

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

**BOROUGH OFFICIALS**

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

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING OFFICE HOURS:**

Mondays 9am-5pm; Tuesday thru Friday, 9am to 4pm  
 \*\*\*Closed Weekends and Holidays  
 Police-Non-Emergency: 610-759-2200  
 Police-Emergency: 911  
 WEB SITE: [www.WestEastonBorough.com](http://www.WestEastonBorough.com)  
 E-Mail: [BoroughManager@WestEastonBorough.org](mailto:BoroughManager@WestEastonBorough.org)

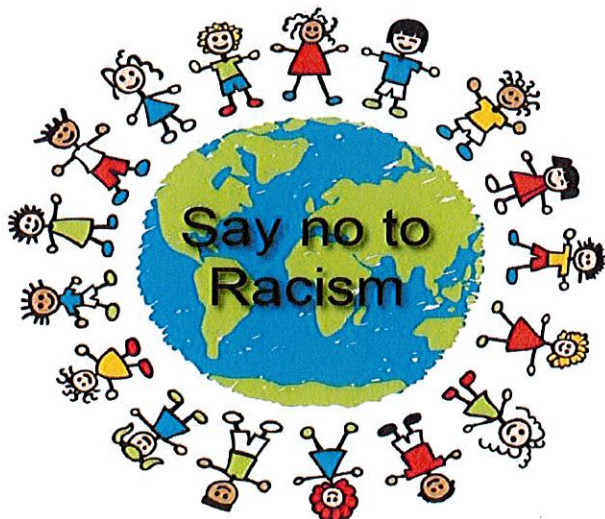
 **West Easton Borough, PA**



**GENERAL ELECTION**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd**

If you're registered to vote in West Easton Borough, your polling place is Safety First Volunteer Company on Keystone Avenue.



# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER - 2020



## West Easton Police Update

As you may be aware, the part-time West Easton Police Department is up and running. All local police officers are 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 or email Chief Mahady at [RMahady@WestEastonPD.com](mailto:RMahady@WestEastonPD.com).



Due to the ongoing pandemic and State Department of Health guidelines on limiting crowds, the 2020 West Easton Borough Halloween Parade has been canceled. The Volunteer Firefighters are hoping to see the children at the Fire Station during regular Trick-or-Treat hours (Saturday, October 31st, 6-8pm) to receive goodie bags prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. Hopefully, 2021 will be a much happier, healthier year!

## TRICK or TREAT

Saturday  
October 31<sup>st</sup>, 6pm-8pm

As of the writing of this newsletter, Trick-or-Treat will not be canceled by the Borough. The only way it will be canceled is if the governor cancels it statewide.

As always, it is the parents' responsibility to decide whether or not they wish their child(ren) to participate in any event. If you want to participate, do so. If you do not want to participate, don't. This includes residents handing out candy: if you wish to hand out candy, leave your front lights on and answer the door; if you do not want to participate, simply leave your lights off and don't open the door. Everyone needs to do what they feel is best and safest for themselves, their children and their family members. For those that do go out, please do it as safely as possible with social distancing, cloth masks, etc.



# **HALLOWEEN** Safety Tips

## Motorists

Slow down in residential neighborhoods and obey all traffic laws. Be on the lookout for excited youngsters darting out in traffic whose vision may be obscured by mask. Enter and exit driveways with caution.

## Parents and Children

Keep in mind Covid-19 safeguards; wear a “real” mask, maintain social distance, and keep hands clean. Wear costumes with light or bright colored material or trim. Be sure children can see clearly. Make sure children do not cut across yards. Clotheslines and yard ornaments are not easily seen in the dark. Take a flashlight with fresh batteries so the children can see and be seen. Children should Trick or Treat in groups, NEVER alone. An adult should accompany children. Cross only at street corners and never between parked cars. Be sure to check all candy before it is eaten.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Due to the pandemic, until further notice, council meetings will be held on the ZOOM internet platform. Information to join the meetings may be found on the Borough Facebook page and website. Council meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> (and sometimes 4<sup>th</sup>) Monday of each month, at 6:30pm. Definite dates for upcoming meetings are November 9<sup>th</sup>, December 14<sup>th</sup> and January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## LITTER

Please consider picking up the trash and debris around your home. We understand that not all the trash around your home may be yours, that the wind blows trash around and others toss their litter, but if everyone would keep their own little area clean our borough would look even nicer than it does now. Please consider helping out a neighbor that may not be able to pick up their yard as well. Be sure to follow safety precautions when you do this.



## SNOW????

Hopefully we won't have to worry about snow for a long time, but just in case, please check the website, on the “Public Works” page, for the snow emergency routes or pick up a paper copy at Borough Hall. Please keep in mind that we have ONE maintenance man and sometimes one part-time helper. They will get to your roads as soon as they can. They start with the snow emergency routes, followed by the hills, then main and secondary roads and finally alleys. As always, your patience is appreciated!



## TRASH UPDATES

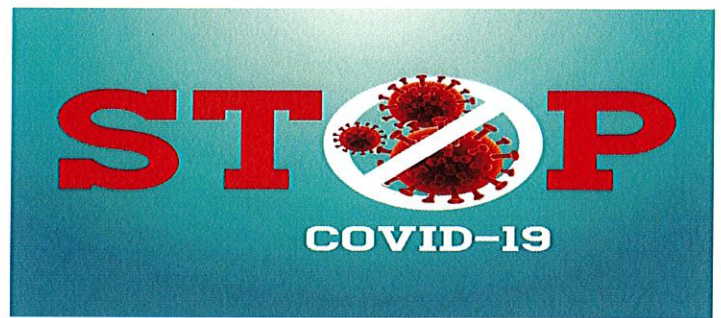


The Borough has signed a one-year extension with Advanced Disposal as their trash hauler. If you put out a mattress and/or box spring, please be sure it is wrapped in plastic. You are allowed one bulk item a week. They will take 3 bags or 2 cans of

trash each week. Recyclables are collected every other week. A trash calendar can be found on the Borough website.



The Ladies Auxiliary of the Safety First Volunteer Fire Company hope to hold a Holiday Bingo on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Check the Borough Facebook page for updates or call Donna, 610-253-6969, for more information.



To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, everyone should:

- Clean your hands often, either with soap and water for 20 seconds or a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Put distance between yourself and other people (at least 6 feet).
- Cover your **mouth and nose** with a mask when around others. (Wearing it on your chin or around your neck does not help anyone.)
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces daily.
- CDC recommends that people wear masks in public settings and when around people outside of their household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- Masks may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others.

## THE "RAGS" WON'T PASS, BUT THE COSTS WILL

From: Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority

### Here's how to help to keep your sewer costs down!

When it comes to "rags" and the sewer system, they don't mix! They are small, but mighty, and can cause very costly damage to wastewater equipment. The consequences of the damages and repairs will be reflected in your sewer rates.

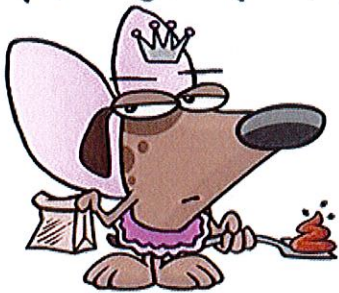


In the wastewater industry the term "rags" is used to describe wipes, towels, shop rags, industrial rags, cleaning wipes, etc.; basically, materials tougher than toilet paper, that are not able to break down in the sewer system.

Now maybe you are thinking, what happens when I flush "rags" down the toilet? They disappear from my house and/or place of work to never be seen again. Well...that's not the case for those of us that work in the wastewater industry. "Rags" can clog sewer lines, get caught in pumps and wastewater equipment, causing them to malfunction and need to be repaired, or worse, replaced. Tens of thousands of dollars are spent at the wastewater treatment plant alone repairing damage caused by these "rags."

These repairs not only are costly but may also lead to dangerous confined space maintenance done by our staff. The EAJSA Wastewater staff takes great pride in the wastewater treatment quality. Please do your part by throwing away "rags" so sewer rate payer's money can be put to better use in upgrading and improving equipment to continue our environmental stewardship of high-quality discharge to the Delaware River, instead of costly repairs.

### **There is no such thing as the Dog Poop Fairy**



**Please pick it up**

Reminder: If you have dogs it is your responsibility to clean up after them, even in your own yard! Other people should not have to dodge your animal's droppings! The fine is up to \$300. Please, just do what is right!



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Borough office continues to be closed to the public. We appreciate the cooperation and patience that most of you have shown during these trying times. Office staff are working regular office hours and are available via email and phone calls. Payments and forms may be dropped off in the drop box located in the door off of the parking lot. If you have cash, please have the exact amount and call us when you are in the parking lot and we will retrieve your payment right away. If you would like a receipt please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope or neatly print an email address on a paper or an envelope and we will scan you a receipt asap. Non-contact pickup can be arranged as well.

Sunday, November 1st



## **Parks and Recreation**

Covid-19 has limited what the Parks and Recreation Committee had hoped to accomplish this year. They were still able to have a t-shirt sale, clean-up day, and a Make and Take painted rock project. They are working on painting our storm drains which is great for our MS4 requirements. You can continue to help by collecting red, white and blue bottle caps for a flag mural they hope to make this spring (please hold onto for now); save plastic grocery bags for those making mats for the homeless; washable yarn for making scarves/hats for struggling members of our community. The plastic bags and washable yarn may be dropped off at Borough Hall during business hours. Please call when you reach the parking lot. The Committee is also working on bringing back the Holiday Light and Decoration contest to the Borough; check the Facebook page for more information. Parks and Recreation are always looking for new members to join them!

# Be Stormwater Savvy



**Don't let a good drop go bad!**

In case you've been wondering what all the fuss concerning "MS4" has been about in recent news stories, and even if you haven't been wondering, here are a few basic facts about MS4. Please take the time to read; it really does impact us all.

Polluted stormwater runoff is commonly transported through Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), from which it is often discharged untreated into local water bodies.

Stormwater runoff is generated when precipitation from rain and snowmelt events flows over land or impervious surfaces (paved streets, parking lots, sidewalks, and building rooftops) and does not percolate into the ground. As the runoff flows over the land or impervious surfaces, it accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment or other pollutants that could adversely affect water quality if the runoff is discharged untreated into the waterways.

**Why Do We Regulate Stormwater?** The MS4 program requires the MS4 owner/operator to implement a series of programs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the storm sewer system to the maximum extent practicable in a manner that protects water quality.

So, what does all that mean for you as residents of West Easton? The more we, as a community, can cut back on pollutants entering our stormwater the less likely we are to be fined and the less likely the borough would need to impose fees on residents to cover the MS4 fines, not to mention, most importantly, our water will be a lot cleaner.

## **How you can help; Residents Roles in Helping to Prevent Stream Pollution**

You can help reduce the discharge of pollutants to the streams and protect water quality by doing the following:

- Nothing should go into a storm drain, inlet, swale or stream except stormwater. Dumping in these areas is an Illicit Discharge and is illegal. If you see anyone dumping anything into the storm drains, please call the Borough office immediately.
- Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste. Pet waste should never be disposed of in a storm drains, inlet, catch basin or stream.
- Wash vehicles so that wash water does not enter the MS4. Wash vehicles in lawn or gravel areas, or take them to commercial car washes.
- Recycle or properly dispose of hazardous materials including paints, used oil and chemicals.
- Pick up litter, debris or garbage from yard, sidewalks, driveways and other areas so that it is not washed into a storm drain. (Thank you to the walkers that I've seen already doing this! Every little bit helps!)
- When you mow your lawn, make sure the grass cuttings go back into your own lawn rather than out into the street.
- Report any road killed animals to the Borough office for disposal.
- Use native plants because they increase water filtration, decrease maintenance and perform better in drought conditions.
- Install rain barrels in gardens.
- If you see a storm drain with debris (grass, sticks, etc) over it, take the time to clear it off so when it rains the water can go into the drain rather than around it and possibly cause flooding.

\*To learn more about how you can help, please check out the website under the "Stormwater-MS4" tab.