

Honey Brook TOWNSHIP NEWS

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Park & Recreation Committee Sets Township Anniversary Kickoff

The Township's 225th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration will be on Saturday, August 9 at 12:00 noon at the Township Administration Building.

Local dignitaries will be in attendance. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Please see the survey insert in this newsletter. The Park & Recreation Committee is seeking input from the community on the kinds of activities they would like to see offered in the Township.

Historical Fun Fact #2: In 1789 (the year Honey Brook Township

was established), Pennsylvania had 21 counties. Today there are 67. In 1789, Chester County had 53 incorporated municipalities including Honey Brook Township. Two boroughs and 18 of those townships are now in Delaware County. Today, Chester County has 84 municipalities: 68 Townships, 15 Boroughs, and one City.



Summer Activities Offered for Youth

The Park & Recreation Committee is once again offering summertime activities for youth entering grades 1-8 in the fall. A 7-week **summer tennis camp**, now in its third year, will be held on Tuesdays from June 24 until (and including) August 5, 2014. The 9-10 am session is for children entering 1st to 4th grade; the 10-11:30 am session is for children entering 5th through 8th grade for the 2014-2015 school year. The cost is \$10 for all summer. Registration is open until each class reaches capacity of 25.

The **kick ball club**, now in its second year, is held on Wednesday afternoons from 12:30-2 pm for 7 weeks beginning June 25 until (and including) August 6. This is open to children entering 5th through 8th grade for the 2014-2015 school year. Cost is \$10 for all summer,

and registration is open until the club reaches capacity of 40.

For both these programs, call the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970 to check the status of a session during inclement weather.

New this year, a summer sports camp is being offered for children entering 5th through 8th grade during the weeks of June 30 and July 7, 2014, from 9 am to noon. The cost for this camp is \$25 per week per student for a maximum of 30 participants per week.

For all summer programs, please fill out the registration/release form and return with payment to the Township Administration Office prior to your child's first day of participation. Registrations and payments will not be accepted on site.

IMPORTANT DATES

JULY:

- 1 Zoning Officer on site at Township noon-4 pm
- 4 Offices Closed (In-dependence Day)
- 9 Regular Board of Supervisors mtg
- 15 Zoning Officer on site at Township noon-4 pm
Land Pres mtg
- 16 PC Work Session
- 17 Park & Rec mtg
- 24 Planning Commission (PC) meeting

AUGUST:

- 5 Zoning Officer on site at Township noon-4 pm
- 9 225th Anniversary Kickoff
- 13 Regular Board of Supervisors mtg
- 19 Zoning Officer on site at Township noon-4 pm
- 20 PC work session
- 21 Park & Rec mtg
- 28 PC meeting

SEPTEMBER:

- 1 Offices closed
- 2 Zoning Officer on site at Township noon-4 pm
- 10 Regular Board of Supervisors mtg
- 16 Zoning Officer hours noon-4 pm
Land Pres mtg
- 17 PC work session
- 18 Park & Rec mtg
- 25 PC meeting

Land Pres. Committee (LPC) Update

The Land Preservation Committee (LPC) meets on the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months at 7:00 pm. Its purpose is to review easement applications to ensure they fall within LPC guidelines, determine if adequate funding is available for the purchase of development rights, interface with various private and governmental organizations that offer additional funding resources, and develop recommendations to present to the Board of Supervisors (BoS) for appropriate action.

The Board approved three parcels for purchase of easements totaling 246 acres under the Challenge Grant Program at their May 14, 2014 meeting. These transactions included cost sharing between Honey Brook Township (HBT), the Brandywine Conservancy (BC), and Chester County (the County). Some of the land owners opted to donate a percentage of the cost and agreed to receive remuneration over a number of years. In these cases, HBT was able to limit its average financing costs to less than 25% of the appraised land value. Previously, the cost to the Township had been averaging 50%.

Because of increasing participa-

tion of the BC, the County, and additional funding sources such as the William Penn Foundation, National Fish & Wild-life Foundation, City of Wilmington, and Open Space Institute, HBT has developed a strong partnership with these third-party organizations over the past year that allows the Township to leverage funding that yields significant savings to HBT for the purchase of easement rights. As in all cases, the land is perpetually protected from future development.

Approximately 20% of HBT prime agricultural land is now protected from development with many of the farms forming contiguous parcels with adjacent farms.

The land preservation program is an investment by the residents of HBT that will continue to pay dividends, resulting in slower increases in taxes (real estate and school) and the cost to the community for services that are a result of residential development and changes to neighborhood density. The land preservation effort also ensures protection and good stewardship of the fertile soils that make HBT one of the most productive farming communities in the nation.

Updated Website Launched

It is the intent of the Board of Supervisors to provide residents with timely information using the Township website, www.honeybrooktwp.com. While some items come and go (notices about office closures, for example), other more permanent items are being added.

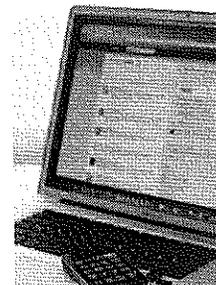
New! Under Helpful Links, there is a new Stormwater page, with a tab for information about the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). There are links to helpful information about stormwater—what it is, how to control it, who to call for water quality issues, and more.

Updated: The Code of Township Ordinances on the website has been updated to include all Ordinances through the end of 2013 (up to and including #169-2013). Keystate publishers incorporates new ordinances

into the larger "picture" of the Township Code, and it will be noted on the website as to which version is posted.

Helpful hints: Remember the Forms tab under Documents. Permit applications, camp registrations, and other useful forms are located on this page.

Not sure where to find an item? Type in a key word (i.e. camp) in the field with the magnifying glass, located near the upper right of the home page under the words "Search Website." All instances where that word appears on the website will be listed.



Public Works Update

The Roads crew was hard at work this spring with preparations for an eventful summer at the James A. Umble Memorial Park. The fences on Fields 1 & 2 have been repaired; Field 3's fence is on the docket for repair next year. The volleyball court was revived with 50 tons of new sand. Line painting on the front parking lot was ready in time for the Twin Valley Little League's opening day. Lastly, there were a great many branches to clean up and trim after this past winter's ice storm damage.

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.

Elsewhere, drainage ditches to divert rainwater were dug and repairs were made to rights-of-way on township roads that sustained damage from the winter's snow-plowing. Residents are reminded not to plant flowers, shrubs, or trees or to place rocks, yard debris, or other items (except for mailboxes) in the rights-of-way, per Ordinance #162-2012.

Volunteers Needed!

The Board of Supervisors is always looking for interested volunteers for committees and park activities. While there are not always openings available, resumes and cover letters indicating your area of interest can be submitted any time to:

Help is also needed for the raised garden bed at the Township building. Call the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970 to inquire.

At the May 14, 2014 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board passed Resolution 6-2014, recognizing James Fagan for his service to the Township. Mr. Fagan served on the Zoning Hearing Board for over

21 years, beginning in 1992.

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

** There is a vacancy on the Planning Commission.



Permit Application Reminders

With warmer weather brings thoughts of getting to all those projects you've been itching to get to starting around your home and/or property. Before you do, remember to get a permit application and submit it before booking any contractors or beginning any work. Permit applications can be found on the website under the Documents tab, under Forms or may be picked up at the Township Administration Building. The three kinds of applications are:

Building permit applications: for any structural changes to a dwelling, pools/spas/ hot tubs, plumbing & mechanical, electric, alternative energy sources, accessory structures over 500 square feet in area, roofed decks, and some signs, as well as new home

construction, commercial construction, and placement of mobile homes. These all fall under the Uniform Construction Code (UCC).

Zoning permit applications: for accessory structures (sheds under 500 square feet or Agricultural buildings), un-roofed decks, patios, most signs, and timber/logging harvest.

Other applications: yard or tent sale, demolition, trailer removal, road occupation (driveway), Home Occupation, Rural Occupation, facilities use (pavilion at James A. Umble Memorial Park), children's summer activities, public hearing, and Use & Occupancy Change of Use.

Questions? Call the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970.

Sept. 20
Mark Your Calendars!

Harmony Day is on Saturday, September 20, from 10am-2pm. Honey Brook Township will be there to celebrate its 225th Anniversary. Hope to see you there!



Frequent travelers on Route 322 no doubt have noticed that the speed limit between Chestnut Tree and Cambridge Roads is now 45 mph. This change took place in mid-May. Although Route 322 is a state road, it required local action to initiate the steps that led to the change. This topic has been discussed at several Board of Supervisors meetings dating as far back as the 1960s.



Honey Brook Township

500 Suplee Rd
P.O. Box 1281
Honey Brook, PA 19344

PHONE:
(610) 273-3970

Zoning Officer:
(610) 286-1622
Hours at Township
building: noon-4 pm
on 1st & 3rd Tues.

TOWNSHIP
E-MAIL:
hbadmin@ptd.net

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.honeybrooktwp.com

Planning Commission (PC) Update

Even though four ordinances were passed by the Board in May, there is still a great deal of work in store for the Planning Commission (PC).

Still in the works from last year is a sanitary sewer ordinance and a property maintenance ordinance.

In process is #174-2014, Accessory Apartment Ordinance, with regard to accessory apartments in the Agricultural (Ag) and Resource Conservation (RC) districts. The PC recommends approval, contingent upon the comments of the Chester County Planning Commission (CCPC). The township is awaiting these comments before the Board can take action.

The Recycling Ordinance #175-2014 was authorized for advertisement. This Ordinance is now mandated for Honey Brook Township to adopt. It has been in the works with assistance from DEP representative for well over a year and has been carefully created so as to be as minimally intrusive on the public as possible while still meeting our requirements.

As if that were not enough, the workshop sessions held each

month are devoted to discussions of updating the Comp Plan. The Honey Brook Borough's Plan Update Task Force is joining in these work sessions and a joint Borough/Township Comp Plan will be drafted. From July forward, these joint workshop sessions will be changed to the third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm (rather than the 2nd Thursday at 7 pm).



Stormwater Ordinances #170, 171, 172, & 173-2014* Adopted

On May 14, 2014, public hearings were held for four new Ordinances, all having to do with stormwater management; all four ordinances were passed by the Board:

Ordinance #170-2014

Stormwater Management, amending and re-placing Chapter 20 in the Township Code of Ordinances. This applies Township-wide to subdivisions, land developments, and the installation of new impervious cover on existing lots of record. This Ordinance serves to meet DEP requirements for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program and Act 167. There are tiered stormwater requirements depending on the type of project, amount of proposed impervious coverage and existing site conditions (including an exemption, a simplified stormwater plan that individuals can prepare

themselves, and a full stormwater management plan to be designed by a professional engineer).

For agricultural properties, one qualification for the simplified stormwater plan is that you must have a Conservation Plan for the farming operation. For assistance in creating a Conservation Plan or help with implementing or obtaining funding for an existing conservation plan, contact John Goodall, Brandywine Conservancy, at 610-388-2700. To determine whether or not you have a Conservation Plan, contact Beth Sassaman, NRCS, at 610-696-0398 ext. 114.

Ordinance #171-2014

Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) Amendments; to bring the SALDO of 2004, as amended, into compliance with Ordinance #170-2014.

Ordinance #172-2014

Zoning Amendments; to bring the Zoning Ordinance of 2003, as amended, into compliance with Ordinance 170-2014.

Ordinance #173-2014

Prohibitions; referring to prohibitions of certain discharges into the MS4 and of alterations to stormwater management facilities or best management practices (BMPs).

Related to these ordinances is the passing of Resolution 5-2014, Revised Fee Schedule. This replaces the fee schedule of Resolution 1-2014 and updates the fees regarding stormwater issues in the above four ordinances.

*These may be found on the township website or can be viewed upon request at the Township Administration Office during normal business hours.

Honey Brook Township Park & Recreation Committee Community Survey July 2014

The Park and Recreation Committee of Honey Brook Township welcomes suggestions for activities that are of interest to the community. It is the desire of the Committee to provide activities for all residents with an emphasis on children's activities. The Township Park and Recreation Committee will start making plans for Summer 2015 activities this fall and would like your input. Suggestions are welcome from Township and Borough residents alike.

Please indicate your interest (*check all that apply*):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Basketball tournament	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teen age events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bocce Ball tournament	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennis tournament
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus tour	<input type="checkbox"/>	Young children's activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bicycle Paths	<input type="checkbox"/>	Walking trails
<input type="checkbox"/>	Running events	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify):

For the item(s) you chose above, describe the age group and number of people involved for each:

Are there other types of activities you would like to see provided in Honey Brook Township? List them below:

Would you be interested in serving on the Honey Brook Township Park and Recreation Committee?
(Circle one): Y N

If yes, please provide contact information below.

How would you prefer to find out about Honey Brook Township events (*check all that apply*)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	By calling the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970
<input type="checkbox"/>	By visiting the Township Administration Office - during office hours (9 am-3 pm Monday-Friday)
<input type="checkbox"/>	E-mail from the Park & Recreation Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newspaper ads (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Township Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Township Website, www.honeybrooktwp.com
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify):

Please return this survey to:

Honey Brook Township Park & Recreation Committee, P.O. Box 1281, Honey Brook, PA 19344
or drop off at the Township Administration Office, 500 Suplee Road, during normal business hours.

