

East Coventry Times



Boxwood Lodge at Fricks Locks
Village Historic District

An agreement between Exelon Generation Company, LLC, and the Township, will allow the Village to be opened for escorted public access. Exelon has recently completed the rehabilitation or stabilization of the buildings within the Village and the Township Historical Commission will be helping people re-discover the local heritage that began nearly two centuries ago by providing educational guided tours beginning in 2013. **If you have an interest in becoming a Fricks Locks Village Tour Guide or a member of the Historical Commission please contact the Township.**

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Recycling Now Required

Act 101– The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, as amended requires that every municipality implement a recycling program after it reaches a population of 5000. East Coventry Township exceeded the 5000 population as of the 2010 census (6733).

To comply with the ACT, the Township Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 193 “Municipal Waste Collection and Recycling Ordinance”, making recycling a requirement for everyone. This ordinance was adopted on Monday, January 14, 2013 and becomes effective on March 1, 2013. Although the majority of residents already participate in recycling programs voluntarily offered by their trash hauler, it will now be mandatory that haulers provide a recycling program.

This article is a summary of the key requirements of Ordinance No. 193, a complete copy of which can be found on the Township’s website or obtained at the Township Office.

Responsibilities of Generator

Each person or entity that generates municipal waste and or recyclable material shall have such items collected by a municipal waste hauler legally operating within the township.

Collection shall be no less than once per week.

Owners, landlords and rental agents are responsible for publicly posting educational information provided by the Township and/or municipal waste collectors; provide recyclable collection containers and pick up of the containers. This responsibility can be assigned to the lessee of a single family home by means of a written assignment/ agreement/lease.

Household hazardous waste and leaf waste must be separated from recyclable material and other municipal waste.

Occupants of residential units shall collect all designated recyclable materials in a commingled or modified commingled manner as designated by their municipal waste collector.

Newspapers may be placed at curbside in paper bags (not plastic bags) or bundled and tied, both across and lengthwise, with rope or cord and kept dry prior to collection.

No containers or bundles of newspaper shall weigh more than 50 pounds.

Municipal waste and recyclable material containers shall be placed on the property owner side of the curb for collection.

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Recycling Now Required

Owners or landlords of multifamily units (where individual collection does not occur) are responsible for providing containers or dumpsters for recyclable materials through arrangements with a municipal waste collector. These shall be located at easily accessible locations and written instructions provided to the occupants concerning their use and availability.

All tenants or lessees of multifamily units are responsible for separating recyclable materials and placing them in the containers/dumpsters provided for such purpose.

Owners or landlords of any institutional, commercial, business or industrial establishment are responsible for providing containers or dumpsters for recyclable materials through arrangements with a municipal waste collector unless those responsibilities are specifically assigned, in writing, to the tenant or lessee of such property.

Grass Clippings

Property owners are encouraged to allow grass clippings to lay on the ground to decompose as natural organic fertilizer or taken to a compost facility which accepts grass clippings to reduce the amount disposed of as municipal waste.

Grass clippings that are not permitted to lay on the lawn or disposed of at an appropriate composting facility may be commingled with other municipal waste and collected curbside.

Materials to be recycled

Occupants of residential units are required to separate and recycle clear glass, colored glass, high-grade office paper, newsprint (including newspaper inserts, junk mail and telephone books), aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

Commercial establishments are required to separate and recycle corrugated paper, high-grade office paper, aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

Hospitality establishments which include restaurants are required to separate and recycle cardboard, high-grade office paper, newspaper (including newspaper inserts, junk mail and telephone books), aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

All Community events attended by 200 or more people are required to have recycling containers.

Handling of Leaf Waste

Leaf Waste is defined as, "Leaves, garden residues, shrubbery and tree trimmings and similar material, but does not include grass clippings." **The burning of leaf waste is prohibited.**

Municipal Waste collectors shall provide for the curbside collection of leaf waste at least twice per year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall but may schedule collection of leaf waste more frequently.

Leaf waste shall not be left at the curb in a form which obstructs the flow of traffic or affects the performance of drainage facilities or catch basins.

Leaf waste may be dropped off at **Arborganic Acres**, an On-Farm Organic Composting Facility located at 901 Cherry Hill Lane, Pottstown, Pa. 19465, www.arborganicacres.com, pursuant to its rules and regulations.

Burning is no longer allowed except for recreational purposes, such as barbeques, campfires, chimineas and similar activities.

Stream Cleanup!

In support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors is sponsoring a cleanup of the Pigeon Creek between Route 724 to 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 6th annual community stream cleanup initiative. Interested volunteers are to gather at the Schuylkill River Trail parking lot located at the intersection of Bethel Church Road and Route 724, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2013. The rain date is Saturday, April 27, 2013. For more information, please contact Gene Briggs, Township Planner, at 610-495-2114 or eugene.briggs@thearrogroupp.com.

Extra! Extra! Read All About Ellis Woods Park!

Did you know that we are officially a certified Wildlife Habitat? Ellis Woods Park, behind the East Coventry Township Building, has met the criteria!

Local resident, Eric Hughes, an eighth grade honors student at Owen J. Roberts Middle School, submitted the application. The property has met the criteria of providing food, water and cover for local wildlife. It offers a natural habitat for creatures to raise their young.



Three Saturday mornings in late

summer and early fall were spent cleaning up the area and hiking trail. Members of the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee, Township Supervisors, Township Manager, and local residents worked together to help clear the park. Progress has been made, but there is more work to do! We need volunteers to assist us in this project. Our hope is to meet once a month to continue the work. Please check the township website this spring for work

days.

Eric Hughes is an avid bird enthusiast. His passion for birding has been our inspiration. Eric has been enjoying bird watching at Ellis Woods Park for years, and loves the opportunity to share his passion for birding with others. He has taken the challenge of cleaning up the park to the Supervisors, and the Parks and Recreation and Conservation Committee. Eric's future plans include attending Cornell University's College of Architecture and Life Sciences to major in Birding.

The Schuylkill River Trail

The Schuylkill River Trail, a multi-use regional trail, begins in Philadelphia and runs through Montgomery, Chester, Berks, and Schuylkill Counties. When complete, it will span 128 miles through the Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area, paralleling the Schuylkill River from its source in Pottsville to the Delaware River in Philadelphia.

The trail is a regional effort con-

structed and maintained by conservation organizations and the various municipalities it crosses. The scenic trail is composed of either cinder or macadam as it meanders along the river, and is perfect for cycling, walking, and running. You can pick up the trail at Parkerford and travel south to Valley Forge Park and on to Philadelphia. You can also access the trail in Riverfront Park in Pottstown and travel

north to Hamburg.

For information regarding trails, visit the following websites:

www.schuylkillrivertrail.com,

www.schuylkillriver.org, and

www.chesco.org. **Get out and enjoy the fresh air and scenery on the Schuylkill River Trail!**

New Playground Equipment at Towpath Park

The old wooden playground equipment at Towpath Park has been replaced with bright and cheerful new gear! The retired equipment served us well for over 20 years. This upgrade, along with the playground area at Ellis Woods Park, provides two nice play areas for children in the township. Towpath

Park is located along the Schuylkill River and accessed via Route 724. Along with the playground area, features of the park include a covered picnic area, and a boat ramp.



The Maack Trail

Are you aware, that you, the residents of East Coventry, are owners of one of the most beautiful tracts of land in Northern Chester County?

We are referring to the 90 acre tract known as the Maack Farm, which spans Schoolhouse Road, Kulp Road, and Maack Road. The first 60 acres were acquired in 2005 and placed in an agricultural easement by the

Township while maintaining a public nature trail around the perimeter. The newest section, called Wineberry Estates is 30 acres and



was purchased with federal, county and local funds. It is currently in transition, as a new trail is blazed for equestrian and pedestrian use.

Andrew Less, a Life Scout of Troop 4, is constructing a trail that will allow beautiful views of Pigeon Creek and will continue across Maack Road to the existing trail. Parking is available in a designated lot on Maack Road.

There is a bench placed at the top corner of the property by School-

house Road, which offers beautiful views of the township. We are sure you will see a deer, a fox, or a red tail hawk. Sit and enjoy the wildlife, the changing of the seasons, and the land preserved for your enjoyment.



What in the World is Pickleball?

Pickleball is a racquet sport which combines elements of badminton, tennis and table tennis. It is a game for all ages. Players are children and grownups as young as six and as old as 80 plus. The game is played on a badminton court using a polymer wiffle ball and hard paddle. The ball is served underhand and must be permitted to bounce.

After the ball has bounced once on each side, then both teams can either volley the ball in the air or play it off the bounce. The object of the game is to keep the volley going and have fun doing it! Games are played to 11 points and you need to have a two point lead to win. It's easy to play and fun for all. Power is not necessary as it is a game of

patience, shot placement, and accuracy. Exercise is the reward for your body, without punishing it. Invented as a backyard past time in 1965, it is now an organized sport. For more information go to The United States Pickleball Association web site: www.usapa.org. Once you play, you are hooked for life!

Volunteers Needed!

Do you enjoy being outdoors? Consider joining us to help clear local trails (2 hour time commitment) or join us in continuing to create a Birding Habitat at Ellis Woods Park

Do you have organizational skills? Help at Community Day

Are you creative? Help with preparing for Community Day

Are you interested in history? Volunteer to be a member of the Historical Commission.

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections twice a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.

- Author unknown

Open Space Committee and Land Preservation

As a result of the passing of East Coventry's Open Space Referendum in 2011, the township established an Open Space Committee. The goal of the Open Space Committee is to identify and preserve tracts of land for agriculture, open space, preserving waterways, capturing the beauty of our township's undeveloped lands, and providing recreational areas for our residents. The committee is made up of Township Supervisor, Mariea Geho; Planning Commission member, N. Lance Parson; former Supervisor, Rosemarie C. Miller; Michael Hott, Roland Kolb and Melissa Albright.

During this past year, the Committee has focused on educating itself. It has met with French and

Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust's Conservation Director, Pam Brown, to learn about the process of committing a parcel of land to a conservation easement. The Committee has also reviewed and discussed forms of neighboring Open Space Committees and has developed its own evaluation form.

The Committee members have researched and reviewed the waterways of East Coventry and have walked several tracts of land, some of which are already in conservation and some of which are potential parcels for conservation. In addition, Mariea Geho is taking courses with the Schuylkill Valley Natural Land Trust to learn more about land, habitat and waterway conser-

vation. Moreover, the Committee has been involved in local events, such as East Coventry Community Day and invasive plant clean-up with Eric Hughes at Ellis Woods Park.

The Committee looks forward to 2013 as a year for continued learning and for implementation of its goal. The Committee's members look forward to increased community involvement. Please join us at our monthly meetings currently held the first Wednesday of each month but please check the township website for updates. The Committee is looking for new members like you!

Stormwater Management Education Information

Keeping Stormwater Clean for Healthier Streams

Because stormwater runoff from our properties flows into Pigeon Creek, the Schuylkill River, and their smaller tributaries, efforts to control stormwater pollution benefit from your individual activities, in addition to the regulations enforced by the Township. It takes changes in our familiar thinking to modify our actions that can help reduce stormwater pollution and the degradation of Pigeon Creek and the Schuylkill River. The following simple vehicle maintenance practices can help to reduce stormwater pollution of our waterways.

- Check your vehicle for fluid leaks regularly and fix them promptly.
- Use ground cloths or oil pans under your vehicle, if you have leaks or if you are doing engine work.
- Clean up spills immediately and properly dispose of clean up materials.
- Never dump motor oil or other engine fluids into road gutters, storm drains and basins or on to the ground.

Save the Date

East Coventry Community Day
June 1, 2013 12:00 PM—4:00 PM
 to be held at **Ellis Woods Park**
 Please plan to join fellow residents for an afternoon of music, fun and food at East Coventry's Annual Community Day! Exciting new feature! Guided tours of Historic Fricks Lock Village. Transportation to the village will be provided.

63rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt
March 23, 2013 10:00 AM sharp
 to be held at the **East Coventry Township Elementary School**
 All children of East Coventry Township are invited to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Bring your own basket or bag for your share of the goodies. Many prizes are awarded! Rain date is Friday March 29.

Tax Collector Dates and Times
Payments can be made at the Township Building on:

- April 6, 13, 20, & 27 (9:00 AM to 12:00 PM)
- April 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 & 25 (12:00 PM to 4:00 PM)
- April 30 (2:00 PM to 7:00 PM)



East Coventry Township

855 Ellis Woods Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Phone: 610-495-5443
Fax: 610-495-9925

Website: www.eastcoventry-pa.gov
E-mail: info@eastcoventry-pa.gov

Board of Supervisors

Ray Kolb, Chair

Mariea Geho, Vice Chair

W. Atlee Rinehart, Member

Michael Albert Moyer, Member

Karen Nocella, Member

Dates to Remember

UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt

East Coventry Elementary School
March 23 at 10:00 AM
Rain date: March 29

Ridge Fire Company Banquet

April 20 at 6:00 PM

Community Day

Ellis Woods Park (Rain or shine)
June 1 at 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Ridge Fire Company Community Day

September 14 at 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Board of Supervisors
2nd Monday at 7:00 PM

Planning Commission
3rd Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Historical Commission
2nd Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee
4th Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Open Space Committee
1st Wednesday at 7:00 PM

All township meetings are held at the Township Building