FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS. When passing cyclists on the roadway, leave at least four feet between your vehicle and the rider.
- April showers bring...an important reminder to motorists: DO NOT drive through deep water. DO NOT drive around barricades that are blocking roadways due to floodwaters. Motorists can be cited under PMVC 3111.1 which includes a \$250 fine. Further, if a tow truck or emergency services are needed, the fine can go as high as \$500 in addition to costs for fire, police, and/or emergency services.
- When motorists are approaching any emergency vehicle along the roadway, they must pass in an adjoining lane (the far lane if there are three). If this is not possible, SLOW DOWN while passing for the safety of the emergency workers.

**Gear up.  
Get in the Action.  
VOLUNTEER.**

[www.abingtonfd.org](http://www.abingtonfd.org)



*What's keeping you from  
the experience of a lifetime?*



**Abington Township Fire Department**



## **Responsible and Safe Use of Sewers**

Article 1-2

We have been experiencing increased frequency of sanitary sewer pipe blockages caused by foreign objects such as handy wipes, rags, paper towels and plastic items that are flushed down the toilet. These items **MUST** be disposed in the trash. The resulting sewer backups caused by these foreign objects result in backflow into basements. **PLEASE NEVER** flush any of these objects. Remember, the water may flow away from your property, but there are always properties upstream from you which could cause a blockage and backflow into your basement. Please respect your neighbors by not flushing these objects and never draining oils into the sink to prevent blockages.

## **Come Honor Outstanding Citizens and Organization**

The Abington Community Taskforce (ACT) invites members of the Abington-Rockledge community to its 15th annual Citizens that Care Recognition Reception to honor those who have been making a difference in the lives of children and teens.

2016 Honorees are Abington Presbyterian Church Animal Control Officer Ron Griffith, Victim Services Liaison Unit Head Jan Harris, and Abington Park & Recreation Director Doug Wendell for their outstanding commitment to community volunteerism. The Community Builder Award will be presented to Penn State Abington Chancellor Dr. Karen Wiley Sandler.

ACT will hold this reception on Thursday, April 26, 5:30-8:00 p.m. at North Hills Country Club. The evening includes hors d'oeuvres and a dinner buffet. Reservations start at \$60 per person with levels of support ranging to \$2,500. Business cards may be placed in the program for \$50 and In Honor/In Memory of listings for \$40.

Proceeds enable ACT to provide the Teen Council and Jim Sheldon ACT Teen Forum which empower young people with a voice and the opportunity to take action in the improvement of their community. ACT provides a dynamic community resource—[www.abingtonact.org](http://www.abingtonact.org) and has a social media presence.

ACT is a nonprofit community-based organization that comprises more than 30 member organizations. To receive a Reception invitation, call Jack at 267.536.1071 or visit [www.abingtonact.org](http://www.abingtonact.org) and click "Contact Us."

## **Abington is now an Audubon Bird Town**

Everyone can help protect nature in their backyards and beyond. Learn tips from [PA.Audubon.org/bird-town](http://PA.Audubon.org/bird-town). Take the Audubon Healthy Yard pledge at <http://pa.audubon.org/pledge>. Join the EAC & Wyncote Audubon Society for an Abington Bird Town Walk and earn a Go Green Rewards Card point. Dates & details at [EAC-Abington.org](http://EAC-Abington.org) or Facebook/Abington.EAC

## **Neighborhood Conflict Resolution**

If you are experiencing a persistent conflict with a neighbor and are having difficulty finding a solution on your own, consider the benefits of the Abington Police Department's Neighborhood Conflict Resolution program. Often a phone call can lead to helpful ideas for ways in which to achieve a resolution. However, on occasion, people struggle to find a workable solution. They can then be considered for mediation by a trained, objective third party member of the Community Policing Division. Please direct your questions or concerns in this area to Community Service Officer Dave Rondinelli, 267.536.1074.

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## **Trash Cleanout**

Trash Cleanout week will be April 4 through April 8, 2016

During this week on your normal trash day, we will take everything that you put out in your regular trash cart plus any additional normal trash placed in store-purchased refuse bags. The bags can weigh no more than 30 lbs. However, no electronics, hazardous waste, construction material or large item pick-ups will be accepted.

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## **Shredding Event**

Abington Township will hold a "Free Shredding Event" on Saturday, April 9, 2016 at the Highway Yard, 2201 Florey Lane, Abington, Pa., 19001 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. All material will be recycled. There is a limit of 4 boxes or bags per car. The boxes can be no bigger than 1.2 cubic foot. Whatever container used it cannot weigh more than 30 lbs. Do not bring newspapers, books or magazines, plastic covering or cardboard, CD's or floppy discs.

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## **No Trash Collection**

All Township offices will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, 2016. On that day there will be no trash, recycling or yard debris collection. On Tuesday, May 31, 2016 both Monday and Tuesday's trash, and recycling carts will be collected. The paper and commingled will be collected by one truck. Yard waste for both days will not be collected until your next regular collection day.

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## **Hazardous Waste Collection**

Montgomery County Hazardous Waste Collection will take place on Saturday, June 18, 2016 at Abington Junior High School, 2056 Susquehanna Road, Abington, Pa 19001 from 9:00 AM to 3 PM.

This event is held outdoors rain or shine. Toxic and flammable household chemicals are collected for proper disposal. Acceptable items include gasoline, oil, kerosene, turpentine, etc.

Do not bring electronics, appliances, asbestos, explosives, latex or water based paint, alkaline household batteries, prescription medications or propane tanks.

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## **Electronics Collection**

On Saturday, June 25, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 1 PM Abington Township at the Highway Yard, 2201 Florey Lane, Abington., Pa. 19001 will offer to their residents the opportunity to responsibly recycle obsolete electronics. This service is available to all residents. Electronics will be recycled by tbs industries. There will be a fee for CRT Televisions 29" - \$15, 30" & above \$30. The fee for CRT Monitors is 15" - \$10 & over 16" up to 20" - \$15.

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## **Abington Town Hall-Wednesday, May 25, 2016, Refreshments at 6:30PM**

### **Program: 7:00PM- 8:30PM at Penn State Abington**

SAVE THE DATE! The EAC invites you to the Abington Town Hall sponsored by the Rydal-Meadowbrook Civic Association and Penn State Abington. Learn about the Township's STAR (Sustainable Tools for Assessing and Rating) program participation. Get engaged with presentations and discussions about "Advancing Abington's" social, economic and environmental livability. Learn more at STARCommunities.org or Rydal-Meadowbrook.org Email AbingtonSTAR@gmail.com for more information.

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## **Go Green Rewards Card**

Pick up your Go Green Rewards Card at any EAC or Shade Tree Commission event and earn points for discounts at local businesses. Details at EAC-Abington.org or Facebook/Abington.EAC.

## **Annual Celebration of Arbor Day**

Join us for coffee at 8:30 am in celebration of Abington's 9th year as Tree City USA®. Chat about trees and the state of our forests. Sign up for Tree Tenders® training. Between 9 and 1, help us plant 20 large trees at the Community Center. No experience needed. We provide the trees, mulch, gloves, tools and guidance. You supply the TLC. Fun for all ages! Tune up your pruners and loppers starting at 10 am at our Garden Tool Workshop. Learn how to set up and use, then order your own Rain Barrel at noon. Lunch provided for all volunteers.

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## **Plant an Entryway Garden at the Ardsley Train Station**

Saturday, May 14 at 9AM

Learn about our plans for restoring the walking path, forest and riparian area from the Maple Avenue entrance to the big pond. Lend a hand as we tend the land.

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## **Planting 20 New Trees at Crestmont Park**

Trees will be planted along Welsh and Reservoir. This spring – date TBD. Thanks to a PECO grant, we will plant the “Right Tree at the Right Place”. This will include oaks and a variety of smaller flowering trees.

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## **Roslyn's Grove Park is getting a Pollinator Garden!**

Thanks to volunteers who prepared the bed in March. Join us on April 16, 9 am to 1 pm, to plant and mulch. Fun for all ages!

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## **Water Please!**

Throughout the growing season, we need assistance with filling water bags each week at the Ardsley Community Center, Crestmont Park and Grove Park. Please consider adopting a few trees- for a week, for a month or more! You can water at your convenience. Great fun with the kids! Great scout project! The STC will set you up with access to water and supplies, and teach you all about trees. For further information, please email [abingtontrees@gmail.com](mailto:abingtontrees@gmail.com) or visit the STC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AbingtonTrees/>

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## **Attend a “Why Rain Barrels?” workshop and Save**

Save money, save water and help the environment. Attend any workshop and get a discount on a rain barrel (as low as \$40 instead of paying \$150 or more at a store). Earn Go Green Rewards Card points for the workshop & barrel purchase:

- Briar Bush EarthFest- Sunday, 4/17, 1:30PM
- Shade Tree Commission Arbor Day Celebration at Ardsley Community Center- Saturday, 4/23, 12 noon
- Collins Nursey Open House- Saturday, 5/14, 2:00PM
- Abington Free Library- Thursday, 5/26, 7:00PM- Registration Required.
- Abington Township Training Center on Florey Lane- Saturday, 6/18, 10:00 AM

Email [AbingtonEACRainBarrels@gmail.com](mailto:AbingtonEACRainBarrels@gmail.com) or to pre-order a barrel to pick up right after the workshop, use the EAC's new Rain Barrel Order Form at <https://sites.google.com/site/eacabington/workshop/workshoprainbarrels>

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## **Help Clean Up our Parks for Earth Day!**

Please volunteer to beautify our parks, plant trees and flowers. Earn service learning hours and Go Green Rewards Card points.

- Roychester Park Cleanup-Saturday, 4/2, 9:00AM-1:00PM
- Crosswicks Audubon Sanctuary- Saturday, 4/9, 9:00 AM-12:00PM
- Keswick Avenue Underpass- Saturday, 4/30, 9:00AM- 12:00PM
- More events & details at [EAC-Abington.org](http://EAC-Abington.org) or [Facebook/Abington.EAC](https://www.facebook.com/Abington.EAC)

## Library

### Abington Library Adult Programs

- Local Author Expo-Saturday, April 16, 9:30am-4pm
- AARP Safe Driver Course- May 19& 20, 12:30-4:30PM
- Daytime Book Discussion Group- Every first Thursday at 1pm

### Abington Library Child Programs

- Preschool Pajama Party Ages 3-5. Thursday, 4/7, 7-7:45PM
- Doggone Good Readers- Grades 1-5. Saturday, 4/2, 10:15-10:45AM
- Drop-In Story Times All ages. Thursdays:11-11:30am, through May 19
- More Build-A-Mania-Community Room will be open from 6-8PM April 26

### Abington Library Teen Programs

- College Essay Boot-camp-Thurs., 3/31 or Wed.,4/27, from 6:30PM-8PM

### Roslyn Branch Library Programs

- New Saturday LEGO Club-every Saturday from 11am-1pm
- Trouble Navigating Computers?-Saturdays, 11am-noon
- Baby Days-Ages 5 months to 2 years, Tuesdays at 11AM. April 5, 19, May 10 and 24.



## Switch to Clean Electricity to \$ave

Several suppliers now offer 100% renewable sourced electricity at rates significantly less than PECO's current price. Visit Make-BenProud.com to find the most recent and reliable offers including PECO's current pricing. (Earn 5 GGRC points for switching!) Why pay more when you can GO GREEN AND SAVE?

## Board of Commissioners

Ward 1	Vice Pres., Steven N. Kline	kline4ward1@comcast.net
Ward 2	Michael Markman	mmarkman88@gmail.com
Ward 3	Drew Rothman	drewrothmanward3@gmail.com
Ward 4	Jimmy DiPlacido	jimmydiplacido@gmail.com
Ward 5	President, Wayne C. Luker	wayneluker@aol.com
Ward 6	Stephen Kalinoski	kalinowskiward6@gmail.com
Ward 7	Benjamin V. Sanchez	bensanchez.ward7@gmail.com
Ward 8	Peggy Myers	meg40@aol.com
Ward 9	Dennis C. Zappone	dczapp1@verizon.net
Ward 10	Thomas Hecker	info@hecker4ward10.com
Ward 11	John L. Spiegelman	spiegs@spiegs.net
Ward 12	Thomas J. Farren, Sr.	tafarren@gmail.com
Ward 13	Carol E. Gillespie	cgil3@verizon.net
Ward 14	Lori A. Schreiber	loriforroslyn@hotmail.com
Ward 15	Thomas Bowman	tbowman1999@aol.com

## Attention Dog Owners

Here in Abington Township, dog ownership has significantly increased. As a result, "Dogs Running at Large" is the number one animal call of record. This call requires hundreds of hours of Police action each year. Many of these dogs have caused severe injury to humans and costly property damage.

Dog owners are required by law:

1. To have their dogs with an up to date Dog license.
2. To have their dogs vaccinated for rabies
3. To keep their dogs on a leash and under the control of a human when off of the owner's property. E collars and extension leashes are not accepted substitutes..
4. To prohibit their dogs from barking until becoming a nuisance.
5. To prohibit their dog from attaching and biting, causing injury and/or property damage.

There were 29 dog bites in 2014 and 31 in 2015. Please help keep our community safe by being responsible dog owners.

## Rabies Immunization Clinic

Abington Recycle Center- Florey Lane

Saturday, June 4, 2016

9 AM - 11 AM

Service Provided by Montgomery County Health Department - 610-278-5117 ext. 6741