



DON'T MISS.....

Fall/Winter 2014

- Featured Township and Community Events
- New Pavilion Rental Options
- Check the Township's Website Frequently (www.longswamptwp.us) for Great Up-To-Date Information

~ a municipal community newsletter for enjoyment by residents and businesses of Longswamp Township ~

Longswamp Ledger



LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings will be held at the Township Municipal Building, Downstairs Meeting Room,

** (unless otherwise noted) **

located at 1112 State Street, Mertztown, PA. The building is handicap accessible.

** Indicates Meeting to be held in the Township Municipal Building's Upstairs Conference Room **

Board of Supervisors Re-Organization Meeting: Monday, January 5, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. **

Elected Auditors Re-Organization Meeting: Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. **

2016 Budget Workshops: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. & Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	PLANNING COMMISSION	** PARK & RECREATION	ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY CNCL	** PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE	HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JANUARY	13, 27	6	20	19		21
FEBRUARY	10, 24	3	17	16		18
MARCH	10, 24	3	17	16	18	18
APRIL	14, 28	7	21	20		15
MAY	12, 26	5	19	18		20
JUNE	9, 23	2	16	15	17	17
JULY	14, 28	7	21	20		15
AUGUST	11, 25	4	18	17		no Aug. meeting
SEPTEMBER	8, 22	1	15	21	16	16
OCTOBER	13, 27	6	20	19		21
NOVEMBER	10, 24	Wed., 4	17	16		18
DECEMBER	8, 22	1	15	21	16	16

NOTE: Generally meetings are as follows except when holidays conflict:

Board of Supervisors (7:00 p.m.) 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month

Planning Commission (7:30 p.m.) 1st Tuesday of the month

Park & Recreation Commission (7:00 p.m.) 3rd Tuesday of the month **

Environmental Advisory Council (7:00 p.m.) 3rd Monday of the month

Public Safety Committee (7:00 p.m.) **

Historical Society (7:00 p.m.) 3rd Wednesday of the month

Please Note: If there are no agenda items, the second BOS Meeting of the month will not be held.

The Longswamp Township Municipal Office will be closed in observance of the Holidays listed below:

- Monday, February 16, 2015 ... President's Day Holiday
- Friday, April 3, 2015 ... Good Friday Holiday
- Monday, May 25, 2015 ... Memorial Day Holiday
- Friday, July 3, 2015 ... Independence Day Holiday
- Monday, September 7, 2015 ... Labor Day Holiday
- Monday, October 12, 2015 ... Columbus Day Holiday
- Thursday, November 26, 2015 ... Thanksgiving Day Holiday
- Friday, November 27, 2015 ... Thanksgiving Holiday
- Thursday, December 24, 2015 ... Christmas Eve Holiday
- Friday, December 25, 2015 ... Christmas Day Holiday
- Friday, January 1, 2016 ... New Year's Day Holiday

~ LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP PARK ~



Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Great Pumpkin Hunt which featured tons of snacks, a bon fire and a hayride on a beautiful October evening.



Thank you to attendees Marcy, Chris, Amy, and Alicia for their generous donations made at this year's Pumpkin Hunt.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are free of charge and open to the public.



Wed., January 21: An "Antiques Roadshow"

Discover Longswamp Township's Hidden Treasures

7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Longswamp Township Municipal Building

Join us for an evening of discovery as we showcase some of the items from our permanent collection. We'll tell you what we know about our items... and maybe you can tell us a thing or two as well.



Fri., March 27: A Walk with Conrad Weiser

7:00 – 8:30 p.m., The Lutheran Home at Topton, Henry Auditorium

Take a trip back in time to Pennsylvania's early days as Lynn Otto, a member of the Friends of the Conrad Weiser Homestead Board, talks about Conrad Weiser's travels on the Tulpehocken Trail while serving as an interpreter and negotiator for the Native Americans and the Provincial government.



Wed, April 22: The Barns of Longswamp Township

7:00 – 8:30 p.m., The Lutheran Home at Topton, Henry Auditorium

Longswamp Township is blessed with some of the best and truly unique examples of Pennsylvania barn architecture. Join us as Greg Huber of Eastern Barns Consultants takes us on a tour of some of the 106 barns he's discovered and documented in the Township, several of which were built in the 19th century.

*Preserving and sharing the past and historical culture
of Longswamp Township since 2010.*



Do you doing puzzles???

If so, please join us for the **2015 JIGSAW PUZZLE TOURNAMENTS** at the Longswamp Township Municipal Building, Downstairs Meeting Room on Friday, January 16th, Friday, February 20th, Friday, March 13th.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. ~ Tournament begins at 7:00 p.m.

Gather family and friends together into Teams of six or less to do a 500-piece puzzle. All ages are welcome.

Simply sign-up in advance by calling the Township Office at 610/682-7388.

Ca\$h Prize\$ Available: 1st Place - \$50 ~ 2nd Place - \$30 ~ 3rd Place - \$20

Enjoy light refreshments and a ton of fun!

Township Roads



Winter is here once again, and, as always, the Township Road Crew will be doing their best to keep the Township roads clear and safe. Residents who have a handicap or illness affecting their mobility, or firefighters or individuals who are involved with the medical profession or any other emergency service, are asked to contact the Township Roadmaster, Scott Miller, in writing about specific special needs so plans can be made to schedule winter maintenance routes during inclement weather. If you have an emergency and should need immediate attention during a storm, please call the Township Maintenance Building at 610-682-2317 and we will do our best to assist you.

As we send the plows out on the roads, fulfilling our responsibility to maintain roads and byways, occasional incidents may occur involving mailboxes, planters, fences, shrubs, etc. Please remember that Longswamp Township does not accept responsibility for damage to any objects/items (as detailed above) that are placed within the legally defined right-of-way (16 ½ feet from center) of its roads. Persons placing such objects within the right-of-way do so at their own risk, and must accept responsibility. We will try our best to avoid your mailbox, fence, and/or shrubs, but if you have a complaint about our services, please contact the Township Municipal Office to request a Complaint Form, and we will try to work out a solution.

FURNACE SAFETY CHECKLIST

Furnace Maintenance

It's important to make sure your furnace is operating at peak performance, and not just to lower your heating bill! A dirty, inefficiently burning furnace can produce unsafe amounts of carbon monoxide. This checklist will help you keep your furnace running safely and efficiently, and also help you identify when it's not.

- Clean or change furnace filters regularly. Replace disposal filters. Wash, brush, or vacuum permanent filters (3 - 4 times annually).
- Have your furnace cleaned and checked every year.
- Keep the burner area of your furnace clean.
- Furnaces requiring lubrication on the motors and bearings should be attended by a qualified heating technician yearly.
- Do not have anything combustible within six inches of your vent pipe. Clear any obstructions, such as leaves or animal nests from the vent pipe. Keep the room exhaust vents clear of snow.
- Do not close off more than 20% of the registers in your house. This can cause high resistance and unnecessary heat builds up in the furnace.
- Do not store combustible material such as paint thinners, gasoline, etc. near your furnace.

How to Survive Without Heat

- Fireplace or wood burning stove:** Only burn well-seasoned wood. Charcoal and other products can give off toxic fumes. Remember to have proper ventilation and make sure to remove all obstructions before starting a fire.
- Stay elsewhere.** If your heating equipment will be out of service for an extended period of time, you might want to consider staying elsewhere to be safe.
- NEVER use your gas oven for heating!** Prolonged use of the open oven in a closed house burns oxygen, thereby causing improper combustion of gas, which creates a lethal carbon monoxide gas.

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

~ Reminder to Pump On-Lot Septic Systems for Residents in Cycle 3 ~

Residents of Longswamp Township who have an on-lot sewage disposal system have a full year to pump out their on-lot septic system. Property Owners are required to have the system tank cleaned out by a registered pumper/hauler at least once every three years. Experience has shown us that property owners who wait until the end of their designated cycle (noted below), often run into unexpected difficulties. As a result, they end up violating the cycle's deadline. We encourage residents not to wait until the end of their cycle year to pump in order to avoid any unforeseen problems.

CYCLE 1: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

(North side of State Street & Mountain Road, East of Topton Borough)

CYCLE 2: July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

(North side of State Street, West of Topton Borough & South side of State Street, West of Centennial Road & Woodside Avenue)

CYCLE 3: July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

(South side of State Street & Mountain Road, East of Centennial Road and Woodside Avenue)

Repeat Cycles 1 ~ 2 ~3



Longswamp Township has received another early Christmas gift this year.

Longswamp Township has become the official new owner of Hunsicker's Grove Park (pictured above).

This now gives you more options when planning for next year's event.

Spring will be here before you know it and party plans will once again be in full swing.

Longswamp Township has two pavilions available at the Township Municipal Park located at 1112 State Street.

Both pavilions at this location offer picnic tables with bbq grills, restroom facilities, water and electricity.

The cost to reserve a pavilion is \$100.00 each.

With the addition of Hunsicker's Grove, Longswamp Township also offers two pavilions at Hunsicker's Grove Park located at 9350 Longswamp Road.

Both pavilions at this location also offer picnic tables with bbq grills, restroom facilities, water and electricity. The cost for the smaller pavilion is \$100.00, the cost for the larger pavilion (featuring a kitchen area) is \$200.00.

You may also choose to reserve both pavilions for the same date at Hunsicker's Grove for \$300.00.

Pavilions are available for rent from May 1st through September 30th each year and offer the use of all Park facilities from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

All pre-paid reservations must be made in advance at the Longswamp Township Municipal Office starting **Wednesday, April 1, 2015.**

A \$25.00 cleaning/key deposit will be refundable after your function for all reservations.

Longswamp Township
1112 State Street
Mertztown, PA 19539



Phone: 610/682-7388
Fax: 610/682-9067
Email: longtwp@ptd.net
www.longswamptwp.us

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Happy Holidays from the Entire Staff of Longswamp Township

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP REFERENCE LOG

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Steven C. Wyka
Michael A. Sacks
Randy L. Sicher

TAX COLLECTOR

Lorraine A. Meck
9540 Longswamp Road
Mertztown, PA 19539
610/641-9119

ENGINEER & ASST. SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT

Hanover Engineering Associates
252 Brodhead Road, Suite 100
Bethlehem, PA 18017-8944
610/691-5644

PLANNING COMMISSION

Richard N. Meier, Chairman
Donald C. Siegfried, Vice Chairman
David Q. River, Secretary
Cathi Kratzer
Frank Karoly

ZONING OFFICER/CODE ENFORCEMENT

BUILDING INSPECTOR
SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT
LTL Consultants, Ltd.
One Town Centre Drive, P.O. Box 241
Oley, PA 19547-0241
610/987-9290 or 610/682-7388 ext. 35
John "Butch" Yoder

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Preston Boyer, Chairman
Karl L. Fenstermacher
Steven Parks
Peter Silbermann (Alternate)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

1112 STATE STREET, MERTZTOWN, PA 19539-9101

Township Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Steven C. Wyka, Township Operations Administrator/Park & Recreation Director
Jennifer A. Wassell-Bonser, Secretary/Administrator
David G. Fatzinger, Treasurer
Scott A. Miller, Roadmaster

Tel: 610/682-7388 Fax: 610/682-9067 www.longswamptwp.us