

237 SEVENTH STREET, WEST EASTON, PA 18042-6172 610-252-6651 FAX: 610-252-6993

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

- MAYOR:** Dan DePaul
- COUNCIL MEMBERS**
- PRESIDENT:** Paul James
- VICE PRESIDENT:** Janie Jones Brown
Matthew Dees
Pete Mammana
David Bolash
Kenneth Decker, Jr.
Steve Klaver
- SECRETARY/MANAGER:** Joan Heebner
- SENIOR CLERK:** David Gehman
- TREASURER:** Carl Pierson
- TAX COLLECTOR:** Elizabeth Hanni

WEB SITE: www.WestEastonBorough.com
E-Mail: BoroughManager@WestEastonBorough.org



Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Committee has scheduled two events for Borough residents. They are always looking for new members to come up with new ideas and help to make our community as good as it can be.

*West Easton Annual Community Clean-up Day 2022, April 30th, 11:00-12:00 PM. Please meet at Gross Park, on Keystone Avenue, for gloves and garbage bags.

*Rock Painting/West Easton Rocks
We will have an “ART in the PARK” Rock Painting Event for residents to paint at Gross Park, on Keystone Avenue, on May 17th at 7pm. Please come ready to paint. We will supply paints, brushes, and rocks. Please continue donating rocks to make our rock garden grow. **We are looking for donations of large, medium, and small PAINTED & UNPAINTED rocks.**

NEWSLETTER

APRIL - 2022



The West Easton Utilities Committee continues to work on changing the Borough sewer billing from a flat rate to a usage rate. Sewer, being a utility, should eventually be billed on actual usage of residents, as are our gas, electricity, water, internet, and phone bills. Sewer billing will be based on actual water usage by dwellings and businesses.

Currently, residents are paying the same flat rate, resulting in those who use the least amount of water paying the same sewer charge as those who use the most water. Following the change to actual usage billing, it appears that 2/3 of the Borough’s residents would pay the same, or less than the current flat rate method, with 1/3 paying more, due to their high usage of water. The final rate, per unit of water, has not been decided at this point. Local municipalities charge anywhere from \$5.50 - \$6.90 per unit; we are expecting to come in at the lower end of that range. We hope to be able to implement this change by the end of this year. This notice of change is to give you a chance to reevaluate your water usage over the next couple of months and to consider ways to cut back on your water usage if it is unusually high. We will have a sample of how the sewer billing will be determined available on the Borough website under the “Announcements” tab in the near future.



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Monday, May 30, 2022, 9am
War Memorial

Corner of 7th and Center Streets

Please join us in honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.



Message from the West Easton Police Department

Please be mindful of parking in the proper direction on all streets within the borough but particularly in the vicinity of the Deli and Hair Salon located on East Street at Main Street. Parking against traffic is problematic, especially when pulling out. It confuses drivers

and is simply unsafe. We appreciate your help with making our streets safer.

With warm weather, comes vacation time and potentially empty homes while you're away. If you would like your residence checked by our officers, we have created a Vacation/House Check form. The form will be kept in-house only, and officers will check the residence as often as possible. Hopefully, this helps our residents enjoy travel without the extra worry. Forms may be found on the borough website or picked up from the Police Station.

We love our parks as much as the children do, but as a reminder, the parks do close at dusk.

Lastly, please keep your furry companions leashed and under control at all times and be a good neighbor (and follow the law) by cleaning up after your pets. This goes for the sidewalks and streets as well as your neighbors' yard, when passing by.



By order of the Police Department – HAVE AN AMAZING AND SAFE SPRING/SUMMER!

If you need a police officer, please do not call the Borough office phone number. Police officers should be dispatched via the Northampton County 911 Center. To report an emergency call 911; for non-emergencies call 610-759-2200. If you have a basic question that can wait for an answer or specific questions regarding West Easton you can call 610-438-2304 and leave a message or email Chief Mahady at RMahady@WestEastonPD.com and he will get back to you as soon as possible.

TRASH REMINDERS

Waste Collection - Trash is collected weekly on Thursday. Residents may place a maximum of three (3) bags or two (2) cans of waste at the curb each week. Please bag all waste before placing in your container. Place all items at the curb no later than 6 a.m. on your collection day.

Bulk Item Collection - Bulk items are also collected weekly on Thursday. Residents are allowed one (1) bulk item per week. Bulk items include: a mattress, box springs, couch, appliances, etc. **Mattresses and box springs must be wrapped in plastic for pickup.**



Construction debris - Residents are permitted to dispose of one (1) container or one (1) bundle of debris each week. Please place construction debris at the curb before 6 a.m. on Thursday. Construction debris must be able to be easily picked up by two persons, so please consider the size and weight of the debris. All nails and screws should be removed.

Recycling Collection - Recycling will be collected every other Thursday. Place your acceptable recyclables directly into your recycling container – do not bag recyclables – and flatten all cardboard boxes to fit inside your recycling can. Please see the Borough website for acceptable recycling items and tips on Recycling Right. Residents were offered free blue recycling bins from the Borough office. Contact the Borough if you have not picked up your can, or get a red recycle sticker for your own container. Do not put regular trash in your recycle bin.

Yard Waste - Yard waste will be collected weekly on Thursday. Yard waste includes small tree branches, shrubs and trimmings. Yard waste must be bundled with string and not weigh more than 50 lbs. or exceed 3 feet in length.

Household Hazardous Wastes are NOT ACCEPTED. Toxic chemicals, pesticides, oil-based paints, automotive batteries, fuels or fluids must be disposed of properly.

Electronics CANNOT be disposed as waste due to PA state law, TVs, computers, laptops, monitors and electronics will NOT be collected. Please refer to the Northampton County website at www.northamptoncounty.org for more information on how to recycle electronic and hazardous waste.

What is Storm Water?

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called storm water runoff.

Good Rain Gone Wrong

Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. All of the pollutants storm water carries along the way empty into our waters, too, because storm water does not get treated!



Pet wastes left on the ground get carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our water.

Vehicles drip fluids (oil, grease, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluids, etc.) onto paved areas where storm water runoff carries them through our storm drains and into our water.



Chemicals used to grow and maintain beautiful lawns and gardens, if not used properly, can run off into the storm drains when it rains or when we water our lawns and gardens.

Waste from chemicals and materials used in construction can wash into the storm sewer system when it rains. Soil that erodes from construction sites causes environmental degradation, including harming fish and shellfish populations that are important for recreation and our economy.



Where to Go to Continue the Information Flow

Your community is preventing storm water pollution through a storm water management program. This program addresses storm water pollution from construction, new development, illegal dumping to the storm sewer system, and pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices in municipal operations. It will also continue to educate the community and get everyone involved in making sure the only thing that storm water contributes to our water is . . . water! Contact your community's storm water management program coordinator or the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for more information about storm water management.



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- 1. Ditch** – Part of the storm sewer system. Most people think that the system is just a series of underground pipes. It can also include ditches used to convey storm water from the land to a receiving lake, river, or stream.
- 2. Fire Hydrant** – Not part of the storm sewer system. Water sprayed on fires is not regulated as storm water, but if water systems open hydrants to flush their water lines the chlorinated water should not be allowed to enter a stream.
- 3. Storm Drain Inlet** – Part of the storm sewer system. Anything that enters this drain will go directly to streams, rivers or lakes without being treated first. It is important to recognize this as a storm drain to prevent it from being used as a trash can.
- 4. Storm Sewer Outfall** – Part of the storm sewer system. An outfall is where storm water drains from the storm sewer system into a receiving lake, stream, or river. If there is a flow from an outfall when it isn't raining, there could be a problem with the system or someone has used a storm drain for illegally disposing of materials.
- 5. Toilet** – Not part of the storm sewer system. Wastewater from sinks and toilets in houses and businesses travels through a sewer system designed to carry wastewater.
- 6. Septic System** – Not part of the storm sewer system. Homeowners use septic tanks to manage sanitary wastes on-site. Improperly maintained septic systems can leak and contribute pollutants to the storm sewer system, as well as directly to lakes, rivers, and streams.
- 7. Roads and Other Paved Areas** – Source of much of the flow to the storm sewer systems. Roads and other hardened surfaces such as parking lots and sidewalks can accumulate pollutants (e.g. oil, grease, dirt, leaves, trash, pet wastes) that storm water eventually washes into the storm sewer system.
- 8. Protected Storm Drain Inlet** – Where construction or other activities cause sediment or other pollutants to flow to an inlet, sandbags or filters can be used to mitigate.

Answers to Test Your Storm Sewer System Savvy:

Be Storm Water Smart

Understanding How Storm Water Affects Your Wallet, Safety, Health, and Environment in Pennsylvania



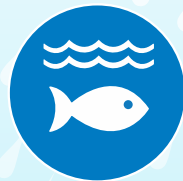
What Happens When It Rains?

Rain is an important part of nature's water cycle, but there are times it can do more damage than good. Problems related to storm water runoff can include:



Flooding caused by too much storm water flowing over hardened surfaces such as roads and parking lots, instead of soaking into the ground.

Increases in spending on maintaining storm drains and the storm sewer system that become clogged with excessive amounts of dirt and debris.



Decreases in sportfish populations because storm water carries sediment and pollutants that degrade important fish habitat.

More expensive treatment technologies to remove harmful pollutants carried by storm water into our drinking water supplies.



Closed beaches due to high levels of bacteria carried by storm water that make swimming unsafe.

We can help rain restore its good reputation while protecting our health and environment while saving money for ourselves and our community. Keep reading to find out how...

Test Your Storm Sewer System Savvy!

What does the storm sewer system look like in your community? See if you can identify which pictures are part of the storm sewer system (Answers are on the back.)



Restoring Rain's Reputation: What Everyone Can Do To Help

Rain by nature is important for replenishing drinking water supplies, recreation, and healthy wildlife habitats. It only becomes a problem when pollutants from our activities like car maintenance, lawn care, and dog walking are left on the ground for rain to wash away. Here are some of the most important ways to prevent storm water pollution:

- Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint—never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites in storm water runoff or tracked into roads by construction vehicles. Report poorly managed construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community. (See the back of this brochure for contact information.)
- Install innovative storm water practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens, that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.
- Report any discharges from storm water outfalls during times of dry weather—a sign that there could be a problem with the storm sewer system.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess—in a backyard or at the park—storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.
- Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage that do not rust or leak to eliminate exposure of materials to storm water.