

East Fallowfield News



SPRING 2026



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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By Michael Domboski

It is with great honor that I begin the year serving as the Chairman of your Board of Supervisors. Over the years, I've had the privilege of being involved with East Fallowfield in many capacities. I began serving as a member of the Planning Commission, then served on several committees and task forces, and now serve as a member of the Board, having joined in 2024.

I am proud to call East Fallowfield home. Our residents care about our community and many are dedicated to making it an even better place to live and raise a family. I encourage all of our residents to stay engaged by attending our Board meetings. Public participation at these meetings is vital to the effectiveness of local government and meetings are designed to conduct township business transparently while ensuring we are aligned with residents' needs and wants. Board meetings are held monthly and a full schedule is available in this newsletter.



Michael Domboski

As I assume the role of Chairman, I would like to address an important point about our public meetings. We all come to the table with different perspectives, priorities, and passions. When you take the time to come to a meeting, whether to voice a concern or provide feedback, you should feel confident that you are being heard. We may not always have immediate answers, but I am committed to providing thoughtful and thorough responses.

Diversity of thought is one of the strengths of a vibrant, democratic community. It is natural that we may not agree on every issue, but it is critical that we engage in respectful and constructive dialogue. Healthy debate and differing opinions are vital parts of the democratic process – but so is civility.

As your elected representatives, the Board of Supervisors is here to listen, consider all viewpoints, data, and facts and make the decision that best serves the needs of our collective township.

The year kicked off with our reorganization meetings as each board and committee identified their chair and vice-chair positions. I strongly encourage our residents to visit the township website to look at the various ways you can get involved. Our committees play a critical role in helping to shape the future of our community and numerous opportunities are available.

continued page 4

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EAST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP

2264 Strasburg Road | East Fallowfield, PA 19320

610-384-7144 | 610-384-7143 (fax)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

PERMIT QUESTIONS?

Email

permits@eastfallowfield.org

Board of Supervisors

Michael Domboski, Chairman | mdomboski@eastfallowfield.org

Al Wright, Vice Chairman | awright@eastfallowfield.org

Wilson T. Lambert, Jr. | wlambert@eastfallowfield.org

Katja DiRado | kdirado@eastfallowfield.org

Deborah Stoff | dstoff@eastfallowfield.org

TRASH QUESTIONS?

Email

trash@eastfallowfield.org

Township Administration

Township Manager/Secretary: Scott Swichar | manager@eastfallowfield.org

Treasurer: Dave Hindman | treasurer@eastfallowfield.org

Denise Verderosa | dverderosa@eastfallowfield.org / permits@eastfallowfield.org

Sue Sereditch | secretary@eastfallowfield.org / trash@eastfallowfield.org

Public Works Department

Road Foreman:

Justin Gathercole

Road Crew:

Bill Lewis, Nicklous Giunta,

John Winters

Jordan Thomas

Police Department

Chief of Police: Chad Osborn

Sergeant: Brian Simmons

Administrative Assistants:

Christi Walls, Nancy Baker

Full-time Officers: John Hewczuk, Richard McAllister,

John O'Donnell, John Rappold, Kevin Simmons

Agricultural Security Committee

Chairman: Wilson T. Lambert, Jr.

Members: Arthur DeLeo, Clarence Rhoades III,

Joseph Heffern, Jillian Federoff

Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

Members: John Nielsen, Tanner Burns, Jeanne Berlin,

Charles Reed, Teri Dickinson,

Paul Brenner, Robert Diest, Roger Mustalish,

Katja DiRado (Alternate), Amy Troop, Lauri Hyers

Historic Commission

Chairman: Joe McCormick

Secretary: Sue Monaghan

Members: Clarence Rhoades III, Connie McLaughlin,

Chad Peterson, Jennifer Carling, Rania Larsen,

Jack Alvarez, and Pam Jaccard

Municipal Building Committee Members

Katja DiRado, John Ionata,

Wilson T. Lambert, Jr., Jerry Dickinson, Charles Argue

Advisor: Scott Swichar

Parks and Recreation Committee

Chair: Teri Dickinson

Vice Chair: Joyce Madding

Members: Fred Weiss, Stephanie Scotton,

Jerry Dickinson, Milby Thorington

Planning Commission

Chairman: Ray Smith

Vice-Chairman: Guido Giuntini

Members: Deborah Stoff, Sue Monaghan,

Jerry Dickinson

Zoning Hearing Board

Members: Ellis Weiss, Kathleen Moffitt, Jason Hewson

NEW TO THE TOWNSHIP?

Request a new resident information packet by email at secretary@eastfallowfield.org or call 610-384-2104

Find us on



Please add us on facebook for more current updates:

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ EASTFALLOWFIELDTOWNSHIP](https://www.facebook.com/EASTFALLOWFIELDTOWNSHIP)

I truly believe East Fallowfield is at its best when we remember we're on the same team. We may not always see eye to eye, but we all want a Township that is well-run, transparent, and respectful of its residents and employees.

I would like to take a moment to extend my gratitude to the many departments and volunteers who serve our community, especially during this past winter season. The Public Works Department deserves special thanks for their tireless efforts in

snow plowing, ensuring our roads remain safe and navigable. The Police Department, along with our brave Emergency Responders from Modena and Westwood Fire Companies, continue to serve with dedication, keeping our community safe year-round.

Thank you for being a part of this community and for helping make East Fallowfield a place we're proud to call home.

Michael Domboski
Mike D

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

Dear Residents and Friends,

I hope you had a great winter and are looking forward to spring. I'm pleased to share updates on the Township's recent accomplishments and upcoming initiatives.

New Township Supervisor and Board of Supervisors Reorganization

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome and congratulate Deborah Stoff as our newly elected Township Supervisor. Ms. Stoff was sworn in by Magisterial District Judge Joe Heffern at the Township's January reorganization meeting and has taken her seat on the Board. She will serve a six-year term. At the meeting, Mike Domboski was appointed Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026, and Al Wright was appointed Vice-Chair for 2026.

2026 Budget: No Tax Increase!

The Board of Supervisors adopted the 2026 budget with no tax increase. Despite ongoing inflationary pressures, 2026 marks the eighth consecutive year without a General Fund tax increase while maintaining current service levels. There is also no change to the current trash fee of \$450. In 2025, the Township ended the year with a budget surplus due to higher-than-expected revenues from interest earnings, building permits, earned income taxes, and real estate transfer taxes. As a result, \$1,000,000 was transferred into the Capital Fund to support new equipment purchases and future infrastructure projects.

Upgrades to the Township Trash Program

Bulk trash, including white goods, is now collected every Friday on your regular collection day. This enhanced service makes it easier for residents to dispose of large items weekly rather than waiting for a specific time each month. Please note that the limit remains one bulk item per collection day. The Township also held its first-ever free bulk trash drop-off event last spring, giving residents an opportunity to clean out

basements and sheds. Due to strong participation and positive feedback, two additional events are planned for this year: Saturday, May 2, and Saturday, October 17. Save the dates and plan to "dump your junk" at these free community events!

\$1,025,000 in Grant Funding Secured

Last year, the Township secured over \$1 million in grant funding to support important projects, including:

- \$475,000 Mortonville Road Bridge Reconstruction**
(DCED LSA Grant)
- \$300,000 Mortonville Road Bridge Reconstruction**
(DCED MTF Grant)
- \$250,000 Community Park Improvements**
(DCNR C2P2 Grant)

These grants help fund critical improvements without placing an additional burden on taxpayers.

Record-Setting Road Paving in 2026

Ensuring safer roads remains a top priority. 2026 will be another record-setting road paving season, with \$401,962 allocated for road resurfacing. Investment in road paving has nearly tripled since 2018, allowing the Township to resurface more roads each year and significantly improve roadway conditions community-wide. Stay tuned for resurfacing updates at www.eastfallowfield.org.

Stay Connected

Stay informed by signing up for our Constant Contact emails, visiting our website, or following our Facebook page. The Township remains committed to transparent government and open communication with our residents. On behalf of the Township Board of Supervisors, I wish you a wonderful spring season!

Sincerely,
Scott M. Swichar
Scott M. Swichar, Township Manager

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NON-EMERGENCY CALLS, PLEASE CALL 610-383-7000 (CHESTER COUNTY DISPATCH) | FOR EMERGENCY CALLS, PLEASE DIAL 911

East Fallowfield Police Officers Honored for Life-Saving Efforts

At the January 27 Board of Supervisors meeting, East Fallowfield Township proudly recognized several police officers for their outstanding service and life-saving actions in the community.

The certificates of recognition, presented on behalf of the Modena Fire Company, honored officers who have demonstrated exceptional professionalism through cardiac saves, quick emergency responses, and other critical efforts that helped protect and preserve life. Their dedication reflects the East Fallowfield Police Department's commitment to serving residents with courage, compassion, and skill.

The certificates were presented by Fire Chief Frank Dowlin and Luann Thomas, EMS Supervisor for the Modena Fire Company, who expressed gratitude for the strong partnership between emergency responders and the important role teamwork plays during life-threatening situations.

East Fallowfield Township commends these officers for their swift actions and continued service to the community.

Pictured at right: Chief Chad Osborn, Officer John Rappold, Officer Corey Denton, Officer John Hewczuk, Officer John O'Donnell, Fire Chief Frank Dowlin, and Luann Thomas, EMS Supervisor.



Prescription Medication Drop Box

The East Fallowfield Township Police Department, in partnership with Pennsylvania American Water, the Brandywine Health Foundation, and the Coatesville Youth Initiative, maintains a permanent prescription medication drop box available to residents of East Fallowfield Township and surrounding communities.

This drop box provides a free, safe, convenient, and environmentally responsible way to dispose of unwanted, unused, or expired medications anonymously throughout the year.



The permanent prescription medication drop box is located in the reception area of the Township Building, 2264 Strasburg Road, and is accessible during normal Township business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

East Fallowfield Township Police Chief Chad Osborn stated, "We encourage residents to take advantage of this program to dispose of unused and unneeded prescription medications safely, reducing the risk of access and misuse by children or other individuals."

Accepted Items

- Prescription medications (solid forms only)
- Prescription patches
- Over-the-counter medications
- Vitamins
- Medication samples
- Pet medications

Items Not Accepted

- Liquids, ointments, or lotions
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Inhalers
- Aerosol containers
- Needles or sharps
- Thermometers
- Medications from businesses or medical clinics
- Illicit drugs

FROM LAWN TO HABITAT: Why Parts of East Fallowfield Park Look Different

If you've spent time at East Fallowfield Park along Buck Run Road or Route 82, you may have noticed that some areas aren't mowed like a traditional lawn. That's by design — and it's helping the park work better for people, wildlife, and the environment.

When the park was first developed, this area was maintained as lawn. Over time, the Park & Recreation Commission shifted to a managed hayfield with mowed walking trails. A local farmer harvests the hay a few times each year, which helps keep invasive plants in check while reducing the need for frequent mowing.

This approach saves the Township money, cuts down on noise and air pollution, and still provides enjoyable trails for residents and their pets.

This year, the Township is taking the effort one step further by delaying the first haying until July. That timing gives field-nesting birds — including the Bobolink, a species facing habitat loss — the uninterrupted time they need to raise their young.

Sometimes doing less — like mowing less often — can make a park healthier, quieter, and more welcoming for wildlife and people alike.



When you visit the park, please stay on the trails and keep dogs leashed. Doing so helps protect wildlife and also reduces your exposure to ticks.

East Fallowfield Park is evolving in a way that supports nature, saves resources, and creates a healthier park for everyone.

Did You Know?

- Hayfields require less maintenance than traditional lawns, saving taxpayer dollars.
- Many grassland birds, including the Bobolink, nest directly on the ground and need undisturbed fields to survive.
- Fewer mowing cycles mean less noise and air pollution.
- Staying on trails helps protect wildlife — and helps protect you from ticks and uneven ground.

photo at left: The bubbling song of a male Bobolink is one of the most welcome natural sounds of rural Pennsylvania. A visually striking songbird, the Bobolink has lots of personality and energy, attracting attention even from people with a passing interest in birds.

Access Your Tax Information Online with Berkheimer's Self-Service Portal

East Fallowfield Township residents can easily access their tax information online through Berkheimer's convenient self-service portal. This user-friendly tool allows you to view your account balance, download tax bills, and access payment receipts—no phone calls or emails required.



When Township tax bills are mailed on February 1, residents can skip the wait for postal delivery by visiting the Berkheimer website and downloading their bill directly. This ensures timely access and reduces the risk of delays or lost mail. Downloading your bill early also allows you to take full advantage of the 2% early payment discount.

In addition to Township tax bills, residents can also retrieve their Coatesville Area School District tax bills using the same online portal.

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR TAX INFORMATION ONLINE:

1. Visit: <https://customer.hab-inc.com/pub/MiscTax/GetBalance>
2. A tax search screen will appear with multiple search options.
3. For best results, enter:
 - Your street number
 - Your street name only (do not include Road, Drive, Circle, etc.)
 - Your zip code
4. Your property will appear in the search results at the bottom of the page.

From there, you can quickly view and download all relevant tax documents.

Environmental Advisory Council Corner: Mission-Focused in 2026

Each year, the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) sets priorities to help protect and enhance East Fallowfield Township's natural resources. In 2026, our focus remains the same: advising the Township on environmental issues while helping residents find practical ways to support a healthier local environment.



DID YOU KNOW?

Water conservation starts at home. Simple steps like fixing leaks, using rain barrels, watering early in the morning, and choosing native plants can significantly reduce water use while keeping your yard healthy.

We'll continue working closely with the Board of Supervisors and Township staff on matters such as environmentally responsible building design, management of the East Fallowfield Township Community Park, and sustainable Township maintenance practices.

You'll also see the EAC out in the community—sharing seasonal tips on native gardening, wildlife habitat enhancement, and responsible land care. We're kicking off the year with a focus on **water conservation and watershed protection**, topics that affect every household.

Over the past three years, our region has experienced moderate to severe drought conditions. In 2025, rainfall across Pennsylvania was below average for more than half the year, leaving total annual precipitation about 10–15% lower than normal. These trends remind us that conserving water matters. Small changes at home—using water wisely, reducing runoff, and protecting nearby streams—can add up to a big impact.

Throughout the year, the EAC will share information, ideas, and resources through this quarterly newsletter, at community events, and on our Environmental Advisory Council Facebook group. We invite you to follow along, ask questions, and get involved. Everyone is welcome!

East Fallowfield Township Donates \$9,000 to Coatesville Area Public Library



Above: East Fallowfield Township Manager Scott Swichar and Township Treasurer Dave Hindman present the \$9,000 donation to a staff member of the Coatesville Area Public Library.

At its December meeting, the East Fallowfield Township Board of Supervisors approved a \$9,000 donation to the Coatesville Area Public Library. The library relies on the generosity of donors, neighboring municipalities, and volunteers to provide high-quality materials, programs, and services to residents.

In 2025, the library participated in several East Fallowfield events, bringing resources and programs directly to the community:

- East Fallowfield Elementary School Arts Night – May 7
- East Fallowfield Township Family Day – August 2
- East Fallowfield Fall Fest – October 11
- East Fallowfield Elementary School Fall into Reading – October 15

"The Coatesville Area Public Library is a wonderful community asset that offers a variety of benefits to our residents. We are happy to support this important resource," said East Fallowfield Township Manager Scott Swichar.



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HOW IT WORKS

1. Fill & Bait

Fill a 2–5 gal bucket 2/3 with water and add a handful of leaves or grass.

2. Add Mosquito Dunk

Use 1/4 of a mosquito dunk (wildlife-friendly & kid-safe). Replace dunk monthly.

3. Add Cover or “Rescue Stick”

Add wire mesh or a lid with holes to keep kids and pets out, or place a stick inside so small animals can climb out.

4. Place & Label

Set buckets in shady spots around your yard. Add our sticker or a sign to let neighbors know what it is.

WHY IT WORKS

The bucket draws in mosquitoes already nearby (not from far away), then stops the next generation before it hatches.

It works because of Bti, a natural bacterium that targets mosquito larvae but doesn't harm biodiversity like bees, birds, or butterflies.



WHY NOT FOG?

Fogging hurts more than it helps. It kills wildlife, is harmful to your pets and kids, and doesn't even stop mosquitoes at the source — it misses the larvae, where real control happens.

SPREAD THE WORD WITH A STICKER

Help your bucket teach your neighbors with the official sticker (vinyl or printable).



LEARN MORE

Scan for how-to, FAQs and advocacy tools:



MosquitoBucketChallenge.org

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Parks and Recreation Commission 2026

By Teri Dickinson

Did you know that people with access to public parks are more physically active, walk more, and are healthier than those with limited access? Community members who take advantage of recreational and social events at their local parks make important social connections with people of all ages, demographics, and cultures.

The East Fallowfield Parks and Recreation team realizes that a wide range of programs and events are critical to creating a dynamic, inclusive, and accessible park. 2026 will be packed with quality events that are sure to appeal to all our residents. We will continue holding our Summertime Music Series, the Rescue Rally, Touch-a-Truck, the Flea Market and Vendor Sale, Trunk or Treat, the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, and park cleanup events. This year is also America's Semiquincentennial, a.k.a. the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Stay tuned for our special park event on June 27, commemorating this milestone. Please be sure to check out the Parks and Rec social media site (East Fallowfield Township Parks and Recreation), the official East Fallowfield Township Facebook page, and other local social media sites for more information.

The Parks and Recreation team is also investigating ways to spruce up our green infrastructure. Projects like pond renovations, addressing invasive species and native plantings in the park, trail improvements, and testing a small lawn-to-meadow plot are just a few ideas. These improvements to our natural areas will go a long way to encourage new wildlife habitats and protect existing ecosystems. We aim to maintain our park sustainably while providing both passive and active park activities for our residents, young and old.

If you or someone you know would like to help our Parks and Recreation team, please consider coming to a meeting. We meet in person at 6:30 PM on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, at the Township Building. The meeting schedule is posted on the East Fallowfield Township website. Feel free to contact me, Teri Dickinson, at tad411@comcast.net with any questions.

A graphic titled "East Fallowfield Township 2026 Park & Rec Events" featuring orange flowers in the corners and a green grass border at the bottom. The events are listed by month in three columns. An orange box at the bottom right contains the text: "For event details and updates, follow East Fallowfield Township on FB".

Month	Event	Date/Time
April	Spring Park Cleanup	Saturday, April 18
May	Rescue Rally	Saturday, May 16
June	Summertime Concert in the Park	Thursday, June 18/5:30-8:30 p.m.
June	America 250 Celebration	Saturday, June 27
July	Summertime Concert in the Park	Thursday, July 16/5:30-8:30 p.m.
August	Summertime Concert in the Park	Thursday, August 20/5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
September	Touch a Truck	Saturday, September 12
October	Flea Market & Vendor Fair	Saturday, October 3
October	Trunk or Treat & More Fall Fun!	Saturday, October 31
November	Fall Park Cleanup	Saturday, November 14
December	Holiday Tree Lighting	December 5 or 12 (TBD)



Party Time at the Pavilion!

If you're planning an upcoming event and would like to reserve the East Fallowfield Community Park Pavilion, now is the time to do it!

Residents are always welcome to sit at the pavilion and enjoy a picnic lunch, get out of the sun, or meet with friends, but please remember that you may be sharing this space with other park visitors. If you are having a special event and would like to reserve the pavilion for your group's exclusive use, contact the Township office, and we'll get you started on the process.

Things to know:

1. Contact the Township office at 610-384-2104 or email secretary@eastfallowfield.org to request a Facility Use Permit Application and to check available dates. Permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.
2. Permit applications for pavilion rentals must be submitted to the Township office at least six business days in advance of the planned event/activity.
3. Events for groups of 75 people or more require special approval from the Board of Supervisors and must be submitted at least eight weeks in advance.
4. Pavilion rentals are available Monday through Sunday, from April 1 through October 31.
5. For East Fallowfield Township residents, the cost of the rental is \$50 for a four-hour time slot, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. For non-residents, the fee is \$100.
6. A security deposit of \$100 must accompany the permit application and rental fee. This will be returned to you when the event is over if the pavilion has been returned to its original state with no damage or trash left behind.
7. You are responsible for bringing your own supplies and cleaning up after your event (we do not recommend having a "reveal party" with an exploding pink confetti piñata, for example. That's a lot of tiny pieces of paper you'll be picking up through the grass!)
8. Park restrooms will be open and available for use during this time.
9. Two charcoal grills are available for use when you rent the pavilion.
10. No alcoholic beverages are permitted.



For additional information or to request a Facility Use Permit Application, please contact the Township office at 610-384-2104. Thanks, and we hope you're ready to get outside and enjoy your park this season!

Bulk Item Guidelines

East Fallowfield residents may dispose of one (1) bulk item per week through curbside collection.

- **Accepted Materials** - Household Freon-free appliances that do not fit into your trash bin, furniture, mattresses (wrapped in plastic), box springs (wrapped in plastic), plumbing fixtures such as toilets and sinks, three (3) 4 foot rolls of carpet (tied).
- **Unacceptable Materials** - Electronic waste (computers, televisions, etc.), chemicals, stains, liquids, batteries, automobile parts, hazardous waste, tires, tires on rims, commercial and industrial waste, construction materials (drywall, brick, block, lumber, shingles, tiles, concrete, etc.).
- **Additional Instructions** - Items which are too heavy to be lifted into a truck by two people will not be accepted. Additional trash bags are NOT considered a bulk item.



WHITE GOODS GUIDELINES

All White Goods (appliances) containing Freon must have a certified tag from a technician to document the Freon has been properly removed. Call 610-384-7144 to schedule a pick-up.

Have “E-Skeletons” in Your Closet?

We all have e-skeletons in our closets — a dusty laptop that died too young, a printer that suddenly stopped working, or an old television replaced by a newer, slimmer model.

While getting rid of electronics is no longer as simple as placing them curbside with your household trash, recycling them in East Fallowfield Township is still easy and convenient.

Residents can drop off accepted electronics at the Township Building by showing a valid ID or a utility bill confirming residency. The drop-off site is open weekdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, except on Township holidays. No appointment is necessary, and the service is free for Township residents.

Electronics may not be left outside when the facility is closed. To prevent dumping or theft, the collection site is monitored by the East Fallowfield Township Police Department.

Under Pennsylvania’s Covered Device Recycling Act, certain electronics cannot be disposed of curbside or in landfills. The



Township’s permanent collection site provides a safe and legal option to properly recycling these items.

“Proper recycling is important because millions of devices reach the end of their useful life each year, and they contain heavy metals such as lead, cadmium, and mercury that should not enter the regular trash stream,” said Township Manager Scott Swichar.

“We are pleased to help residents dispose of electronics in an environmentally responsible way,” Swichar added.

The Township accepts the following items:

- Televisions (tube and flat screen)
- Desktop and laptop computers
- Tablets and e-readers
- Printers
- Computer peripherals such as keyboards and similar accessories

East Fallowfield Township Presents

DUMP YOUR JUNK DAYS

Two Bulk Trash Drop-off Events this year!

Saturday, May 2 and Saturday, October 17
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

East Fallowfield Township Municipal Complex
2264 Strasburg Road

FREE* DISPOSAL OF REFUSE & RECYCLABLES
Televisions & Electronics, Furniture & Bulk Household Items, Household Appliances

***Tire Charges (cash only):**
Passenger tires \$5 each
Tires with rims \$8 each
Truck tires \$10 each

Important Note:
Refrigerators & appliances must have refrigerant (Freon) removed and tagged before drop-off.

Not Accepted:
Construction debris
Paint & household hazardous waste
Unwrapped mattresses

EFT residents only.
Please bring proof of residency.

Questions?
Call 610-384-7144
or email
trash@eastfallowfield.org



The Birdy Dozen *streamside edition*

This is just a sampling of native plants that provide streamside support for wildlife habitat, soil stabilization, erosion control, and stormwater absorption. There are many, many more! Native plants help keep your water clean and they're as beautiful as they are beneficial!

Flowering Plants		
		
Great Blue Lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>)	White Turtlehead (<i>Chelone glabra</i>)	Blue Flag Iris (<i>Iris versicolor</i>)
Shrubs		
		
Northern Spicebush (<i>Lindera benzoin</i>)	Red Twig Dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>)	Arrowwood Viburnum (<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>)
		
Pussy Willow (<i>Salix discolor</i>)	Smooth Azalea (<i>Rhododendron arborescens</i>)	American Black Elderberry (<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>)
Trees		
		
American Sycamore (<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>)	Tulip Poplar (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>)	River Birch (<i>Betula nigra</i>)

Learn more about Audubon's Bird-Friendly Communities, the annual Birdy Dozen and discover how to register your property in our Bird-Friendly Habitat recognition program at pa.audubon.org/bfc.

Lawn Troubles? Think outside the box!

If your grass looks like most of the turf grass in Chester County, your lawn is most likely composed of cool season grasses whose roots only extend about three inches below the soil surface. While cool season grasses are nice to walk on in bare feet or have a badminton match on, they score very low in the infiltration and evapotranspiration departments. In other words, rain water just sits on top of the lawn or quickly runs off. If you would like to reduce ponding on your property, decrease runoff coming off of your property, or improve water quality by making changes on your property, you have options!

Warm season grasses are a great place to start. They have deep root systems which provide increased infiltration and soil stabilization, helping to reduce soil erosion, ponding, and runoff. They also have improved evapotranspiration as compared to cool season grasses. They grow in bunches, and can provide texture to the landscape. There are a handful of native and popular warm season grasses which can be ordered from most local nurseries. Big bluestem, little bluestem, indiangrass, and switchgrass are all native to North America and are considered the most prominent species of the tallgrass prairie. They each provide bird habitat and have autumn appeal. Warm season grasses can be planted in fields, lawns, and gardens. They work best on dry and sunny sites.

Pesky Wet Spots

Do you have a spot on your property that you can't mow during the rainy season because it's too soggy? Your best bet is to plant a tree there to take up that water. If you have overhead wires, underground utilities, or other site restrictions, it might not be appropriate to plant a tree. In those cases, there are other options – either shrubs or herbaceous plants.

Is it a sunny wet spot? Eastern white pine, tuliptree, red maple, white oak, and eastern hemlock are large trees that thrive on sunny and wet sites. A smaller tree that will do well in these conditions is a serviceberry, also known as shadbush. If you are looking for something in the 5-10 foot range, with robust root systems to hold the soil



Pictured Above: Milkweed



Pictured Above: Winterberry



Pictured Above: Jacob's Ladder

in place and increase infiltration and evapotranspiration, look no further than Pennsylvania native shrubs. Summersweet, red-osier dogwood, winterberry, red chokeberry, and ninebark are a few that would thrive in sunny and wet conditions. Perhaps woody vegetation just isn't for you. While herbaceous plants don't have as strong of roots and aren't quite as good at taking up the water as trees and shrubs, they can still provide major improvements from cool season grasses found in lawns. Consider plants such as bee-balm, wild blue phlox, swamp milkweed, joe-pye-weed, gaura, oxeye sunflower, great blue lobelia, mountain mints, New England aster, New York ironweed, and culver's root.

Is the wet spot on your lawn in a shady area? Trees suited for these conditions are sugar maple, river birch, flowering dogwood, and pin oak. Appropriate shrubs are smooth alder, pagoda dogwood, wild hydrangea, spicebush, and rosebay (rhododendron). Herbaceous perennial plants suited for shady and wet conditions are jack-in-the-pulpit, wild ginger, dutchman's breeches, cardinal flower, golden ragwort, Jacob's ladder, and foamflower. Native ferns which would also be appropriate include maidenhair fern, wood ferns, cinnamon fern, interrupted fern, and Christmas fern.

For scientific names of the plants discussed above and more information on benefits of landscaping with native plants, visit:

http://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=1742582&DocName=sf-Native_Plants_Landscaping-brochure.pdf

*Author: Corinne Trice,
Chester County Conservation District*

Township Commissions Looking to Fill Vacancies

East Fallowfield Township is seeking residents interested in volunteering on one of several important Township boards and commissions. These groups play a key role in shaping the future of the township, supporting recreational opportunities, and ensuring fair application of local zoning regulations.



judicial body that considers sworn testimony and evidence during public hearings. The Board has the authority to grant Special Exceptions and Variances from the Township's Zoning Ordinance in accordance with established legal criteria.

Alternate members are essential to ensuring that hearings can proceed when regular members are unavailable due to absence, illness, or conflicts of interest. Without alternates, hearings may be cancelled, causing delays for applicants.

Planning Commission – One Vacancy plus Alternates

The Township Planning Commission is an advisory board that reviews subdivision and land development matters and provides recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Commission helps guide how East Fallowfield grows and develops over time.

The Planning Commission is composed of seven volunteer citizens appointed by the Board of Supervisors, with each member serving a four-year term. Currently, the Township is seeking one member and up to three alternate members. Alternate members attend meetings and may vote when regular members are absent.

The Planning Commission typically meets on the **first and third Mondays of each month at 6:30 PM.**

Park and Recreation Board – One Vacancy

The Township's Park and Recreation Board currently has **one vacancy**. This board plans recreational activities and advises on matters related to the Township's parks and recreation programs.

Members serve a five-year term, and the board generally meets on the **first and third Tuesdays** of each month at **6:30 PM.**

Zoning Hearing Board – Alternate Member(s) Needed

An **alternate member** is also needed to serve on the Township's Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB). The ZHB is a quasi-

Duties of a ZHB Member include:

- Reviewing and deciding applications for variances, special exceptions, and zoning appeals
- Interpreting provisions of the Township's Zoning Ordinance
- Participating in hearings and deliberations when seated

The Zoning Hearing Board consists of three regular members and at least one alternate member. Hearings are held at the East Fallowfield Township Building on an as-needed basis. Training webinars are encouraged and paid for by the Township. Please note that alternate members may not hold any other elected or appointed office within the municipality. The term of office is three years.

Interested in Serving?

This is a great opportunity to become more involved in your community and help support East Fallowfield Township's continued success. If you are interested in applying, please email a letter of interest manager@eastfallowfield.org or call the Township Office: 610-384-2104 for more information.

TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!

You don't always know how deep the water is!

Over half of all flood fatalities occur in vehicles.

Never drive through floodwaters! Even if you've driven a road before, you never know if it's still there underneath those murky waters.



weather.gov



2026 EFT Meetings At A Glance

JANUARY

5 M Annual Reorganization Mtg.*
6 T Annual Auditor's Meeting*
7 W Historical Commission Mtg.
12 M Planning Commission Mtg.
13 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
14 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
19 M Planning Commission Mtg.
20 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
21 W Historical Commission Mtg.
26 M Municipal Building Comm.
27 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

FEBRUARY

2 M Planning Commission Mtg.
3 T Parks & Rec Meeting
4 W Historic Commission Mtg.
9 M Planning Commission Mtg.
10 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
11 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
16 M Planning Commission Mtg.
17 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
18 W Historical Commission Mtg.
23 M Municipal Building Comm.
24 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

MARCH

2 M Planning Commission Mtg.
3 T Parks & Rec Meeting
4 W Historic Commission Mtg.
10 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
11 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
16 M Planning Commission Mtg.
17 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
18 W Historical Commission Mtg.
23 M Municipal Building Comm.
24 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

APRIL

1 W Historic Commission Mtg.
6 M Planning Commission Mtg.
7 T Parks & Rec Meeting
8 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
14 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
15 W Historical Commission Mtg.
20 M Planning Commission Mtg.
21 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
27 M Municipal Building Comm.
28 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

MAY

4 M Planning Commission Mtg.
5 T Parks & Rec Meeting
6 W Historic Commission Mtg.
12 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
13 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
18 M Planning Commission Mtg.
19 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
20 W Historical Commission Mtg.
26 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
27 W Municipal Building Comm.

JUNE

1 M Planning Commission Mtg.
2 T Parks & Rec Meeting
3 W Historic Commission Mtg.
9 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
10 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
15 M Planning Commission Mtg.
16 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
17 W Historical Commission Mtg.
22 M Municipal Building Comm.
23 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

JULY

1 W Historic Commission Mtg.
6 M Planning Commission Mtg.
7 T Parks & Rec Meeting
8 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
14 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
15 W Historical Commission Mtg.
20 M Planning Commission Mtg.
21 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
27 M Municipal Building Comm.
28 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

AUGUST

3 M Planning Commission Mtg.
4 T Parks & Rec Meeting
5 W Historic Commission Mtg.
11 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
12 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
17 M Planning Commission Mtg.
18 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
19 W Historical Commission Mtg.
24 M Municipal Building Comm.
25 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

SEPTEMBER

1 T Parks & Rec Meeting
2 W Historic Commission Mtg.
7 M Planning Commission Mtg.
8 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
9 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
14 M Planning Commission Mtg.
15 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
16 W Historical Commission Mtg.
21 M Planning Commission Mtg.
22 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
28 M Municipal Building Comm.

OCTOBER

5 M Planning Commission Mtg.
6 T Parks & Rec Meeting
7 W Historical Commission Mtg.
13 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
14 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
19 M Planning Commission Mtg.
20 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
21 W Historical Commission Mtg.
26 M Municipal Building Comm.
27 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

NOVEMBER

2 M Planning Commission Mtg.
3 T Parks & Rec Meeting
4 W Historic Commission Mtg.
10 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
11 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
16 M Planning Commission Mtg.
17 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
18 W Historical Commission Mtg.
23 M Municipal Building Comm.
24 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

DECEMBER

1 T Parks & Rec Meeting
2 W Historic Commission Mtg.
7 M Planning Commission Mtg.
8 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
9 W Envir. Advisory Council Mtg.
15 T Parks & Rec Committee Mtg.
16 W Historical Commission Mtg.
21 M Planning Commission Mtg.
22 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.
28 M Municipal Building Comm.
29 T Board of Supervisors Mtg.

Portable generators emit deadly carbon monoxide (CO) that you can't see or smell. Never put a generator indoors (including a garage, basement or crawlspace), even if you keep doors and windows open. Using a generator outside, but too close to the home, can also be dangerous.



Put generators at least **25 feet (7.6 m)** from your home and **point the exhaust away** from any open windows, doors and vents to keep CO from getting in.

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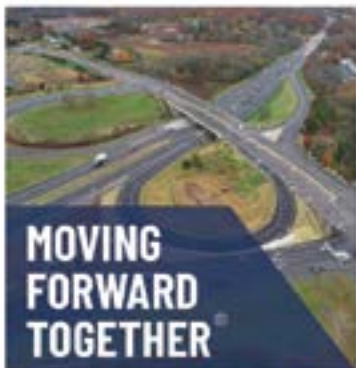
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