

2250 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602



National Night Out

National Night Out is hosted annually to recognize and support First Responders in our community.



Join us for the 8th Annual National Night Out on August 4, 2026, from 6 PM to 8 PM at The Shops @ Rockvale, 35 S. Willowdale Dr. Lancaster, PA 17602.

Bring the whole family to a FREE night of fun and get to know the people who are keeping our community safe!

<https://www.shoprockvale.com/events-at-rockvale/national-night-out-4/>

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EAST LAMPETER TOWNSHIP

Newsletter

Summer 2026

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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
Hours: M-F 8AM-4PM

Police Department
Non-Emergency: 717-291-4676

Remember to check the Township website and Facebook for ongoing information and updates.

Welcome to the Board of Supervisors, Mike Lapp



Mike Lapp

Mike Lapp is a Lancaster County native with a lifelong passion for real estate, construction, and community. After spending more than 25 years in the construction industry, he transitioned his expertise into real estate, bringing hands-on knowledge and a deep understanding of homes and property development to his clients and projects.

Outside of work, he enjoys staying active through fitness and golfing, and values spending quality time with his wife and children. His strong work ethic, local roots, and people-first approach continue to shape both his personal and professional life.

Welcome to the East Lampeter Township Police Department, Officer Owen Bender

Officer Owen Bender grew up in New Holland and previously served with the Middletown Borough Police Department for two years before joining ELTPD. He is passionate about law enforcement and enjoys the daily challenges of learning new things while building connections within the community.

Owen has been married to his wife, Nicole, for four years, and together they have a 9-month-old son, Benjamin. In his free time, Owen enjoys hiking, spending time walking with his family, lifting, running, woodworking, and hunting.

Officer Bender is assigned to the patrol division. Welcome to the team Owen, we are proud to have you serving our community!



Owen Bender

Draft Comprehensive Plan Available for Public Review and Comment

The Township has prepared a draft Comprehensive Plan, which is available on the Township website for public review and comment. Residents are encouraged to review the draft plan and continue providing feedback before the plan is finalized and considered for adoption later this year. Please scan the QR code to visit the Township webpage and access the draft plan and comment form.



Continued on page 3



Public Works Spotlight: Meet Joel Herr

Joel Herr joined the East Lampeter Township Public Works Department in November 2022 and works primarily in the Roads Department, also working in Parks and Sewers as needed.

He's a Penn Manor High School grad and, outside of work, enjoys waterfowl hunting and serves with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

We are glad to have him on the team!

East Lampeter Police Foundation Thanks Community for Continued Support



The East Lampeter Police Foundation would like to express its gratitude to everyone who helped with their most recent fundraising campaign. Through these generous donations they continue to be able to assist the East Lampeter Township Police Department and its goal to serve and protect our citizens.

The creation of a website devoted solely to the police department is the foundation's next significant endeavor. Donations will be accepted all year and can be sent to: East Lampeter Township Police Foundation at 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602.

Visit the East Lampeter Township Police Foundation table during this year's National Night Out on August 4, 2026. Together, with your continued support, a stronger and safer community is being built.

Public Meeting Information

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Meets January 5 and 19; February 9;
March 2 and 16; April 6 and 20; May 11;
June 1 and 15; July 13; August 3 and 17; September 14;
October 5 and 26; November 16; December 7 and 21.
All regular meetings begin at 7 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

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.)

EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Meets May 21, July 16, September 17,
and November 19.

LINCOLN HIGHWAY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Meets April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14,
August 11, September 8, October 13,
November 10, and December 8.

TOWNSHIP OFFICE PHONE:
717-393-1567

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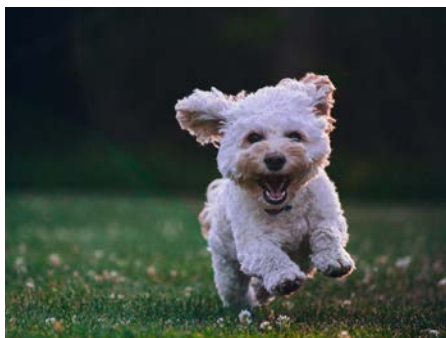
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Please contact:
Carla Snyder at 717-669-0914
or e-mail: carlas@mtroyalprinting.com



Loose and Stray Dogs in the Township Cost Taxpayers

To offset the costs associated with the police department picking up loose or stray dogs in East Lampeter Township, invoices are being issued to owners. If you own a dog and it gets loose and the police are called to pick the dog up, you will receive an invoice



from the Township for \$200.00 for the first instance and the fees will increase with subsequent instances.

In 2026, the Township's budget for loose and stray dogs is \$18,000.00. The Humane League of Lancaster provides East

Lampeter Township Police Department with a location where dogs can be dropped off at all hours, housed, and cared for until the dogs are reclaimed by their owner or adopted. The costs don't stop there. When you take into account the number of police hours it takes to respond to these calls, catch or take custody of these dogs, transport them to the Humane League, complete the related drop off paperwork and complete the required police report for an average of 100 loose and stray dogs, cats and other animal calls annually, the total cost to the Township is much higher.

Be mindful of your dogs and remember it's a law to license dogs aged three months and older in Pennsylvania.

Draft Comprehensive Plan Available for Public Review and Comment

Continued from page 1

What is a comprehensive plan? A comprehensive plan is a long-range policy document that guides a municipality's future growth, development, and preservation over the next 10–20 years. It provides recommendations for land use, housing, transportation, utilities, parks, economic development, and community services to help local officials make informed planning and zoning decisions.

Thank you to all residents who participated in the Comprehensive Plan survey and shared their feedback, ideas, and concerns for the future of East Lampeter Township. Your input has been an important part of the planning process.

The draft plan can also be viewed at: <https://eastlampetertownship.org/departments/buildingzoning/comprehensive-plan>.



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Online Payment Coming Soon!

Before the end of the year, we are making changes to our online bill payment portal.

NEW: Viewing your account activity, such as postings to your account, will be available through Online Bill Pay.

SAME: You will still be able to make payments via credit card, debit card, or E-Check.

SAME: You will continue to be able to make payments over the phone and set up automatic payments to avoid issues with your personal bank's bill pay system. (Currently, we have issues with processing checks we receive from customers' bank bill pay systems. This has caused payments to be misapplied to accounts.)

Sign up for our E-Bill option to allow us to send you an email with a copy of your bill and a link to the payment portal. This will allow us to send you an email with a copy of your bill and a link to the payment portal. The payment portal will automatically link the payment with your account. This will also help to reduce costs and guarantee delivery of your bill and your payment.

Information will be posted on our website as it becomes available: <https://eastlampetertownship.org/residents/permit-and-bill-payment/>

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

Christmas Light Competition



The holiday season may still be a few months away, but now's the perfect time to start planning your most dazzling display yet! Our community-wide Christmas Light Competition will be starting soon, and we want to make this year's tour the brightest one ever.

Residents from East Hempfield, West Hempfield, Lancaster Township, East Lampeter Township, West Lampeter Township, Manheim Township, Mountville Borough, Millersville Borough, Manor Township, Warwick are all encouraged to participate. This friendly competition brings joy to families and helps draw visitors to the Lancaster County area with a self-guided holiday light tour.

Stay tuned this fall for full details, including how to enter, prize categories, and driving route information.

Join the Conestoga Valley Education Foundation for its 28th Annual...

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TUESDAY, SEPT. 15, 2026
MEADIA HEIGHTS GOLF CLUB

For information on how to participate as a golfer or sponsor, visit:
tinyurl.com/CVEFGolf2026

Or scan here to register!



Fun Country Tours

MORE Fall/Holiday Trips available! Call (717) 823-2086 or visit FunCountryTours.com NOW for the FULL LIST!

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East Lampeter Township Recreation (ELTR) is excited to share the following recreation opportunities with you.

Please go to <https://EastLampeterTownship.org> to register for programs.

Please note: Programs requiring registration must meet minimum enrollment numbers to run. If the minimum is not met prior to the registration deadline date, the program may be canceled.

Mill Creek Exploration: A Hands-On Stream Study

Discover the wonders of Mill Creek with a guided stream study led by a naturalist from Lancaster County Parks. Participants will learn about the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the creek before stepping into the water to investigate its quality firsthand. This engaging program is ideal for all ages and anyone interested in the vital waterways that support our ecosystems.

Dates: Sunday, August 9, 2-3:30 p.m..

Location: Gibbons Park at Nolt Mill, 2557 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA

Cost: \$5 resident / \$7 non-residents

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event.



Yoga in the Park

Enjoy the beauty of the outdoors while improving your strength, flexibility, and balance. This all-levels class combines gentle movement, mindful breathing, and relaxation techniques to create a welcoming experience for everyone. Whether you're just beginning your yoga journey or looking to deepen your practice, modifications and guidance will help you feel comfortable and confident. Bring your mat and join Willow Yoga for a refreshing hour of movement and mindfulness in the park!

Date: Tuesdays, August 11-September 15, 6-7 p.m.

Location: East Lampeter Township Community Park, meet at Lions Pavilion. 2330 Hobson Rd

Cost: \$35 residents/\$45 non-residents)

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event.



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. Taught by Willow Yoga.

Date: Date: Session 1, Thursdays, August 13-September 17, 9-10 a.m.

Session 2, Thursdays, October 1-November 5, 9-10 a.m.

Location: East Lampeter Township Public Meeting Room

Cost: \$35 for residents / \$45 non-resident (covers the full 6-week session)

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event by August 11, 2026, at noon for the first 6-week session





Monthly Bookmobile Stop

Enjoy convenient access to library services right in the community! Brought to you by the Library System of Lancaster County, the Bookmobile offers a wide selection of materials for all ages, including books, audiobooks, DVDs, and more. Patrons can place holds, access interlibrary loans, receive personalized recommendations, and get help with digital resources.

Date: Second Thursday of each month, next one August 13, 10–10:45 a.m.

Location: East Lampeter Township Building Parking Lot, 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster

Cost: **FREE!**

Movie in the Park Series



Celebrate the final days of summer with a fun-filled family movie night at the park! Before the hustle and bustle of a new school year begins, gather your family and friends for an evening of great food, laughter, and entertainment under the stars.

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs, enjoy delicious hot dogs, hamburgers, and popcorn, and watch your favorite characters come to life on the big screen. It's the perfect way to make lasting summer memories and enjoy one last night of outdoor fun before school starts. Food is generously provided in partnership with Alliance Towing.

Date: Friday, August 21.

Time: Food served at 7:45 p.m. **Finding Nemo** to begin approximately 8:15 p.m.

Location: Flory Park, 416 Dohner Dr (Greenland Dr Entrance), Lancaster, PA

Special Note: Our next Family Movie Night will be on Friday, October 16, 2026, and will include a candy scramble at 6:30 p.m. with movie to follow.

Line Dancing Class

Kick up your heels and join us for a fun-filled Line Dancing Class! Enjoy 90 minutes each week for six weeks as we explore both the latest trending dances and timeless classics. Each session features step-by-step instruction from instructor Raquel Neighoff to help you feel confident and ready to shine on the dance floor. Open to all skill levels—no partner needed! Come out, have fun, and dance with us.

Date: : Session I: Mondays, August 31–October 12, 5:45–7:15 p.m. | Session II: Mondays, October 26– November 30, 5:45–7:15 p.m.

Location: Conestoga Valley Middle School – Cafeteria, 2114 Horseshoe Rd, Lancaster 2110 Horseshoe Rd., Lancaster

Cost: \$40 residents/\$52 non-residents

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event.

Line Dancing: Improver+

Ready to take your line dancing to the next level? This class introduces improver-level dances designed for participants who already have a basic foundation in line dancing. While open to all, prior experience is strongly recommended, as the dances will be more challenging than those taught in beginner classes. Instructor Raquel Neighoff looks forward to helping you build confidence, learn new steps, and continue growing in your line dancing journey.

Date: : Session I: Mondays, August 31–October 12, 7:30–9 p.m. | Session II: Mondays, October 26– November 30, 7:30–9 p.m.

Location: Conestoga Valley Middle School – Cafeteria, 2114 Horseshoe Rd, Lancaster

Cost: \$40 residents/\$52 non-residents

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event.

Dancers: *Please wear comfortable, non-marking shoes. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.*

East Lampeter Township Recreation (ELTR) recreation opportunities (continued)

Sourdough Bread: Beyond Basics Workshop



Take your sourdough baking to the next level in this hands-on workshop designed for experienced bakers. Learn how to troubleshoot common bread challenges, incorporate flavorful mix-ins like nuts, seeds, herbs, fruits, and cheese, and master advanced shaping techniques for beautiful, artisan-style loaves. Each participant will shape and bake their own loaf using a variety of inclusions. All baking supplies, light refreshments, and beverages are provided—just bring yourself (an apron is optional)!

Date: Thursday, September 3, 5:30–8 p.m.

Location: Conestoga Valley High School, Family & Consumer Science Room (172)
2110 Horseshoe Rd., Lancaster

Cost: \$60 resident / \$78 non-resident

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event.

Note: Space is limited and registration is required by August 5.

Lancaster County BIRD CLUB



Fall Migration Bird Walk: A Beginner-Friendly Birding Adventure

Celebrate the changing seasons with a beginner-friendly bird walk at East Lampeter Township Community Park, led by an expert from the Lancaster County Bird Club.

This program is perfect for all ages—whether you're new to birding or looking to refine your skills. Participants will learn how to use binoculars, field guides, and birding apps to make the most of their birdwatching experience. Expect to see a variety of resident and migrating birds as they pass through on their fall journey.

Date: Sunday, Sept 13 at 4 p.m.

Location: East Lampeter Township Community Park, 2330 Hobson Rd. Meet at Lions Pavilion.

Cost: \$2 residents/\$3 non-residents

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event by September 11, 2026, at noon.

Please bring binoculars if you have them. A limited number will be available to borrow.

In case of inclement weather, cancellations will be announced the day before and registered participants will be notified. Presented in partnership with the Lancaster County Bird Club and East Lampeter Township Recreation.

Indoor Yoga



Whether you're new to yoga or have an established practice, this class taught by Willow Yoga combines gentle movement, breathwork, and relaxation to help improve strength, flexibility, and balance. Beginners will receive supportive instruction, while experienced yogis can further develop their skills. Just bring a mat and enjoy an hour of movement and mindfulness!

Date: Tuesdays, September 29–November 3, 6–7 p.m.

Location: TBA

Cost: \$35 residents/\$45 non-residents

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event.



Jim Thorpe Adventure

Enjoy a beautiful autumn day in Jim Thorpe! Start with a guided trolley tour through this charming mountain town, then enjoy free time for lunch and shopping. The day concludes with a scenic fall foliage train ride on the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway. Trip Includes: Transportation, trolley tour, and train ticket; gratuity NOT included.

Date: Thursday, October 1

7 a.m. Departure from East Lampeter Township Building

6:30 p.m. Approximate arrival to East Lampeter Township

Location: East Lampeter Township Building, 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike

Cost: \$139 resident/\$180 non-resident

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event by Monday, August 17, 2026, at noon.



East Lampeter Township Annual Fall Festival

Join us on Saturday, October 3, 2026, from 10 a.m. to Noon at East Lampeter Township Community Park (2330 Hobson Rd, Lancaster) for our Annual Fall Festival!

This free event is packed with fun fall activities for children ages 2–12, including pumpkin painting, leaf crafts, and more seasonal surprises. Don't miss this festive morning of autumn fun!

Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular Bus Trip

Kick off the holiday season with a magical trip to New York City! Join us for a day in the Big Apple, featuring the world-famous Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular starring the legendary Rockettes. Upon arrival, you'll have free time to explore the city, enjoy lunch at one of New York's many restaurants, and get a head start on your holiday shopping before taking in this unforgettable Christmas tradition.

Date: Wednesday, November 18

Departure/Return Location: East Lampeter Township, 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602

Cost: \$189 for resident/\$240 non-resident

Trip Includes: Transportation and Show Ticket. **Does Not include gratuity or lunch**

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event by October 1, 2026, at noon.

New York City Holiday Bus Trip



Experience the magic of New York City during the holiday season! Travel in comfort aboard a deluxe motor coach and enjoy a full day exploring the city at your own pace. Stroll past dazzling holiday window displays, twinkling lights, and festive decorations throughout Manhattan. Whether you're interested in world-class museums, Broadway shows, iconic landmarks, diverse dining, or endless shopping, NYC has something for everyone this time of year. 7 a.m.

Date: Saturday, December 12

Departure Location: East Lampeter Township Building, 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike

Cost: \$89 for residents / \$115 for non-residents

Registration: Online Registration at EastLampeterTownship.org is required for this event by October 29, 2026, at noon.

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 our communities.

Four volunteer fire companies. One East Lampeter Township.



WITMER FIRE PROTECTIVE

Summer Events at the Firehouse



Witmer earned 2nd place in the Squad category at the Columbia Borough Firemen's Parade, proudly representing Witmer and the East Lampeter community!

Witmer Fire Company has a busy summer planned and invites the community to join them at the firehouse!



Phillies Watch Parties
6/26 & 8/21



Annual Corn Processing
8/7 & 8/8



Line Dancing
TBD



LAFAYETTE FIRE COMPANY

Community gatherings, events, volunteer opportunities, and summer traditions at the firehouse.

Station 63 celebrated several member milestones, including **Senior Firefighter Eric McMillan's** graduation from Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, training achievements by **Merv Arnold-Lyons** and **Emma Carl**, and continued community service by Lafayette volunteers.

Honoring Chief Emeritus Howard Hershey

Lafayette Fire Company recently celebrated Chief Emeritus Howard Hershey, who received the Lancaster County Firemen's Association Distinguished Service Award in recognition of 57 years of dedicated service.



Cadet Camp
7/31 – 8/1



National Night Out
8/4/26



57 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE



HAND-IN-HAND FIRE CO.

Bird-in-Hand Half Marathon Weekend

Hand-in-Hand Fire invites the community to support the Bird-in-Hand race weekend!

- Kids Fun Run + 5K: Friday, September 11, 2026
- Half Marathon: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Fire Company Challenge: Run the 5K Friday and the 1/2 Marathon Saturday morning!



Kids Fun Run + 5K
9/11/26



Half Marathon
9/12/26



Witmer Fire Protective
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Lancaster
witmerfire.com
717-393-1259



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



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



Ronks Fire Co
134 North Ronks Rd
Ronks
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Steve Gribble: 717-368-5585

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 our communities.

Four volunteer fire companies. One East Lampeter Township.



RONKS FIRE RESCUE

Fire Safety + Community Calls

Ronks Fire Company recently responded to a brush fire along Lincoln Highway after an ember from a controlled burn ignited a field during dry and windy conditions. The call is a strong reminder to use extra caution with outdoor burning, especially when conditions are dry or windy.

Ronks members also assisted with a memorable community call after a cow fell into a manure pit and crews responded to help with the rescue.



HOLY COW!

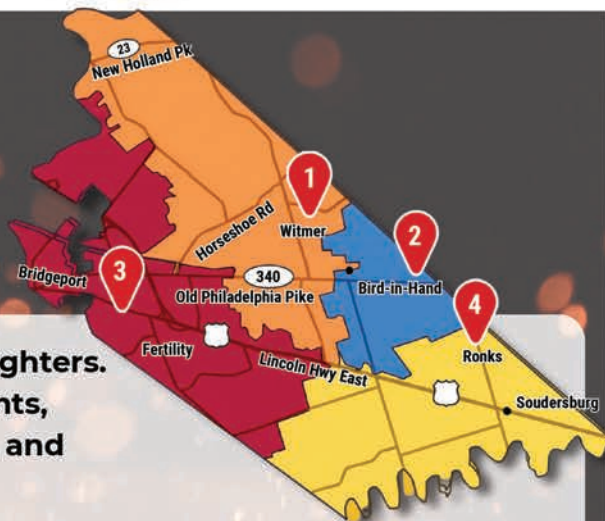
WHERE WE SERVE

East Lampeter Township is protected by four volunteer fire companies working together across the community.

Your local fire companies need more than firefighters. Volunteers help with emergency response, events, fundraising, administration, outreach, facilities, and behind-the-scenes support.

Interested in volunteering?

Contact one of the fire companies listed below to learn more!



Witmer Fire Protective
455 Mt. Sidney Rd
Lancaster
witmerfire.com
717-393-1259



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



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