



East Coventry Times

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Spring | Summer 2022

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Ray Kolb, Dave Rishel, Corey Mowrer, John Becker, Shawn Henry

Public Works Department. . .

The Public Works Department has five (5) full-time employees and one part-time summer employee. We maintain around 50 miles of roads, five pumping stations and sewer lines. We also have two parks and seven and a half (7-1/2) miles of walking trails to maintain. The Public Works Department does paving, road bank mowing, tree trimming and other various jobs on the Township Roads, so use caution when passing by us. Please don't blow grass and leaves onto the roadway and ditches. If you see any dangerous conditions on Township Roads please notify the Township Building.

Public Works' personnel will be doing an ultra-thin bonded wearing course on the following roads this year: Spiece Road, Country Lane, Ellis Woods Road between Schoolhouse and Old Schuylkill Roads, Old Schuylkill Road between Ellis Woods and Fricks Lock Roads, Savage Road, Fricks Lock Road between Old Schuylkill and Route 724, Pheasant Lane, and Robert Circle. Roads will be signed for notice of work time. Slow down in work zones!!!



Greetings from Township Staff...

In this issue we share news about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

From all of us here at ECT – we look forward to working with you this year!

We would like to remind everyone to not flush wipes or paper towels down the toilet, this can lead to costly plumbing and sewer treatment issues. We also ask that you do not put trash cans in the road.

A reminder that the Township Ordinance prohibits the use of motorized vehicles on Township park land.

Staff Notes...

Police. . .

The East Coventry Police Department is happy to announce the promotion of Officer Taylor Ashburn to the position of Patrol Sergeant. Sgt. Ashburn was sworn in at the Township Supervisor's meeting in December of 2021. Sgt. Ashburn will fill the vacancy created when Sgt. Brown retired back in August of 2021. Sgt. Ashburn has been assigned commander of 1st Platoon.

In addition to his daily supervisory duties, Sgt. Ashburn is also the Police Department's fleet manager, its radar speed sign administrator, a field training officer and one of the Department's evidence technicians.

Although Sgt. Ashburn has been with the East Coventry Police Department for just a few years, he is a life long resident of the Township. Sgt. Ashburn graduated from Owen J. Roberts High School in 2008. He then enrolled in the Criminal Justice program at Alvernia University graduating with a Bachelor degree in May of 2012. In June of 2012, he enrolled in a full-time session at the Reading Police Academy, graduating in December of 2012 with the certification required to become a police officer in Pennsylvania.

Upon graduation from the Police Academy, Sgt. Ashburn was sworn in as a Bethel Township (Delaware County) police officer. He also worked for a year with the Temple University Police Department. However, Sgt. Ashburn has always had aspirations of working in the community where he grew up. When a part-time position opened up with the Police Department in 2018, Sgt. Ashburn applied for the position and was sworn-in in February of that year. He was later promoted to full-time status in July of 2018 when that position became available.

Sgt. Ashburn has certainly hit the ground running, taking advantage of every opportunity to assume greater responsibility and to play a more significant role in our well-respected Police Department.

Please join us in congratulating Taylor Ashburn on his promotion to Patrol Sergeant.

Finance Department. . .

Sewer Account Payments. Sewer Usage Fee is \$185 a quarter. Invoices are sent out January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Please indicate your address on your sewer payment, your sewer account number is the property address of the service connection. If you have an escrow account, make sure your sewer payments are not going to the tax collector. Remember, if your water is shut off due to delinquent sewer payments, it can take up to 10 days for the water to get turned back on. If you need to make payment arrangements, please contact us at 610-495-5443. We accept cash, check or credit card.

Tenancy Reports. . .

If you own a Rental Property in the Township a Tenancy Report is required to be submitted to the Township Building every time a tenant moves in or out of the property. These forms can be found on the website www.eastcoventry-pa.gov.

Leaf and Yard Waste. . .

Township residents only may drop off yard waste which consists of small branches, leaves and grass clippings (NO trees or tree stumps) at no charge to Arborganic Acres organic composting facility (arborganicacres.com), 901 Cherry Hill Ln., Pottstown, PA 19465 or contact your trash collection contractor for their pickup schedule.



Earth Day Pigeon Creek Cleanup. . .



In support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors is sponsoring a cleanup of Pigeon Creek between Old Schuylkill Road and the Schuylkill River. Persons interested in keeping East Coventry clean and green are invited to volunteer a few hours of their time to participate in this annual community stream cleanup initiative.

Interested volunteers are to gather at the Schuylkill River Trail parking lot located at the intersection of Linfield Road and Route 724, at 10:00 am on Saturday, April 23, 2022. The rain date will be Saturday, April 30, 2022. For more information please contact the Township at 610-495-5443.

Coventry Food Pantry...

You may drop off items in the Township office lobby. Your donations support families throughout the Owen J. Roberts School District. Thank you for your donations!

Fire Police Services. . .

If your organization needs the assistance of the Fire Police for an upcoming special event, please fill out a Fire Police Services Request Form which can be found on the Township's website www.eastcoventry-pa.gov or stop by the Township Building.

Ridge Fire Company. . .

Reflective Address Markers—If we can't FIND YOU we can't HELP YOU!!!

The signs are only \$15 each. You can have a 6" by 18" "Mailbox Marker" or a 14" wide by 5" high "House Marker". More information and forms to order the Reflective Address Markers are available on the Ridge Fire Company's website www.ridgefirecompany.com. You can also call in a request at 610-495-6063.

Spring Cleaning? Reduce, Reuse, Recycle . . .

Hazardous Waste Collection

Visit the ECT Website (www.eastcoventry-pa.gov) for a link to Chester County's tentative 2022 Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule.



Note: Latex paint may be discarded in household trash following these steps:

Remove lid, dry out paint completely, discard (without lid); or pour paint into plastic bag with absorbent material (clay-based kitty litter, sawdust, rags), place bag and can (without lid) in trash. Paint hardener can also be purchased at the hardware store.

- **Electronics**

Chester County Solid Waste Authority, 7224 Division Highway (Rte. 322W, Honey Brook), Narvon, PA 17555 | M-F 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sat 7 a.m.-11:30 a.m. | Phone: 610-273-3771

BURNING . . .

A reminder that Burning is not allowed in the Township except for recreational purposes such as a fire pit in an area no larger than 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet.



Spring City Public Library . . .

Spring City Public Library offers a varied and diverse calendar of programming for all ages. From in-person preschool story time on most Wednesday mornings at 10 am, to engaging programs for adults brought to you over Zoom. Your local library is more than just a place to find the latest best seller. In addition, to our weekly story time, preschoolers can participate in a monthly nature program beginning in April. Upcoming adult events include a garden lecture by local author Pam Baxter and a two-part series—The Holocaust, Remembered, both coming in March and offered over Zoom. Or consider joining us each month on the fourth Thursday at 7 pm for an engaging book discussion. This summer, Spring City Public Library will once again make a big splash with our summer reading program, Oceans of Possibilities, for readers of all ages. For details, and to register for these and other exciting programs, please be sure to check out our event calendar at www.springcitylibrary.org or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/springcitypubliclibrary>.



Stormwater Information . . .

Stormwater Management Facilities—The Township will be mailing letters to individuals that currently are the responsible party/owner of a stormwater management facility. The purpose of this communication is to solicit inspection records as required under the current Township stormwater ordinance, as well as to evaluate any required maintenance for stormwater management facilities within the Township. If you receive a letter from the Township regarding a stormwater management facility and have a question, please call the Township office at 610-495-5443.

Outfall Screenings—The Township will be conducting annual stormwater outfall screenings until the end of June. The goal of these screenings is to eliminate non-stormwater discharges from the Township into local streams, creeks, and other water bodies, as well as identify infrastructure in need of repair/replacement.

Stormwater Illicit Discharge Reporting—The Township's Stormwater Ordinance prohibits non-stormwater discharges into the municipal storm sewer system. This includes but is not limited to household chemicals, trash & debris, yard & animal waste, or any other substance not entirely comprised of stormwater. If you witness any non-stormwater discharges entering the municipal storm sewer system, please call the Township office at 610-495-5443, or fill out the contact form on the Stormwater Management page of the Township website.

Please visit the Township's stormwater webpage to view the Township's latest stormwater-related educational materials, MS4 program updates, and other stormwater activities and events.

Tax Collection . . .

YOU CAN MAKE PAYMENTS FOR 2022 TAXES ON-LINE. There is a fee for this service. Please go to www.eastcoventry-pa.gov for further information.

Payment in person at the Township Building (855 Ellis Woods Road) will be available on the following dates: Please check the Township Website: www.eastcoventry-pa.gov or call Missy King at 610-495-7667 for updates.

Tuesday—April 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Thursday—April 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Saturday—April 9 & 23 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Saturday—April 30 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Wearing a mask is required for in-person payments. Please bring the entire bill for payment receipt.

Historical Commission Update. . .

N. Gail Brown, the Chairperson for the Historical Commission, has decided to retire from the Historical Commission. We thank her for all the time she devoted to the Historical Commission. Gail will continue to work with the tours at Fricks Lock Village.

The Historical Commission meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at the Township Building at 7:00 pm and they are looking for new members, please contact the Township Building if interested.

Fricks Locks Improvements and Tours

The improvements to Fricks Lock with the trailhead restroom, pavilion, picnic tables and the exterior of the James Ellis House will soon be complete. We are looking forward to the grand opening of the **Fricks Lock Trailhead!** Keep checking the Township's website (www.eastcoventry-pa.gov) for updates on the **Fricks Lock Trailhead** Grand Opening and also for the **Fricks Lock tour schedule** this coming Spring!



Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee Update. . .

Spring is coming! Please be aware of hikers, bikers and people on horses. As it gets warmer out we hope to see you out there walking on the trails and enjoying the parks.

Come out to the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee meetings the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm at the Township.

Birdhouse Day at Ellis Woods Park!

Join the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee for a celebration of East Coventry's breeding birds! The morning will start with a presentation from the Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania, followed by a birdhouse building workshop. Attendees will have the opportunity to build a bluebird box from kits prepared by the Bluebird Society. Refreshments will be provided.

To reserve a spot at this free event, please email Eric at eh474@cornell.edu with your name and the number of people who will be attending with you. We will be accepting reservations **through April 23rd.**

Date: **May 14, 2022**

Time: **10:00 am**

Location: **Pavilion at Ellis Woods Park**

Save the Date!

Bird Walks scheduled with Valley Forge Audubon Society at **Ellis Woods Park** this Spring on **April 14, 2022, May 12, 2022** and **June 9, 2022.** Each will start at **8:00 am.**

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee Update...

Keeping Pigeon Creek Healthy with Riparian Buffers

Pigeon Creek, flowing through the heart of East Coventry, is among the healthiest waterways in Chester County. According to standards set by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the waters of Pigeon Creek classify as “High Quality”. Streams with this designation are important natural resources and warrant special conservation attention.



A critical step in preserving the quality of our streams is establishing riparian buffers. Riparian buffers are defined as the vegetated land bordering waterways, and they serve a variety of important purposes. Forested buffers at least 75 feet wide on either side of a stream effectively filter stormwater runoff (rain and snowmelt), preventing excess sediment, nutrients and chemicals from reaching the waterway. Forested buffers also prevent streambanks from eroding and support better habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms by shading and cooling the water.



Last September, in collaboration with Audubon Mid-Atlantic and Yellow Springs Farm, East Coventry’s Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee planted 100 native trees and shrubs along a section of Pigeon Creek in Ellis Woods Park. The planting was done to upgrade the existing riparian buffer along the meadow loop trail, which is where the buffer is narrowest in the park. The green tubes you’ll see as you walk the trail were installed to protect the trees from deer. As the plants grow taller and send their roots deeper, the buffer will offer more and more of a benefit to Pigeon Creek and the people and wildlife it supports!

If you have a stream flowing through your property, consider establishing a riparian buffer. Doing so will help improve local water quality, benefitting wildlife—and your neighbors!

Annual Memorial Day Observation. . .



The Annual Memorial Day Observation at the **East Coventry Revolutionary Cemetery on Ellis Woods Road** will be held **Sunday, May 29, 2022 at 2:00 pm**. Sponsored by our Township and Pottstown Joint Veterans Council, the ceremony will include tributes to all of our fallen soldiers since the American Revolution. All are welcome, especially local individuals, families and groups.

Scouts, history, service, music or community organizations wishing to actively participate on the day of the ceremony or with planning, maintenance or preparation should contact coordinator Liz Willow before Friday, April 8, 2022. In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held under the pavilion at Ellis Woods Park, 855 Ellis Woods Road, Pottstown, PA 19465.

The soldiers buried at East Coventry Revolutionary Cemetery are all unknown. There are 17 marked graves and a large stone monument dedicated in 1924.

JOHN DOYLE ROCK THE WALL 5K RUN or WALK AND 10K RUN EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP CHESTER COUNTY, PA

SATURDAY, April 2, 2022 @ 9:00 AM 5K/10K

855 Ellis Woods Park | Pottstown, PA 19465

7:30 am – Registration Opens

9:00 am – Start time for all races

~10:00 am – Award presentation at Pavilion

Register on-line at Pretzel City Sports

<https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration/>

or

Download form from East Coventry Township website www.eastcoventry-pa.gov and mail form along with check made payable to East Coventry Township to:

Pretzel City Sports | 112 W. 36th St. | Reading, PA 19606

Register by March 2, 2022 - \$25.00, receive a "Rock the Wall" Thermal Long Sleeve T-shirt.

Register after March 2, 2022 and day of run - \$30.00. T-Shirts available while supplies last.

Fundraiser For East Coventry Township Parks & Recreation

Questions

Contact Jason Stouch by email at jay.m.stouch@gmail.com or cell phone 610.781.3199

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### Little Free Library (Pt. 2) . . .

After reading Alyssa Schneider's article "Little Free Library at Ellis Woods Park" in the last edition of the East Coventry Times, I felt moved to share some further information about these delightful libraries. My husband and I live at **235 Harley Road** in East Coventry Township, and we also have a **Little Free Library** along the front of our property. We are delighted to know about the library at the Township Building. Unfortunately, Harley Road is not a busy road, so very few people are aware of our library.

These winter months are a great time to curl up with a good book or read with your child. We have children, youth, and adult books and try to include seasonal choices. Anyone is welcome to take a book, read, and return when finished. In addition, you are welcome to leave a book for others to enjoy. We also have a place to leave comments if you have suggestions. Diversity books are also on their way to arrive soon. These books may open our minds to kindness and acceptance of folks who may be different from us.

We are hopeful that everyone may find something for entertainment, learning, or to whet your interest in a topic or author. That's why having several Little Free Libraries expands our ability to share many more good reads right here in our community of East Coventry.

**Gloria Gaynor**



**East Coventry Township**  
855 Ellis Woods Road  
Pottstown, PA 19465  
Phone: 610-495-5443  
Fax: 610-495-9925  
www.eastcoventry-pa.gov

*Be sure to visit the ECT website  
(eastcoventry-pa.gov) for Township  
news and activities!*

**Board of Supervisors**

Ray Kolb, Chair  
W. Atlee Rinehart, Vice Chair  
Anthony Duffy, Member  
Karen Nocella, Member  
Michael Albert Moyer, Member



## Dates to Remember

### Township Meetings

**Board of Supervisors**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 7:00 PM

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**Planning Commission**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 PM

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**Historical Commission**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 PM

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**Parks & Recreation Committee**  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 PM

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**Open Space Committee (Quarterly)**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 PM  
April 2022

All Township meetings are held at the Township Building,  
unless otherwise noted.

### East Coventry Township Spring | Summer Office Hours Monday - Friday | 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Closed:**  
Good Friday, April 15th  
Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th  
Independence Day Observation, Monday, July 4th  
Labor Day, Monday, September 5th

The Easter Egg Hunt will be on  
April 9th at 10 am, at the East  
Coventry Elementary School  
Raindate is April 15th

Ridge Fire Co. Community Day  
Saturday, September 10, 2022  
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm