



EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP

Newsletter

Winter 2024-2025

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East Lampeter Township

2250 Old Philadelphia Pike
 Lancaster PA 17602
 Ph: 717-393-1567
 F: 717-393-4609
www.EastLampeterTownship.org
[Facebook.com/
 EastLampeterTownship](https://Facebook.com/EastLampeterTownship)
[YouTube.com/@
 EastLampeterTownship542](https://YouTube.com/@EastLampeterTownship542)
 Hours: M-F 8AM-4PM

Police Department

Non-Emergency: 717-291-4676

On-lot Disposal Systems (OLDS)

The Board of Supervisors has adopted a new ordinance regulating On-lot Disposal Systems (OLDS). OLDS are systems for the disposal of domestic sewage and / or liquid wastes, including kitchen and laundry wastes and water softener backwash, involving the pretreatment and subsequent disposal of the clarified sewage and liquid waste into a subsurface soil absorption area. Among the requirements of this Ordinance, property owners where OLDS are operating will be required to have their septic tanks pumped out and inspected by a Registered Sewage Hauler at least once every three (3) years. Documentation regarding the pump out and inspection will have to be provided to the Township. Additional information will be provided by the Township regarding which area of the Township will be required to provide this documentation in 2025. This will be about one-third (1/3) of the properties where OLDS are in operation. Another one-third of properties will be required to provide documentation in 2026 and the final one-third in 2027. The rotation will then continue in 2028 and so on.

Ongoing maintenance of OLDS is an important part of preventing the pollution of ground water aquifers. The full text of the adopted Ordinance #375, can be found on the Township's web site. This Ordinance becomes effective on April 1, 2025.

Utility Billing System Change Effective 4/1/25

Please note that sewer and stormwater fee payment instructions will be changing for the April 2025 billing. The mailing information regarding where to send these payments and payment stubs will be changing due to a change with the financial institution. Please carefully review the remittance information included on your bill and make sure that you are sending your payment to the correct location. If you use a bill payment service through your own bank, please be sure to make the appropriate changes with your bank so that payment is being sent to the correct remittance address. Please check for more details about this change on the Township's website (eastlampetertownship.org) and the East Lampeter Township Facebook page. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your attention to this change.



Scan to visit East Lampeter Township on Facebook.



Scan to visit East Lampeter Township on YouTube.

East Lampeter Township Recreation (ELTR) is excited to announce several new programs coming your way in 2025.

ELT Recreation is partnering with Conestoga Valley School District to present:

A Playground of Possibilities!

Join us this summer for a fun-filled playground program designed to inspire experiential learning through play! Open to children ages 5–12, the program will take place at the Elementary School located at 2426 Old Philadelphia Pike.

Dates: June 16 – August 8

Days: Monday to Friday (except Friday, July 4)

Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Children will enjoy a variety of daily activities, including games, arts and crafts, and sports. Special guests include Raven Ridge Wildlife Refuge, Forgotten Friends Reptile Sanctuary, and Ryan the Bug Man, who will bring exciting and educational experiences to the playground.

Registration Information:

Residents: Opens January 15, 2025—\$200 per child for the full 8-week session.

Non-Residents: Opens February 13, 2025—\$260 per child for the full 8-week session.

Space is limited, so register early to secure your spot!

Sponsorship Opportunities: To keep the program affordable for families, we are seeking sponsors. Multiple sponsorship levels are available.

Don't miss out on this exciting summer opportunity—play, learn, and grow with us!



Exciting News for Spring 2025: East Lampeter Township Community Garden!

Are you dreaming of a garden but don't have the space? The new East Lampeter Township Community Garden, located at Community Park (2330 Hobson Road), is the perfect opportunity for you!

Plot Details:

Size: 20' x 20'

Cost: \$30 resident/\$39 non-resident per plot

Registration Dates:

Residents: Opens January 20, 2025

Non-residents: Opens February 17, 2025

Availability is limited. Don't miss this chance to grow your own garden!



ELTR has a variety of classes that are both ongoing, as well as constantly being added. Currently on the schedule for this quarter are:

Cooking on a Budget

Learn how to create delicious meals without breaking the bank. This class covers meal planning and practical cooking techniques to maximize flavor and minimize cost. Perfect for students, families, and anyone looking to save money in the kitchen!



When: Thursday, March 6, 6–7 p.m.

Where: Conestoga Valley High School Family Consumer Science Room

Cost: \$25 for residents/\$32 non-resident

Public Meeting Information

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of each month except for February, April, July, September and November when they only meet on the 3rd Monday of the month. All regular meetings begin at 7 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

TOWNSHIP OFFICE PHONE:

717-393-1567

SEWER AUTHORITY

Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month.
All regular meetings begin at 4 pm.

PARK BOARD

Meets 4th Wednesday of each month at 4 pm.
(NO MEETINGS in November and December.)

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm, when necessary.
(NO MEETING on 4th Thursday in November and December.)

Are you interested in supporting your community?

Advertise in our Newsletter

This newsletter is funded by the sale of advertising.

Your ad will reach every address in the Township, and your support will be greatly appreciated by the Township and our residents.

Please contact:

Carla Snyder at 717-669-0914
or e-mail: carlas@mtroyalprinting.com



Chair Yoga: A Gentle Fitness Option for All

Discover the benefits of Chair Yoga, a modified style of yoga that can be practiced while seated or using a chair for support. This approach incorporates traditional yoga elements such as breathing techniques and gentle physical poses, helping to improve flexibility, muscle tone, and stress relief.

Open to all ages and skill levels, Chair Yoga is especially great for seniors and individuals with mobility challenges.

When: Thursdays, January 23–February 27, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Where: East Lampeter Township Public Meeting Room

Cost: \$30 for residents/\$39 non-resident (covers the full 6-week session)

Join us for this 60-minute weekly class and experience a supportive and engaging way to enhance your fitness and well-being!

Indoor Yoga

A welcoming yoga class for all levels, blending foundational poses, mindful breathing, and relaxation. Beginners build confidence with guidance, while advanced practitioners deepen their practice. Bring your mat and join us!



When: Tuesdays, January 21–February 25, 6–7 p.m.

Where: Fritz Elementary Stem Room

Cost: \$30 for residents/\$39 non-resident (covers the full 6-week session)

Morning Walking Club

Start your day energized and refreshed! Join our Morning Walking Club, where health meets happiness:

When: Tuesday and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Where: Tuesday at the Trail Head of the Lancaster Heritage Pathway (roundabout at Ben Franklin Blvd & E Walnut St), Thursday at Community Park.

Stay Active: Boost your physical and mental well-being.

Make Friends: Connect with other community members.

Feel Inspired: Embrace the beauty of the morning.

Whether you're a seasoned walker or just starting, this club is perfect for everyone.

Additional information, including dates and times can be found at the Township website: <https://eastlampetertownship.org>

The Night Sky

Explore the universe with an official Solar System Ambassador! This class covers tips for observing the night sky and a basic intro to the solar system, including planets, moons, and celestial wonders. Start indoors with engaging instruction, then head outside to a nearby park to apply your new knowledge under the stars. Perfect for stargazers of all levels!

When: Wednesday, February 5, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Where: Indoor portion, East Lampeter Township Public Meeting Room, then at East Lampeter Park

Cost: \$10 for residents/\$13 non-resident



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Park Rental Changes

The process for reserving pavilions and sports facilities has been updated. Starting in 2025, reservations and payments must be completed online after creating and receiving approval for your account on the Township website under Parks and Recreation Department. This can be done conveniently from your own device or using the computer available in the Township Building lobby during regular business hours. Please note, in most circumstances new accounts will be approved the same day during regular township business hours. New accounts will not be approved on Saturday or Sunday. They will be processed the following business day.

Facility Rates

Pavilion Rentals: Full-day reservations only.

Ball Field and Volleyball Court Rentals: Available in two-hour blocks, independent of pavilion reservations. Maximum rental: Three blocks per day (six hours total).

Day	Pavilion Rentals (Resident)	Pavilion Rentals (Non-Resident)	Court/Field Rentals
Weekday (Tues/Wed/Thurs)	\$65	\$85	\$50 per 2 hr. block
Weekend (Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon)	\$85	\$130	\$50 per 2 hr. block

Volunteers Needed for Township Positions



The Township has many opportunities for residents to volunteer. The length of terms of office varies depending upon which role is being considered. Additionally, the number of meetings and dates of meetings also vary. Much of this information is available on the Township's website.

There is a current need to fill roles on the East Lampeter Sewer Authority and the Township Zoning Hearing Board.

The Sewer Authority has responsibilities related to the ownership, expansion, and upgrades to the Township's sanitary sewer system and the Township's stormwater system.

The Zoning Hearing Board has responsibilities related to hearing and making decisions regarding cases brought before the Board related to requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and how these requirements impact specific projects being proposed by property owners. The Zoning Hearing Board does NOT make decisions regarding "rezoning" or the zoning district a particular property is located in.

If you have an interest in serving in either of these roles or any other role in the Township, please reach out to Township staff by phone or email. We will assist you with any additional information that you would like to have about these positions.

Resident Requirements When It Snows

Snow and ice must be cleared by private property owners within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of a snow or ice event. A minimum 30-inch path width on all sidewalks and a 5-foot radius around all fire hydrants must be cleared of snow and ice. East Lampeter Township's ordinance requires sidewalks to be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours after the end of a snow or ice event. Snow must also be cleared for a radius of 5 feet from around any fire hydrant bordering your property. Remember that no person shall dispose of any snow or ice within the cart way of any public roadway.

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Public Works Employee Spotlight: Keith Hillegas

Keith Hillegas started working for the Public Works Department in June of 2014. As a member of the Public Works Department, Keith has many job responsibilities, including maintaining and improving the sanitary sewer system as well as assisting with the roads and parks as needed. He is a graduate of Penn Manor High School and Penn State University. Keith is happily married to Tricia and is the proud father of two daughters, Lauren and Lindsay. He also has a brother, Kristofer. Keith enjoys hunting, fishing, hiking, and, most of all, spending time with his family.

Thank you, Keith, for your 10 years of hard work and dedication to East Lampeter Township.



Winter Weather Tips from the Stormwater Team

Clear leaves, snow, and ice from storm drain grates. Keeping storm grates clear and freely draining will help keep roads free of ice. Note: East Lampeter Does Not Collect Leaves. You can either take your leaves to a composting facility or leave them on your yard so they can fertilize your grass and plants in the spring (no, you can't burn leaves).

Avoid stockpiling snow in, over, or draining directly into any rainwater or natural water drainage areas, storage areas, or flow paths. Snow cleared from roads and walks is full of dirt, salt, oil, and other water pollutants.

Don't use anti-skid, sand, or gritty products on porous pavement, permeable pavers, or infiltration areas; you won't enjoy trying to clean the grit from the pores later.

Consider using EPA Safer-Choice labeled ice melts, which may be less harmful to the environment.

Remember to check your stormwater BMP maintenance schedules. Do you need to drain your BMP? Disconnect it? Is it time to trim plants? Contact the Stormwater Dept. if you aren't sure about your BMP maintenance needs.

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Working long hours? Looking for more time to work ON your business rather than IN your business on day-to-day operations?

RCH is prepared to take care of all your tax and accounting needs today!

We are currently accepting new business clients.

Please contact our office at 717-299-5291 to set up a meeting with

Melissa B. Eberly, CPA

to discuss tax return preparation, financial statement compilation, bookkeeping, payroll processing, or whatever your needs may be.



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Your Volunteer Voices

Here is where your local volunteer fire company members will answer questions, provide event dates, offer ways to get involved, and most importantly, reconnect with your community.

2025 NEEDS YOU

SPARK CHANGE AS A FIRE COMPANY VOLUNTEER



Lend your unique skills, talent or time to your local all-volunteer fire company—and feel great doing it

Ever notice those sirens in town? That's your neighbors dropping everything—yes, even their dinner or work—to keep us all safe. They're the volunteers at Hand-in-Hand, Lafayette, Witmer, and Ronks fire companies, and they do it all because they care about our community. All of us.

Here's the exciting part: You can join the ranks of these local heroes in ways that are a perfect fit for you. Your unique abilities can make a real difference. Love social media? They need help spreading the word about events. Great at planning parties? Your skills could make their next fundraiser amazing. Enjoy baking or crafting? Your creations could make a real difference. Whatever you're good at, there's a way to use that talent to help.

Make 2025 your year to share your talents with your town

Something wonderful happens when you share your skills with the fire company: **everyone wins**. Not only do you help keep our community safe, but you might be surprised by how much you get back. Many volunteers find they've become better at what they do, made great friends, and opened doors to new opportunities—all while doing something that matters.

The best part? It feels amazing. Our volunteers talk about how good it feels to use their skills to help others. They feel more connected to the community, more confident and part of something bigger than themselves. Some say they're less stressed and happier overall.

Ready to help? Our fire companies would love to match your special talents with their needs. Every skill, every hour helps keep our community safe. Plus, since these are volunteer companies, you're helping keep our taxes lower too. (Towns and cities with paid departments often spend hundreds of thousands, to millions, annually on firefighter salaries, benefits, and pensions. Thanks to our volunteers, those costs don't appear on our tax bills.)

So come join us—you'll be glad you did!

HERE ARE 50+ MEANINGFUL WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
at Hand-in-Hand,
Lafayette, Witmer, &
Ronks Fire Companies

EVENT SUPPORT & FUNDRAISING

1. Call your local fire company and **ask to help at a fundraising event...** anyone in the family can help.
2. **Buy a meal** for yourself or your family at one of our fundraising events.
3. Share the proceeds of your **craft sales**
4. Host a **bake—or favorite food—sale** benefiting the fire company
5. Host a fire-themed **karaoke night**. \$5 entry, terrible singing encouraged
6. Organize a **community yard sale**, donating a % of proceeds
7. Host a **chili cook-off** with entry fees going to the fire company
8. Clean out your closet or garage, **consign unwanted items** with a fire company auction.
9. Host a **"Dine & Donate"** night at your home
10. Organize a **workplace fundraising** challenge
11. Coordinate **food drives** for training nights
12. Organize a **"Fill the Boot"** campaign
13. Host a community **car wash** or **lemonade stand**
14. **Like to exercise?** Run a 5k or half marathon at Hand-in-Hand's September fundraiser.





BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

15. **Donate** a % of business revenue to your local fire company – whether it's a special dinner night, a featured product, or a seasonal promotion
16. **Allow employees to respond** to daytime calls
17. Offer **professional services** (accounting, legal, IT)
18. Provide **refreshments** for training nights
19. **Underwrite** a firefighter training course
20. Install a **Knox Box** for quick emergency access
21. **Sponsor** fire company events or equipment
22. Offer your **business space** for fundraising events
23. Create a workplace **matching gift program**
24. Provide expertise for **grant writing**
25. Offer **printing services** for promotional materials



COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

26. Share **fire safety tips** on social media
27. **Spread the word** about the local tax savings we enjoy due to an all-volunteer fire company
28. Create a neighborhood **emergency response network**
29. Educate others about proper **emergency vehicle etiquette**
30. Start a "Thank a Firefighter" campaign
31. Coordinate **fire prevention education** in schools
32. Document fire company events through **photography**

DIRECT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

33. Become a **firefighter** (training provided!)
34. Join the **junior firefighter** program (ages 14-17)
35. Help **maintain** firefighting equipment

36. **Clean and organize** the firehouse
37. Maintain the firehouse **grounds and landscaping**
38. Assist with **administrative** tasks
39. Join a planning **committee**
40. Become an **equipment operator**
41. Learn to **drive emergency vehicles** (with proper training)

SUPPORT FROM HOME

42. **Pray** for firefighter safety
43. Follow and share **social media** posts
44. Sign up for the department **newsletter**
45. **Clear snow** from nearby hydrants in winter

OTHER UNIQUE WAYS TO HELP

46. **Donate blood** at one of our blood drives... it's simple and can save someone's life.
47. Attend a fire meeting at your local fire station just to **see how we operate**...no RSVP required.
48. If you have children, ages 8-14, encourage them to attend **Cadet Camp** at Lafayette Fire Company in August
49. Start a **firefighter support group**
50. Organize a fire company **history project**
51. **Coordinate meals** for training nights
52. **Design** t-shirts or merchandise for fundraising
53. Create **emergency preparedness kits** for neighbors
54. **Stop by one of the fire stations** after a fire call or on a training night to meet our firefighters.
55. **Encourage your children to get active in the community** – with the fire company or another community organization.



Sat. Feb 22 **CHICKEN POT PIE**
Hand-in-Hand Fire Co.

Feb. 11, Apr. 8, Jun. 10, Aug. 12, Oct. 14, Dec. 9
CHILDPROTECT - VACCINATION CLINICS
Witmer Fire Protection Association

Mon. & Tues. Mar. 3 & 4
FASNACHTS FOR FASSNACHT
CANCER PREVENTION FUNDRAISER
Lafayette Fire Co.

Sat. Apr. 12 **BBQ FUNDRAISER**
Lafayette Fire Co.

Sat. Feb. 8, Apr. 26, Oct. 18
WITMER OX ROAST
Witmer Fire Protection Association

Sat. May 24 & Aug. 30 **CHICKEN BBQ**
Hand-in-Hand Fire Co.

June (Date TBD)
STEAK COOK-OFF & ANYTHING STRAWBERRY
FOOD COMPETITION (FUNDRAISER)
Lafayette Fire Company

Thurs. & Fri. Jun. 26 & 27
LANCASTER COUNTY
CARRIAGE & ANTIQUE AUCTION
bihfire.com/auction

Fri. & Sat. Aug. 1 & 2 **CADET CAMP**
Lafayette Fire Co. & Lancaster County
Public Safety Training Center

RONKS FIRE CO.
1st Mondays, 7PM: Exec Board Meeting
STOP IN FOR AN APPLICATION
2nd Mondays, 7pm: Apparatus Check
3rd & 4th Mondays, 6:45PM: Fire Co. Trainings
COME AND OBSERVE





2025 BLOOD DRIVES
Mar. 4, May 14, Aug. 6, Nov. 12 @ Witmer
Mar. 25, Jun 25, Oct. 16 @ Hand-in-Hand





EAST LAMPETER
TOWNSHIP
FIRE COMPANIES

2025 EVENTS

1  **Witmer Fire Protective Association**
455 Mt. Sidney Rd, Lancaster
witmerfire.com
717-393-1259

2  **Hand-in-Hand Fire Co.**
313 Enterprise Dr, Bird-in-Hand
bihfire.com
Station: 717-392-0112
Paul Fisher: 717-380-1109

3  **Lafayette Fire Co.**
63 Lafayette Way, Lancaster
lafayettefire.com
joinlafayette.com
717-392-5097

4  **Ronks Fire Co**
134 North Ronks Road, Ronks
ronksfirerescueinfo@gmail.com
Steve Gribble: 717-368-5585

If you have questions about this information, or are interested in volunteering, please contact one of the fire companies listed here.

2250 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602



Inclement Weather Closings and Cancellations

When inclement weather forces the Township to close their office or cancel meetings, we will now post the closing or cancellations on three of our local television stations and on our Township website. Please tune into the following television stations or log onto their websites for updates. ■ WGAL Channel 8 ■ WPMT Fox 43 ■ CBS 21. Residents can also sign up for Community Alerts. To sign up, Scan the QR Code, call 717-696-6906 and answer the questions, Text Message: Text "Alerts" to 717-696-6906 or fill out our online form: <http://hyper-reach.com/paeastlampetertwpsignup.html>



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