



EAST NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP

2016 SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Know Your Township Personnel

Supervisors

Art Rieck, Chairman
Shelley Meadowcroft, Vice Chairman
Joseph Herlihy, Supervisor
Sam Goodley, Supervisor
Vacancy

Employees

Pat Brady, Township Secretary
Suzie Hamlin, Treasurer
PJ Scheese, Zoning Officer
Bill Weaver, Roadmaster
Dennis Lindsey, Road Crew
Roger Blevins, Road Crew
Steve England, Road Crew
Mike Weaver, Road Crew

Consultants

Winifred M. Sebastian, Township Solicitor
Solanco Engineering, Township Engineer
Mark Deimler, Building Code Official

Planning Commission

John Wallace, Chairman
Janice Gavin, Vice-Chairman
Walt Leis, Member
Marc Arot, Member
Robert Stewart, Member
Tom Faux, Member
Joseph Herlihy, Member
PJ Scheese, Secretary

Auditors

Glenna Jordan, Chairman
Lynne Baumeister, Vice-Chairman
Pam Mason, Auditor

Emergency Management Coordinator

John C. Reynolds, Jr.

Zoning Hearing Board

Roger Moran
Keith Stahl
Joseph Taylor
Bill Fischer, Alternate

Oxford Area Sewer Authority Reps.

Percy Reynolds
Joe Scheese

Agricultural Security

John P. Coldiron, Chairman
Paul Smoker
Scott Blum

Oxford Area Rec Authority

Carl Benkey
Michael Watson

Getting to Know your Supervisors

Well the Township has a new Board of Supervisors. After the November election, when two new supervisors were elected, Shelley McLeod Meadowcroft and Joe Herlihy, two more supervisors resigned their positions, Jane Ladley and Scott Blum, leaving Art Rieck the only supervisor left who served in the last two years. Ms. Ladley and Mr. Blum each had two years left in their tenure. Since the New Year the Vacancy Board has been able to fill Scott Blum's position. Fortunately we now have another veteran of the Board, Sam Goodley, who previously served as a Supervisor from 1999 through 2005. Ms. Ladley's position will be filled through the County Court process. We are told the position will be filled by the April 12th Regular Supervisors Meeting.

So here is some biographical information about your current Board of Supervisors:

Art Rieck, Chairman has been a resident of the Township, on Wilson Mill Road, since 1980 where he and his wife raised their daughter. They have three grandchildren. Art's involvement with the township goes all the way back to the 1980's when Pinnacle Developers wanted to put a townhouse development, complete with a community on-site sewage disposal plant, where Duck Farm is now located. He was one of the founders of Concerned Oxford Area Residents (COAR).

Art was in the Navy from 1960 to 1963. He holds degrees from Goldey Beacom College and Wilmington College, and worked for ICI/Zeneca for over 40 years. He is retired and got involved with the township first as a member of the Planning Commission (4 years), and became a Supervisor in 2014. Art is a strong proponent for the Open Space Program.

Shelley McLeod Meadowcroft, Vice Chair was elected to the Board of Supervisors in November and was sworn in on January 4th. Open space preservation, ensuring our local government is open and transparent, and making sure resident's concerns are heard are her top priorities as a Supervisor. Shelley was born and raised in Oxford and is a graduate of Oxford Area High School and Saint Joseph's University. She and her husband, B.J., live in Wiltshire at Oxford and are expecting their first child at the end of April.

Rural Living in the Spring & Summer

Joe Herlihy, member has been a resident of East Nottingham Township for twelve years. He, his wife and daughter live in Blackburn Knoll. Joe has been an electrician for 23 years and served in the Delaware Army National Guard for nine years.

Joe believes in open and honest government. He wanted to be a Supervisor because he decided it was time to step up or shut up and he's not ready to shut up. Joe's goal is to keep our taxes down.

Sam Goodley has lived in East Nottingham Township for all but seven years of his life. He grew up on the farm where he still lives and farms with his son, Sam. An attorney by profession, most of his clients are farmers in Lancaster and Chester Counties. He firmly believes that permanently protecting farms against development is the best tool that we have for preserving the rural character of our township and avoiding the congestion and much higher taxes that always follow residential development.

As a Township Supervisor, he welcomes the opportunity to participate in a fair and open local government which is responsive to the residents of East Nottingham. He invites participation and constructive input from residents at Township meetings.

Township Ordinances

On-Lot Sewage Management Program Ordinance 28-2012



The Township adopted this ordinance in 2012 to provide for the PA DEP requirement of all on-lot septic systems to be pumped out at least every 3 years. Here are some of the highlights.

Routine Inspections –

- Each person owning a building serviced by an On-Lot Septic System shall employ a qualified Maintenance Contractor to complete routine inspections.
- Routine inspections shall be completed every 3 years after either the date of initial inspection or a new On-Lot Sewage Disposal System installation. Routine inspections shall also be completed every three years after final installation approved by the Chester County Health Department Sewage Enforcement Officer.
- A written inspection report signed by the qualified Maintenance Contractor shall be furnished to the Township within 30 days of the applicable period described above.

The Township will begin enforcing this later this year. To read the entire ordinance, or find out the details go to the Township website or contact the Zoning Officer at (610)932-9812.

Local Produce



The benefit from our farming activities is something we all enjoy in the form of fresh indigenous fruit, veggies, eggs, and milk.

A list of farms that have produce, flowers and baked goods for sale is being constructed. If you would like your farm listed, please call or write the township. Here are a few local farms:

- Briar Hollow Farm Market, 476 Little Elk Creek Road
- Jim's Market, intersection of Barnsley Road, Rte. 272, Chrome Road, and Greenhouse Road.
- Toot Valley Farm Market, 204 Crowl Toot Road.
- Windy Acres takes produce and baked goods to the West Grove Farmers Market at Harmony Park.

Tick Removal



With the sunshine come some elements of warmer weather that are not so wonderful. Ticks are one of those things. Here is one way to remove them from humans, as well as animals:

Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and let it stay on the repulsive insect for a few seconds (15-20), after which the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. This technique is less traumatic for the patient and easier for the caregiver.

Unless someone is allergic to soap this should not be damaging in any way.

Township Ordinances We Do Not Have

There are some common questions residents have every year. Part of rural living is that the local government does not regulate every aspect of its residents' lives.

For instance, we do not have a noise ordinance. Some of us may ask why not. Well, for one thing there has to be a quantitative measure to determine what noise level would violate such an ordinance. Another reason is that most often these offenses take place when the Township building is closed. And we especially may not enforce a noise ordinance on a resident of a neighboring township, even if we did have a noise ordinance.

Another common complaint is whether we have a dog ordinance, i.e., something that regulates barking, or your neighbors' wandering dogs. We do not. Our agency for these types of animal complaints is the Brandywine Valley SPCA (previously known as the Chester County SPCA).

Then there are the manure is on the road phone calls. Folks, we live in the county, this is to be expected when you are sharing the roads with horses

and buggies. However, if your issue is that a farmer has dumped liquid manure in the road while fertilizing his fields, that's another thing. In that case you should certainly let us know. Farmers, please respect the boundaries the township has set up regarding how far into the township's right of way you may plant and fertilize.

Ordinances We Do Have

Beginning May 15th and ending October 15th of every year the Township has an ordinance that deals with high grass and weeds. Once the Township is made aware that grass and weeds reach the height of 15 inches on a residential property, we may begin the process of contacting the owner of the property to tell them they are in violation of this ordinance. The process entails sending a notice of violation to the address of the owner of record. If there is no response the township will get bids from contractors to do the required property maintenance. If you know of a property that violates this ordinance within the designated timeframe, you may call the Zoning Officer. This does not apply to farm properties. You can view the full ordinance by going to the Township's website.

And just a reminder to everyone that the Township does have a Stormwater Management Ordinance, which means the County requires us to track every square foot of new impervious surface. This includes any new structures, the expansion of driveways, patios and hardscaping, anything that creates a surface that does not absorb water.

Open Space Update



In case you didn't hear, the Open Space Referendum was passed once again by the voters of ENT. This time by a resounding 11% margin! So now there is no doubt that the majority of our citizens are in favor of preserving farms in our township.

No Earned Income Tax has been levied so far this year, but look to the future for a possible additional EIT of up to ½ of 1% to be used to join with the County and State in preserving our farms for future generations.

AND, just so everyone knows, Jordan Manor, the old Tigue Farm on Little Elk Creek Road between Mount Pleasant Road and Fifth Street, which had been in the subdivision process to have 165 houses built on it, has now been preserved by the State/Country program. Since this preservation, that farm was subdivided between two farmers.

That is 330 cars that will NOT be on our roads during rush hour, folks.

Local Celebrities

Bald Eagles in the Nottinghams

By Walt Leis



For over 4 decades, the population of our national bird has been on the rebound. In 1972, there were only 3 breeding pairs of Bald Eagles in the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Today, after many years of banning DDT, and the reintroduction of eaglets taken from the Alaskan populations, our statewide population of breeding pairs of bald eagles now numbers in the hundreds.

The yearly count for bald eagles is regionally centered at the bird watching area in the Conowingo Dam Park located off Old Route 1 in Cecil County, Maryland. It's been reported that, on windy fall and early winter days (especially when PECO opens the dam to generate power), as many as 100 bald eagles can be seen fishing, stealing fish from each other, swooping overhead, and just doing what eagles love to do, which is to sit on high branches and watch the camera buffs who are oblivious to the great birds sitting 30 feet above them

In the East and West Nottingham township areas, we too, have seen this explosive increase in eagle residents. This bird has gotten quite common so that people no longer stop to take notice when an eagle is soaring above, or when they see one perched on a bare tree limb (usually near some body of water).

There are, perhaps 6 resident bald eagles routinely seen in the Nottinghams. These residents have not yet decided to engage in nest building and family rearing. But it is possible that, within the next few years, we may hear of or be fortunate enough to see a nest site actively occupied by parents and eaglets.

The picture shown here was taken by East Nottingham Township Secretary, Pat Brady. It is a lady eagle that had landed in her front yard a few weeks ago, just to pose for this photo.

Although the eagle, is no longer considered "endangered", its status is still classified as "threatened". Remember that the bald eagle is still our national bird and harming one, or even disturbing them or a nest, is a Federal Offense, punishable by a steep fine and, occasionally, prison time.

So, let's enjoy these magnificent birds, but let's do it passively. Keep your distance and only take pictures when you are sure you won't disturb them. Use a telephoto lens or a telephoto app on your smart phone. And, if you would like to see your photo in the ENT Newsletter, you can email your picture (in jpg format) to zoningofficer@zoominternet.net.

2016 Dates to Remember

Regular Board of Supervisor work sessions:

April 5	May 3	June 7
July 5	August 2	September 6
October 4	November 1	

Regular Board of Supervisor meetings:

April 12	May 10	June 14
July 12	August 9	September 13
October 11	November 7	December 13

Regular Planning Commission meetings:

April 25	May 23	June 27
July 25	August 22	September 26
October 24	November 14	December 19

All meetings are held at 7pm in the Township Building.

Dumpster Weekend – April 15 from 7 am to 6 pm and April 16 from 7 am to 3 pm, at which time the dumpsters will be promptly removed, so don't wait until the last minute. Details of what items are and are not acceptable to be disposed of are on the township website and the Armstrong Cable Channel. Or call the township at 610-932-8494.

Primary Election Day is Tuesday April 26, 2016.

East Nottingham Township
158 Election Road
Oxford, PA 19363
Tel: (610)932-9812



Visit Us on the Web
www.eastnottingham.org

Board of Supervisor meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month.

Planning Commission meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month.

All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Township Building

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