

# Honey Brook TOWNSHIP NEWS

Honey Brook Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania

Fall 2013  
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Issue 1

An Official Publication by the Board of Supervisors, Honey Brook Township, PA

## Board Of Supervisors:

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Chairman

John McHugh,  
Vice-Chairman

Tracy Olsen, Member

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## Zoning Officer Hours at Township Bldg

Zoning and Codes Enforcement Officer Larry Andes holds office hours in the Township Administration Building on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Residents are encouraged to make an ap-

pointment ahead of time, advising the nature of their questions about building permits or zoning by e-mailing or calling the Township Administration Office at hadmin@ptd.net or 610-273-3970.

## On-lot Sewage Maintenance Ordinance

In December 2011, the PADEP adopted an updated Act 537 plan to address the wastewater disposal needs within Honey Brook Township. Specifically, the Township performed this update in an effort to bring their sewage facilities planning in line with other recent Township planning efforts. One of the conditions of the approval by the PADEP of the Township's Act 537 plan was the creation of an on-lot sewage maintenance program for the areas of the Township that are served by onlot sewage disposal systems. Unlike properties that are served by public sewer through the Northwestern Chester County Municipal Authority (NCCMA), properties that are served by onlot Disposal systems are reliant on the underlying soil conditions to renovate sewage effluent properly. The Honey Brook Township Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors have been reviewing draft ordi-

nance regulations over the past year that would assist in creating the State required maintenance program to increase the long term performance of properties served by onlot sewage facilities. The ultimate goal of the Township is to adopt the State required program while not creating an undue hardship on the residents of the municipality. The Township is planning to hold a public education session for residents to provide information about their onlot sewage disposal system and why it is important to do periodic maintenance to ensure it will function properly long term. **The education session is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2013. Location to be announced.**

More information will follow in the near future on the Township website, subsequent newsletters and advertisements for upcoming educational meetings and workshop sessions regarding this subject.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### OCTOBER

- 9 Regular Board of Supervisors mtg.
- 17 Parks & Rec. mtg.
- 24 Planning Commission mtg.

### NOVEMBER

- 5 Election Day (no walk-up window service)
- 10 At noon, Township Veteran's Day Observance
- 11 Office closed (Veteran's Day)
- 13 Regular Board of Supervisors mtg.
- 19 Land Pres mtg.
- 21 Parks & Rec mtg. & Planning Commission mtg.
- 28 Office closed (Thanksgiving)

### DECEMBER

- 11 Regular Board of Supervisors mtg.
- 19 Planning Commission mtg.

## Roads Crew Reminds Residents to Prepare for Fall and Winter Weather

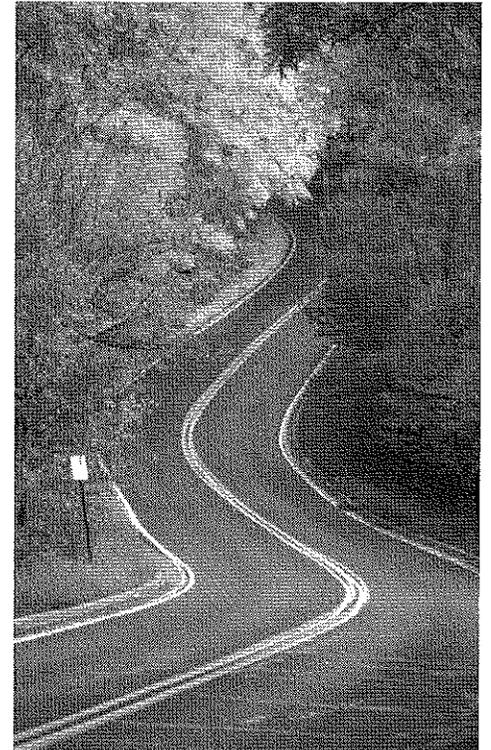
The Roads Department would like to remind motorists that with autumn's beautiful color comes a road hazard that tends to be overlooked — leaves on the roadway.

A single layer of wet leaves can make acceleration, steering, braking, and stopping difficult. This effect is particularly dangerous at intersections and is intensified at downhill stop signs. Dry leaves can also be problematic by obscuring potholes, curbs, and street markings.

Of course, car maintenance also plays an important role in road safety. The Car Care Council is an organization that provides consumer education information promoting the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance, and repair. For more information, see their website, [www.carcare.org](http://www.carcare.org).

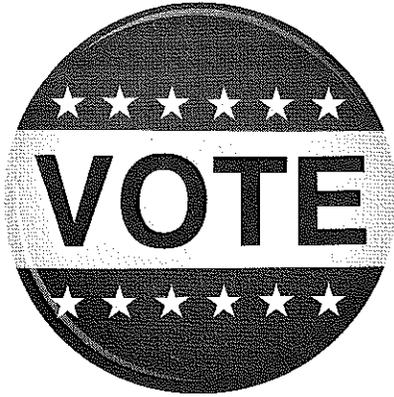
Once again, please be advised that, in accordance with Resolution 2013-2 and the Snow

Emergency Ordinance, any cars parked on Township roads during snow events will be towed at the vehicle owner's expense. A snow event is defined as any snow accumulation of an inch or more.



**Notice:** Congressman Meehan's office hours on Thursdays at the Township Building are discontinued until further notice.

## Election Day is November 5



Election Day is November 5, 2013. Due the large amount of traffic in the Administration Building that day, there will be no walk-up window service.

Complete election information for 2013 can be found on the Chester County website: [www.chesco.org](http://www.chesco.org). Click on the Voter Services/ Elections tab on the left-hand side of the screen.

## Volunteers Needed!

There are some volunteer positions that are available for residents to fill. If any of the following openings are of interest, please feel free to call the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970 or send a resume with a cover letter indicating your area of interest to:

Honey Brook Township  
P.O. Box 1281  
Honey Brook, PA 19344

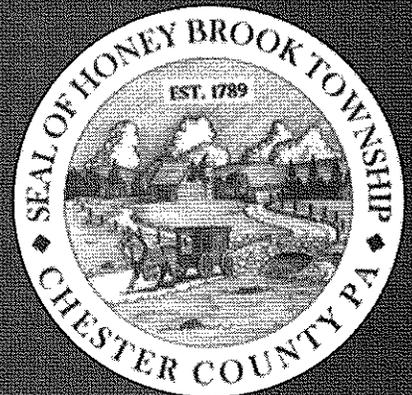
### Planning Commission

There is currently one opening on the Planning Commission, which meets on the fourth Thurs-

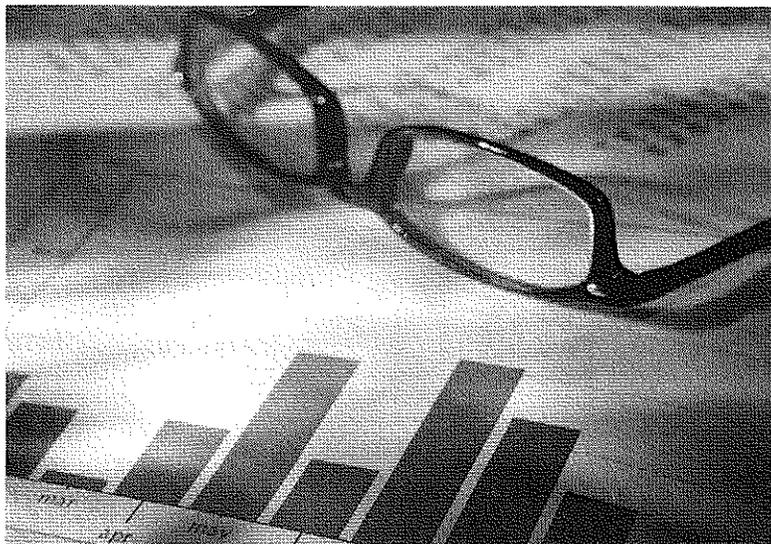
day of the month at 7 pm (with the exception of November and December, when meetings are the third Thursday). This committee reviews land development and subdivision plans that come to the Township for review and makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for their approval. They also provide input on Ordinance revisions and Plan updates, such as the Comprehensive Plan. Workshops, necessary only if announced, would be held on the second Thursday of the month.

## Township to Observe Milestone Anniversary in 2014

The Township will be celebrating 225 years in 2014. Stay tuned for announcements on activities and celebrations observing this milestone anniversary.



## Comprehensive Plan Due for Review in 2016



The Township's comprehensive plan is due for an update in 2016. With this being a review of an existing Comprehensive Plan and not a full plan developed from scratch, there is no need for a formal Task Force.

The Comprehensive Plan will be updated in conjunction with the Honey Brook Borough's update of their Comprehensive Plan. The Township Board of Supervisors encourages residents with particular questions or interests surrounding the Comprehensive Plan to make their suggestions known. A booth was set up at Harmony Day where the community was involved with making their interests heard.

## Honey Brook Township

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P.O. Box 1281  
Honey Brook, PA 19344

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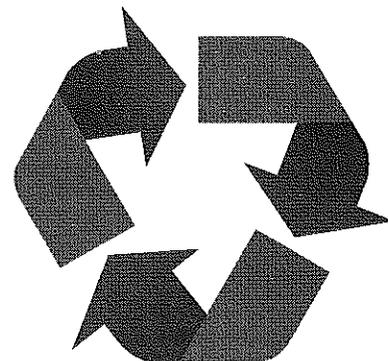
## Have a Zoning Question?

In order to expedite providing answers to questions about zoning, the Administration Office asks that questions be e-mailed to hbadmin@ptd.net. If there are several of the same kind of question, future newsletters will have feature article(s) highlighting the information.

## Recycle Information - Act 101

**Waste Reduction:** Honey Brook Township is a newly mandated municipality regarding Act 101. The goals of the Act are to reduce Pennsylvania's municipal waste generation; recycle at least 25% of waste generated; procure and use recycled and recyclable materials in state governmental agencies; and educate the public as to the benefits of recycling and waste reduction. The benefits of recycling and waste reduction include reduced pollution risks; conservation of natural resources,

energy and landfill space; and reduced disposal costs. More to follow on this subject in upcoming newsletters and on the Township website.



**We're on the Web! See us at: [www.honeybrooktwp.com](http://www.honeybrooktwp.com)**

## Parks & Recreation Committee Update

**Summertime Youth Programs.** The Parks and Recreation Committee was busy at work this summer providing activities for the community and their children. An 8 week summer tennis camp was held from June until August for kids from age 6 to 15. Approximately 40 children attended the tennis camp. Also this summer a kickball club was introduced and 30 middle school age kids attended the 8 week program. All those involved had lots of fun and the Committee plans to continue these programs again next year. **A special thanks to Lee Heller and Deb Oldham, Committee and helpers!**

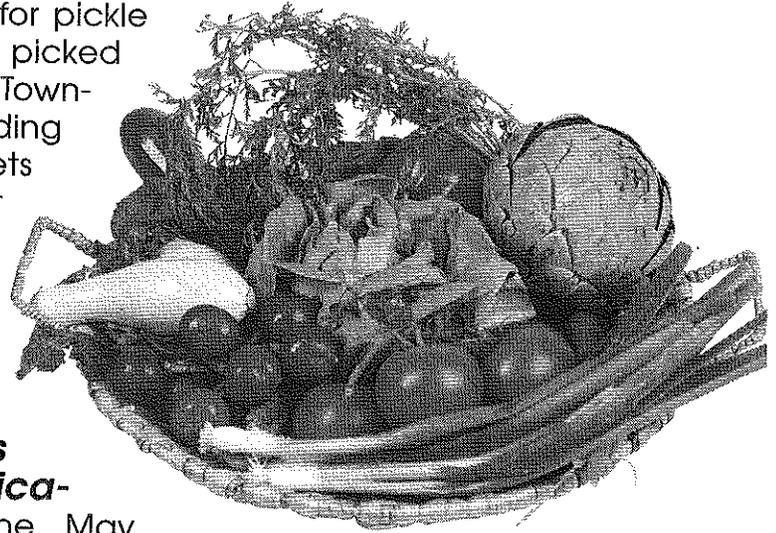
**Pickleball Activity.** On the tennis courts, recently there was an upgrade to include Pickleball Court lines. Every Tuesday evening at 6 pm you would likely see pickle ball players over the summer. Many veteran players attended but some beginners came and learned to enjoy the game also. The

equipment for pickle ball can be picked up at the Township building but the nets will be put in storage till next spring.

### **New Facilities Use Application.**

At the May 9<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board adopted a policy requiring a \$100 deposit and completion of a Facilities Use Application form to secure a reservation for the Park pavilion. Please call the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970 to request availability and a copy of the application. Your chosen date will not be secured until the deposit has been received in full. Following your event, the Township will inspect the site. Provided no damage has occurred, your deposit will be returned in full.

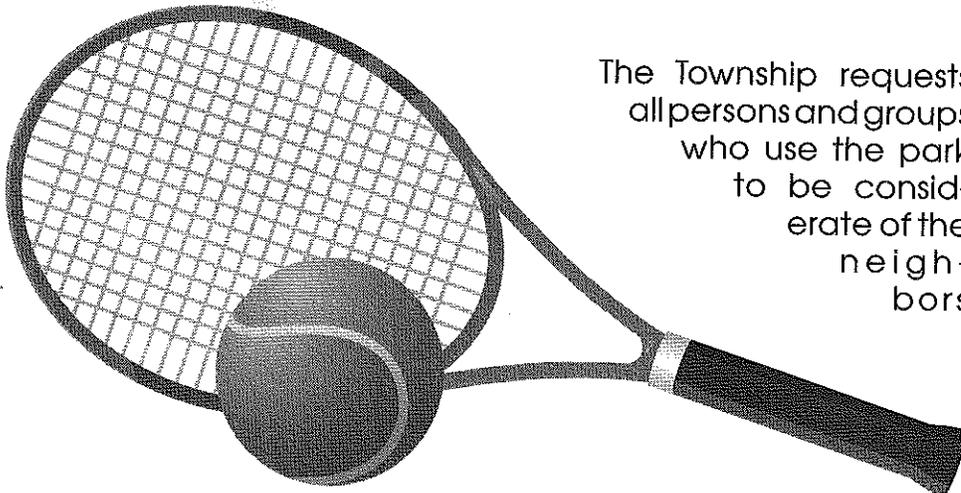
The Township requests all persons and groups who use the park to be considerate of the neighbors



and to also pick up litter following any activity. There are several trash receptacles available. Park hours are dawn to dusk. **A list of Park Rules is clearly posted in the front parking lot.**

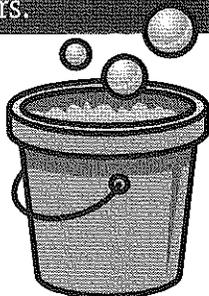
**Fall Activities.** Honey Brook Harmony Day was September 21, 2013. The Honey Brook Community Partnership coordinated the activities.

**Community Garden.** If you noticed something green growing behind the Township building you were not seeing things. A vegetable garden was blooming for the Chester County food bank and lots of produce was harvested. The boy scouts helped to build the boxes and plant the garden and some community members watered and weeded the garden. **A special thanks to Therese Mauchline (and family), Lee Heller and Ed Frankell!**



# Ten Things You And Your Community Can Do To Protect Water Resources!

**1.** Consider installing a cistern or rain barrel and use the water to water gardens or wash cars.



**2.** Inspect and maintain existing stormwater facilities on your property. Address erosion issues.

**3.** Seek opportunities for stormwater to soak into the ground and be absorbed by soil and plants by directing rainwater, gutters and downspouts into stabilized and planted areas. Ensure areas where stormwater is being directed are well situated away from building foundations.

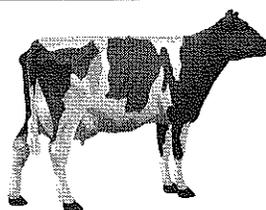
**4.** Plant trees. Trees reduce heat by cooling and shading buildings during the hot summer months, lowering the amount of energy required to cool a building.

**5.** Pick up after your pets and keep livestock out of streams.

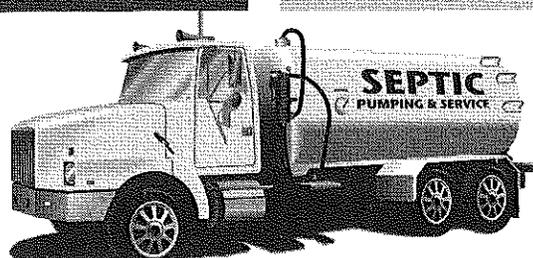
**6.** Reduce the use salt and other chemicals for deicing by adding sand for traction and keeping areas clear throughout snow and ice storms.

**7.** Maintain your septic system properly to prevent illicit discharges.

**8.** Report illicit discharges (ie improper disposal of hazardous materials, discharging washwater into storm drains, malfunctioning sewers/septics, etc.) to the Township or proper Authority.



**9.** Properly store and dispose of hazardous materials. Use secondary containment, including drip pans/trays, curbing, or containers, to collect and contain materials in the event a primary storage container (i.e., fuel tank, holding tank) is breached, overflows or leaks.



**10.** For Agricultural properties, implement a conservation plan.

A conservation plan is a site specific action plan to assist farmers in successful management of their natural, animal, and human resources. Some benefits of implementing and maintaining a conservation plan are limited liability protection, increased productivity, technical designs, and possible incentive payments for installing conservation practices, crop field soil loss estimates, and a resource link to many government agencies and programs. In some cases, installation of new impervious cover on an agricultural property may be exempt from additional stormwater management measures if the property/farm operation has a conservation plan in place. For more information, contact Dan Miloser at the Chester County Conservation District (610) 925-4920 ext. 115.

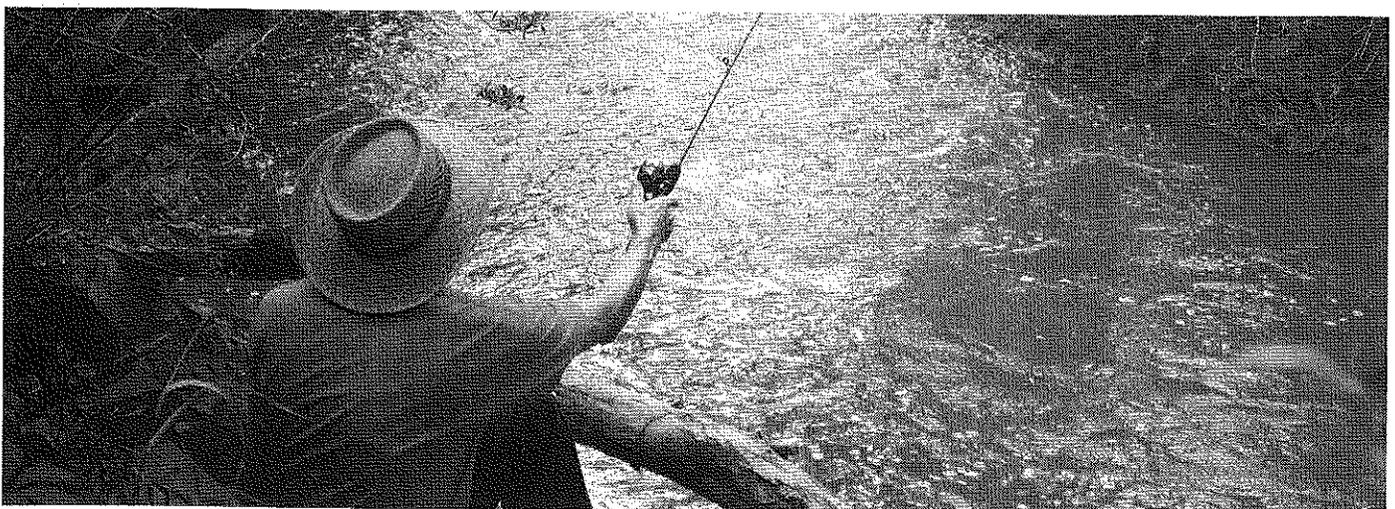
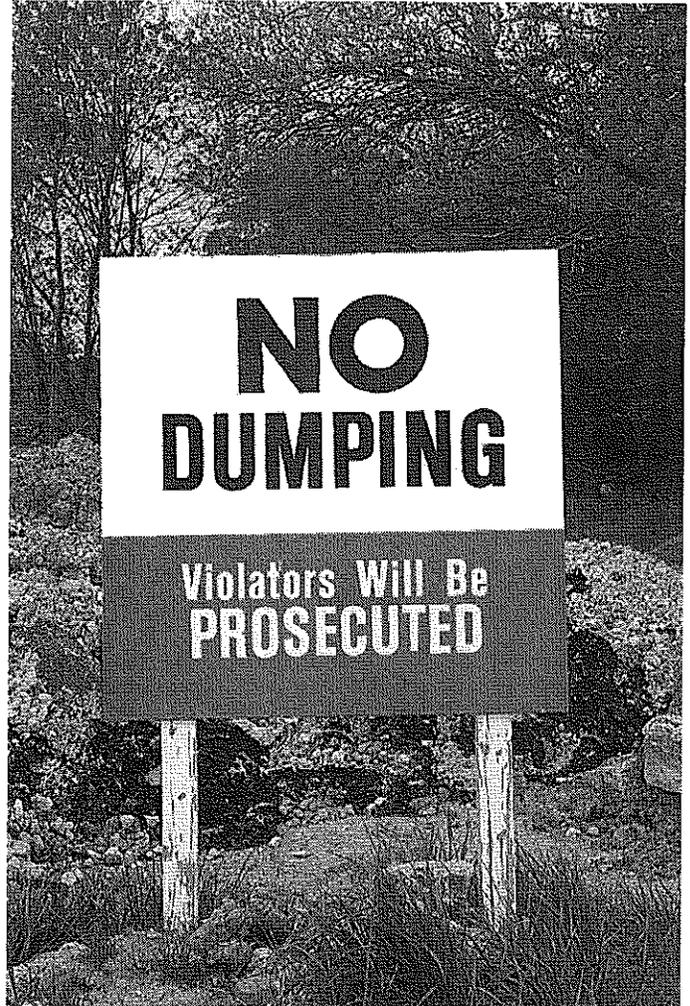
# Water Quality Hotlines for Citizens

*See next page for a list of helpful phone numbers.*

Citizens can help report violations or problems they notice in their local streams before they cause more damage and pollution. Residents sometimes may be the first to recognize "illicit" discharges dumping into storm sewers or coming out of from storm sewer outfalls.

New stormwater regulations from Pennsylvania's DEP require that your municipality investigate more thoroughly potential illicit discharges (pollutants) into our streams. You can help by promptly reporting the following events to the authorities listed in the hotline box below. Here are some of the conditions that you should report:

- Sediment leaving a construction site in stormwater (Chester County Conservation District)
- Observed pollution event or pollutants in stream (DEP)
- Broken water mains (Honey Brook Borough Authority or Aqua PA)
- Clogged or leaking sewer lines or overflowing sewer effluent from treatment plant (Northern Chester County Municipal Authority and DEP)
- Spills (DEP spills hotline)
- Illegal dumping activity into water courses (Honey Brook Township, DEP)
- Dry weather flows from outfall pipes into streams (72 hours after a rain storm) (Honey Brook Township)



# Helpful Phone Numbers

DEP Water Quality Hotline	<b>484-250-5900</b>	
DEP 24 Hour Water Quality Hotline	<b>1-866-255-5158</b> (toll free)	Anytime, including evenings and weekends
DEP Spills & other Emergencies Hotline	<b>1-800-541-2050</b>	24 hour
Off site discharge of sediment, erosion, & other improper controls during construction	Chester County Conservation District <b>610-696-5126</b>	Email photo and send full address and directions
Clogged or leaking sanitary sewers lines; sewage smell in creeks	<b>610-869-9620</b>	After hours, call 911
Fish Kills, Illegal Fishing PA Fish Commission	<b>717-626-0228</b>	Also call DEP Water Quality
Dry weather outfall flows (discharges to stream from outfall pipes after 72 hours of no rain)	<b>610-273-3970</b>	Weekdays during working hours
Broken water mains – Honey Brook Borough Authority	<b>610-273-7830</b>	24 hour
Broken water mains – Aqua Pennsylvania	<b>610-525-1402</b>	24 hour