

Spring/Summer 2021



# *The Borough of* **WEST READING**

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## Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2021 Edition of the Borough of West Reading Newsletter

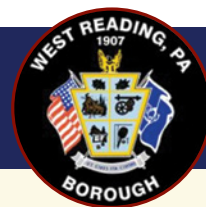
We hope you find the information in this newsletter to be helpful and informative. As always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to share your thoughts and opinions with us. Together we can all keep West Reading a place we love to call home.

Sincerely,  
Borough Council

## West Reading Borough Directory

500 Chestnut Street, West Reading, PA 19611

Phone: 610-374-8273 • Fax: 610-374-8419 • [www.westreadingborough.com](http://www.westreadingborough.com)



### BOROUGH COUNCIL

Jack Gombach, President  
[jgombach@westreadingborough.org](mailto:jgombach@westreadingborough.org)  
Philip Wert, Vice President  
Christopher Lincoln, Pro-Tem Member  
Jennifer Bressler, Member  
Ryan Lineaweaver, Member  
Patrick Kaag, Member  
Samantha Kaag, Member

### MAYOR

Andrew Kearney  
610-374-8273 x228  
[akearney@westreadingborough.org](mailto:akearney@westreadingborough.org)

### BOROUGH MANAGER

Nicholas Imbesi  
610-374-8273  
[nimbessi@westreadingborough.org](mailto:nimbessi@westreadingborough.org)

### BOROUGH SECRETARY

Cynthia Madeira  
610-374-8273 x222  
[cmadeira@westreadingborough.org](mailto:cmadeira@westreadingborough.org)

### ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK

Stephanie Burkholder  
610-374-8273 x221  
[sburkholder@westreadingborough.org](mailto:sburkholder@westreadingborough.org)

### PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Dean Murray  
610-374-8273 x401  
[dmurray@westreadingborough.org](mailto:dmurray@westreadingborough.org)

### CODE ENFORCEMENT MANAGER

Cathy Hoffman  
610-374-8273 x223  
[choffman@westreadingborough.org](mailto:choffman@westreadingborough.org)

### TAX COLLECTOR

Janice Kaucher  
610-374-8273 x225  
[taxcollector@westreadingborough.org](mailto:taxcollector@westreadingborough.org)

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer-in-Charge Ryan Phillips  
Emergency Calls – 911  
Non-Emergency Calls 610-373-0111

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Chad Moyer  
Emergency Calls – 911  
Non-Emergency Calls 610-372-9621

## Stay Informed!

For up-to-date information pertaining to changes to the trash or recycling collection, meeting dates, snow emergencies, events, etc. around the Borough please visit the Borough website at: [www.westreadingborough.com](http://www.westreadingborough.com) or the West Reading Borough Hall Facebook page. The website allows you to register for email alerts on various topics such as news or announcements, meeting minutes and urgent alerts.

Also, while visiting the Borough website please register with the CodeRED Emergency Notification Program to receive time-sensitive notifications of local events that may impact your safety.



## WEST READING BOROUGH MEETING SCHEDULE

### BOROUGH COUNCIL

3rd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

April 20th    May 19th    June 15th  
July 20th    August 17th    September 21st

### BUDGET WORKSHOPS/COUNCIL MEETINGS

August 24th 7 p.m.    August 31st 9 a.m.    September 11th 9 a.m.  
September 28th 7 p.m.    October 16th 9 a.m.    October 26th 7 p.m.  
November 13th 9 a.m.    November 23rd 7 p.m.

### PLANNING COMMISSION

1st Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

April 7th    May 5th    June 2nd  
July 7th    August 4th    September 1st

### TRAFFIC & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

2nd Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

April 14th    May 12th    June 9th  
July 14th    August 11th    September 8th

### RECREATION COMMISSION

1st Tuesday 6:00 p.m. (except August)

April 6th    May 4th    June 1st  
July 6th    August 2nd 7pm    September 7th

*All meetings are held at West Reading Borough Hall in Council Chambers  
500 Chestnut Street, West Reading, PA 19611*

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

May 31st ..... Memorial Day    September 6th .. Labor Day  
July 5th ..... Independence Day    October 11th ..... Columbus Day  
November 11th ..... Veteran's Day

## ONLINE UTILITY PAYMENT

### Xpress Bill Pay »

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Our online payment option saves you time and gives you flexibility in how you pay your bill. It's fast, it's easy and you no longer have to write a check or find a stamp when it's time to send in your payment. A reminder email or text notification will be sent to let you know when your bill is online. You also have the option to keep our planet healthy by requesting to go paperless.



### WATER/SEWER/REFUSE BILL SCHEDULE

Quarter	Months Billed	Bills Mailed	Due Date *
1st	January - March	April 1st	April 30th
2nd	April - June	July 1st	July 30th
3rd	July - September	October 1st	October 29th
4th	October - December	January 1st	January 31st

\* Utility bills are due on the last business day of the month.

**Please Note: Online payments are not an option for real estate taxes or code department fees.**



## Where does all the water go?

The average person uses approximately 13 cubic feet per day. That's just over 401 cubic feet per month for each person in your house. Multiply that by a family of 4 and water usage can easily reach 1,604 cubic feet per month. An average of 14% of residential water is lost through leaking fixtures or pipes inside your home. So how can you reduce the amount of water you use? It's easy to check how much water is used and whether you have a leak in your home.

### Be a Leak Detector:

An easy way to check whether you have leaks in your house is to read your water meter. Learning to read your water meter can pay off. First, turn off all the water in your house. Next, go to your water meter and jot down all the numbers you see. Also, look at the flow indicator gauge, which is a small red or black dial. If it is moving, then there is a leak inside the house. If it is not moving, then you do not have a serious leak, but you may have a slow leak such as a toilet periodically refilling itself.

To check for slow leaks, read your water meter before and after a period when no water is being used. This may be when you plan to leave the house for a period of time like going to work, running errands, or shopping. If the readings are different after at least one hour, then you have a leak. Some areas to check for leaks include toilets, faucets, malfunctioning water softeners, swimming pools, water heaters and faulty irrigation valves. Other leaks can be harder to find such as underground leaks, foundation leaks and leaks behind walls. These may require the assistance of a plumber to locate. Even a small drip can add up to big bucks.

A leaky pipe is usually pretty obvious. Visually inspect the pipes in your home and look for any tell-tale watermarks on walls or ceilings. Be sure to look under each sink in your home and around the floor of the toilet. Check the pressure relief valve on your hot water heater. Often times once the relief valve opens, it continues to leak until the valve is replaced. These valves can be dripping on the floor around the hot water heater or may be plumbed outside. If you find a leak, contact a plumber or someone well versed in this type of repair.

In the yard, check the outside hose bibs or any other above ground water line. Signs of an outside leak include a wet spot, actual flow of water over the ground surface, or green algae growing in the area. Also, look for any leaks around the valve on

the hose bibs and backflow preventers. Pay attention to your hose. Left unattended, a garden hose can pour out hundreds of gallons of water in just one hour. Check all hoses, connectors and spigots regularly to make sure they are in good working order. Replace or repair damaged or leaking hoses, nozzles, spigots and connectors. Outfit your hose with a spray nozzle so water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it off at the faucet instead of at the nozzle to avoid leaks.

Clothes and dishwashing machines have hoses and connections that can wear over time and begin leaking. Check the hoses often. If you are going on vacation, consider turning the water off to these units to avoid a major event if the hose breaks while you are away. Operate the clothes and dishwasher only when you have a full load.



### Did you know that West Reading has a Community Garden?

The garden was established by the West Reading Community Revitalization Foundation and is located at 128 S. Second Avenue. The garden is open to residents and businesses of West Reading to grow their own vegetables, herbs and flowers. A new membership feature that is available this year is called the Veggie Picker. This membership would allow access to the West Reading Community Garden grounds and amenities to harvest vegetables from designated Borough plots which would include Cherry Tomatoes, beans, a variety of peppers and Loofa plants. A Green Thumb membership would have the same access as a Veggie Picker and would also receive a personal garden plot. **For more information, please contact the Community Garden Manager at [briancorryadams@gmail.com](mailto:briancorryadams@gmail.com).**



## What to Recycle

Place only accepted items in your recycling containers. Putting items that are not acceptable into your recycling container can damage equipment, harm workers, and adds additional sorting and disposal costs. When in doubt, throw it out.

### IT'S ALL YOU YOUR RECYCLING MATTERS

### THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:

#### Cans



Aluminum and Steel Cans  
(empty, rinse)

#### Cartons



Food and Beverage Cartons  
(empty, rinse, replace cap)

#### Glass



Bottles and Jars  
(empty, rinse)

#### Paper



Cereal Boxes, Newspaper,  
Magazines and Mail, Flattened  
Cardboard & Paper tubes

#### Plastic



Kitchen, Laundry, Bath  
Plastic Bottles, Jugs & Tubs  
(empty, rinse, replace cap)

**NO!**



No Plastic Bags  
or Plastic Wrap



Do No Bag  
Recyclables  
(no garbage)



No Tangles, Cords,  
Hoses or Chains



No Flammables,  
Fuel Tanks or  
Batteries



No Food or Liquid  
(empty all containers)



No Styrofoam™  
(carryout or packing  
material)

#### Include Only These Items in Your Recycling Bin

- Aluminum and steel cans emptied and rinsed.
- Food and beverage cartons emptied and rinsed.
- Glass bottles and jars emptied and rinsed.
- Paper and cardboard (flatten cardboard boxes and tie materials).
- Kitchen, laundry, and bath plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs.



#### Leave These Items Out of Your Recycling Bin

- No plastic bags or plastic wrap.
- Do not place recyclables in plastic bags.
- No hoses, wires, cords or chains.
- No flammables, fuel tanks or batteries.
- No foods or liquids.
- No Styrofoam or foam products of any kind.
- No shredded paper.
- No aerosol cans or plastic pumps.
- No broken glass, window glass or mirrors.
- No large metal or plastic items.



Local recycling efforts matter. However, the general public in our service area needs to understand that recyclers accept only certain items in its residential (curbside) and drop-off recycling programs. These items are accepted for a specific reason, they can be recycled and made into new products. Unfortunately, either by accident or misunderstanding, unacceptable items continue to be placed in recycling containers. Do not place items out for collection that are larger than what will fit into a sorting machine. All of the unacceptable items will be landfilled; they may also contaminate the items that we can recycle in this area. **For more information as to why these items are accepted or not accepted please visit the Borough website and search for "What to Recycle"**



Come out and help us celebrate the 51st anniversary of Earth Day! Gather your neighbors to revitalize West Reading on Sunday, April 25, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Volunteers will work to pick up litter throughout the park and our community. Please register upon your arrival at the Pavilion. Supplies, including trash bags, gloves, and safety vests will be provided. This is an opportunity for students to obtain community service hours. An electronic recycling collection site will be available. Follow the event on Facebook! If you are interested in being a local sponsor or providing in-kind donations, please contact [jennahiester@gmail.com](mailto:jennahiester@gmail.com).

**MEET** neighbors **LEARN** something new  
**HELP** your community!

### 2021 Tax Collector Sitting Dates

**Where:** West Reading Borough Hall,  
500 Chestnut Street, West Reading, PA  
**Time:** 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
**Dates:** Monday, April 19, Wednesday, April 21,  
Friday, April 23, Tuesday, April 27  
Thursday, April 29 & Friday, April 30



# Code Enforcement Department

**Manager Cathy Hoffman**

**Mission Statement:** It is the mission of the Code Enforcement Department to fairly, reasonably and with impartiality enforce the building codes, municipal codes and zoning ordinance of the Borough. Our goal is to ensure compliance for safe living and business operations, thereby protecting property and the quality of life for all Borough residents.

**Prior to beginning a project, please contact our office to determine if a permit is needed.**

Blight and nuisances can devalue, detract and degrade the quality of any neighborhood. The Borough has adopted codes that govern the use and maintenance of private property, such as weed abatement, rubbish and graffiti in order to enhance and protect the quality of life for all who work, live and play in the Borough.

## Property Maintenance Information

Homes and properties are required to be well maintained both inside and outside according to the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC). The IPMC imposes minimum upkeep standards for existing buildings and exterior property areas. To keep neighborhoods safe, healthy and vibrant, the Code Department is continually in the process of performing exterior inspections of properties within the Borough.



## How Do I Report a Code Violation?

To report a code violation, please submit a written complaint form which can be obtained by either contacting the Code Enforcement Department to have a form faxed, mailed or emailed to your attention; visit our website at: [www.westreadingborough.com](http://www.westreadingborough.com); or visit Borough Hall located at 500 Chestnut Street. To stay current on ordinance regulations, visit [www.ecode360.com/WE3192](http://www.ecode360.com/WE3192) for a complete searchable list of the Borough of West Reading municipal code.

## CONTACT US

**Cathy Hoffman**  
Code Enforcement Manager  
610-374-8273 ext. 223  
choffman@westreadingborough.org

**Keith Yeager**  
Code Enforcement Officer  
610-476-6152  
k.yeager@sdei.net

**Tyler Berg**  
Code Enforcement Officer  
610-374-8273 ext. 239  
t.berg@sdei.net

**Elba Beltran del-Rio**  
Code Enforcement Secretary  
610-374-8273 ext. 238  
Fax: 610-816-7565  
ebeltrandelrio@westreadingborough.org

**Our Municipal Code  
Is Now Online!**

Go to [ecode360.com/WE3192](http://ecode360.com/WE3192)  
Access | Navigate | Share | 24/7

## 2021

January						
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■ = Trash Collection   
 ■ = Recycling Collection   
 ■ = Bulk\* & Trash Collection   
 \* One bulk item per household may be placed out for collection along with regular trash.

**Please Note:** Items such as tires, appliances, batteries, and electronic items will not be collected. These items must be recycled due to hazardous materials. Please contact Berks County Solid Waste Authority at 610-478-6362 or visit their website at [www.co.berks.pa.us/swa](http://www.co.berks.pa.us/swa) for more information.

## Be a Good Neighbor...Take Pride in Your Borough



What does it mean to be a “good neighbor” and how does that lead to taking pride in our community? Each one of us might interpret that to mean something different. Still, it might be worth considering what being a “good neighbor” and a prideful resident means in your neighborhood, from lifelong to new residents, people of all ages, and from all walks of life. With so much diversity, how can we work and live happily among each other?

Perhaps the first, and easiest way to being a “good neighbor” is to introduce yourself to anyone on your block and particularly those who share a property line with you. This simple act breaks down barriers and creates open dialogue of a respectful nature. Knowing the people who live around you provides a strengthened sense of pride in your home and neighborhood.

Next, take care of your property. This doesn’t have to mean that we all must have properties that are featured in the pages of magazines, but when living in a community there are reasonably courteous behaviors expected for the benefit of all. The following provides some examples:

- Walk your dog on a leash and be sure to carry plastic bags to clean up afterwards.
- Put your garbage cans out the night before pick up and put them away as soon as possible. Do not leave your garbage cans out – nobody wants to see your garbage every day of the week.
- Clean your front sidewalks, including weeds in the gutter – it really isn’t anybody else’s responsibility. Take the lead and think of the curb appeal for all. This includes mowing and weeding your property regularly throughout the summer, and expedited snow removal in the winter.
- Be mindful of your noise levels, particularly late in the evening and early in the morning.
- Be aware of your elderly neighbors, particularly in weather extremes. A friendly check in is the neighborly thing to do.
- “See Something – Say Something” - If you see something that looks suspicious, please report it...allow the police to determine what must be done, you don’t know who you might help from this act.

*I’m sure you can think of other ways to be good neighbors, making West Reading  
“Everybody’s Hometown” in which we can all take great pride!*

### Door-to-Door Solicitation

A solicitation permit is required for any type of door-to-door solicitation. Following a background check and issuance of a permit, a Borough issued ID badge is provided to the solicitor and must be worn at all times while soliciting. Hours available to solicit in the Borough are from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday only. If a solicitor comes to your door without a Borough issued ID badge do not hesitate to contact the West Reading Police Department at 610-373-0111 to make a report. Please provide as much detail about the solicitor as possible. If you receive a brochure or letter from the solicitor, please mark the date received and turn it into the Borough for processing.

### Trash/Recycling Information

- 1) Four (4) trash cans per household per trash collection day are allowed. Please do not place bulky items out for regular trash collection. One bulk item per household per month may be placed out for collection on the first Friday of every month. Please remember to store all trash within durable, water-tight containers equipped with handles and tight-fitting covers to deter the attraction of rodents to your neighborhood. It is also recommended to mark your containers and lids with your address.
- 2) Please do not place trash/recycling out prior to noon the day before collection and promptly remove your receptacle(s) by midnight the day of collection.
- 3) Electronic items such as televisions, microwaves, refrigerators and air conditioners will not be removed by the trash/recycle hauler. These items must be recycled due to hazardous materials. Please contact Berks County Solid Waste Authority at 610-478-6362 or visit their website at [www.co.berks.pa.us/swa](http://www.co.berks.pa.us/swa) for more information.

### Reminders

- 1) **Pet waste management** is an important responsibility of dog ownership. The first step is picking up what your pet leaves behind. The second is making sure it is disposed of properly. A common misconception surrounding pet waste disposal is that Fido or Fluffy’s waste serves as a natural fertilizer. Dog owners take note: this is not true. In fact, leaving pet waste on the ground or concentrating it in one specific area of the yard can seriously harm soil quality and can be dangerous for both families and their pets. Pet waste should always be picked up and removed from your property on a regular basis, in fact, Borough regulations specify pet waste must be removed on a daily basis from private property and immediately from public property or property owned by another.
- 2) **Animals At Large** – It is unlawful for any person to allow an animal to be without controlled restraint at any time.
- 3) **Noise by Animals** – Pet owners are responsible to prevent continuous noise for a period of 10 minutes or intermittently for 30 minutes or more to disturb any person at any time of the day or night unless a person is trespassing or threatening to trespass upon private property or causes to tease or provoke the animal.
- 4) **Grass and weeds** must be maintained at a height of less than 10” at all times. All grass/weeds in the planting strip and along the alley are the property owner’s responsibility.





## Reminders *continued*

- 5) **Trees, shrubs, hedges or other vegetation must not extend into the sidewalk space, streets or alleyways.** Growth shall not be at a height of less than 8' over any sidewalk or pedestrian walkway or 16' over any roadway. Please do not throw weeds, grass clippings and/or hedge clippings into the street.
- 6) **Cars, trucks, RV's, motorcycles, trailers, etc.** cannot be parked on the grass on your property or the property where you reside. Vehicles may only be parked on a stone, concrete or macadam pad. Prior to installing a parking pad, a zoning permit application is required.
- 7) **In an effort to allow emergency personnel to quickly identify your home,** the Borough requires all properties to be clearly marked in the front and rear of the property. The numbers should contrast with the background and be a minimum height of 4".

**"Keep It Safe, Keep It Beautiful"**

**A cooperative effort of the Borough of West Reading and its neighborhoods.**

## West Reading Fire Department - Fire Chief Chad T. Moyer

**Emergencies- DIAL 911 | Non-emergency- 610-372-9621 | website: [www.wrfire.com](http://www.wrfire.com)**  
**Email: [westreadingfire@hotmail.com](mailto:westreadingfire@hotmail.com) Facebook: West Reading Fire Department | Twitter: @westreadingfire**



**WRFD in Cyberspace:** Please check out our website at [www.wrfire.com](http://www.wrfire.com). The website has given us an opportunity to give the public a better look at who we are and what we do for the community. Please check us out! Also, if you are a Facebook or Twitter user please search for "West Reading Fire Department" and "Like" our page to keep up to date on what's happening at the WRFD!

**Fire Safety:** Please remember that with warm weather on the way, outdoor cooking on grills is right around the corner. Please make sure that if you use a gas grill you confirm that it is correctly connected and that you don't have any gas leaks before you turn it on. If you have even a small leak, it could cause a fire with dangerous consequences. Also remember to keep your grill away from your home or any other combustible structures. Also, an important thing to remember is to use any gas-burning grill outside, not inside your home. These grills produce carbon monoxide, which is colorless and odorless and can kill you. If you have any questions about using your gas grill, please give us a call.



Also remember to periodically check your smoke detectors, because a dead battery in your smoke detector will not help you in a fire emergency. Many of the homes that we visit on fire calls do not have operating smoke detectors, or they have none at all. Smoke detectors are an inexpensive way to keep your family safe, so please make sure they are in working order. We have smoke detectors available for sale at our station at a cost of \$10 each and we can also install them in your home at no charge to you. We will also install owner provided smoke detector batteries for you at no charge if you are unable to do it yourself. Please give us a call for more information.

**Open Burning:** Please be advised that open burning is illegal in the Borough of West Reading unless you apply for and receive a permit from the Code Department. This means no open burning of leaves or other yard waste, or any type of temporary outdoor fireplace without prior authorization from the fire department. Please have consideration for your neighbors and refrain from burning anything in your yards this spring. If you have any questions please contact the Borough's Code Enforcement Department.

**Fire Extinguishers:** We get calls at the station from residents all the time about fire extinguishers....what kind do I need for my home?? What can be done with old or used fire extinguishers?? We would love to help you!

We do not sell fire extinguishers here at the WRFD, but we would recommend that you visit any home improvement store or fire extinguisher vendor and look closely at the packaging to make sure you purchase an extinguisher that will work with the hazards you have in your home. Selecting the wrong fire extinguisher for the fire hazard can be very dangerous. As far as old extinguishers or used units, if you don't feel comfortable throwing them away in the trash please bring them to the station any Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. and we will dispose of them for you. Any questions please give us a call.

**Membership:** We are always looking for a few good men or women! We accept membership applications starting at the age of 14. If you are interested in volunteering with your neighborhood fire department as a firefighter, fire police officer, or just to help out with non-fire related events please log onto [www.wrfire.com](http://www.wrfire.com) and download an application or visit us any Wednesday night to pick up an application.

## West Reading Police Department

**Did you know: You can follow the WRPD on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/WRPolice> and on twitter at: [www.twitter.com/WRPolice](http://www.twitter.com/WRPolice) for Police and Borough related information.**



As the weather begins to turn warm and pleasant, and more people begin to enjoy outside activities, please remember:

- **Keep watch for children playing outside,** and operate all motor vehicles in a safe and cautious manner, especially near the park, playground and pool.

- **Always remember to lock your vehicle doors,** raise all windows and never leave your vehicle running, unattended, even if only for a few moments. Always remove all portable electronics from view, and place them in secure locations such as the glove box, center console, etc. when away from your vehicle.



- **Always secure your homes when away**, and ensure that all basement and first floor doors and windows are closed and locked at night. Ensure that all shrubbery is trimmed around your homes, so that officers on patrol have a good view of the residence and potential entry points.
- **As the weather gets hot**, please check on the welfare of your neighbors, especially if they are elderly and live alone.
- **Please keep watch in your neighborhoods** for unusual activities or suspicious persons. Do not hesitate to call police if you see or hear something suspicious or out of the ordinary at 610 373-0111.

**Hours of Operation:** The Police Department's front desk is open from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday. If the Police Department is closed, no parking signs may be purchased and parking ticket payments may be made at the Administration Office.

**Street Postings:** Please check your street for sign postings,

including those that are posted for the street cleaning program. Borough Crew Members may also post streets for other maintenance work. Signs are posted on posts, trees and stakes the day before scheduled maintenance work. Vehicles must be removed during the specified times, or tickets will be issued. Signs will be removed when the work has been completed.

**Going on Vacation?** We ask that you notify the Police Department by filing a vacation report to notify us that you will be away. This information will be of assistance whether you will be gone for an overnight trip or for a month. Having the information on file will be helpful if your vehicle will be parked on the street while you are gone in case your street is posted for maintenance work. It will also be helpful if we need to contact someone in the event of an emergency.

*The West Reading Police Department wishes all Borough residents and visitors alike, a very safe and enjoyable spring and summer.*

## Public Works Department - Director Dean Murray

**Why should I care about stormwater?** Does stormwater really affect me? Whether you live in a town, the country, a city, or the suburbs, when it rains, the water that runs off needs somewhere to go. Stormwater affects everyone! We are all part of a watershed. Watersheds are land areas that drain to the nearest body of water. For example, if you are in western Pennsylvania, you are part of the Ohio River watershed, while eastern Pennsylvania lands may ultimately drain to the Chesapeake Bay. Smaller local creeks and streams also eventually drain to a larger local water body.

- **Flooding** – When excess water has nowhere to go, flooding can impact property and cause damage to land and structures. Flooding can also be a public safety issue that affects entire communities.
- **Pollution and Health Impacts** – Stormwater picks up anything that is on the ground and carries it along with it. Animal waste, chemicals, pesticides, oil, and sediment all end up in waterways and potentially in our sources of drinking water.
- **Streambank Erosion** – Uncontrolled stormwater can cause streambank erosion, leaving bare soil and exposing tree roots. This can lead to property damage and cause issues with streambank stability.
- **Sedimentation** – Erosion and runoff, can also lead to sedimentation. Sedimentation of waterways from runoff causes changes to aquatic habitats. Undesirable plant growth increases, water becomes more turbid or cloudy, which leads to disruption of aquatic ecosystems. Sedimentation also fills waterways, which can increase the flooding potential.
- **Impacts to Groundwater Recharge** – If stormwater isn't sinking into the ground it can affect recharge of groundwater sources. This can affect water levels in drinking water wells as well as impacting levels in surface water.
- **Impacts to Recreational Opportunities** – Stormwater runoff can cause polluted waterways which can lead to restrictions on boating, swimming, and fishing in recreational areas.

Making changes to how stormwater is managed can go a long way to reduce negative impacts. Even small actions by individual homeowners like using a rain barrel, choosing permeable landscaping surfaces, or installing a rain garden can make a difference. Stormwater affects everyone!

**Street Cleaning:** Street sweeping keeps roads safe by removing debris that clog storm drains and reduces the amount of pollutants that collect on Borough streets. Be mindful of street sweeping signs that are posted on the street where you park. There are a few additional streets that may be added to the street sweeping program, so be on the lookout for additional signage. To remind yourself of the street cleaning schedule place a reminder in your smart phone calendar to make sure to remove your vehicle at the appropriate time to avoid a parking ticket. If a scheduled street cleaning day falls on a holiday, unless otherwise specified, that street would not be cleaned until the next scheduled cleaning day.

### Upcoming Infrastructure Improvement Plans

- Pine Street Curbing Repairs and Paving – Entire length
- Fifth Avenue Paving – Pine Street to Spruce Street
- Linden Lane Sanitary Sewer Line Repairs – State grant funding was received to partially fund this project.

These projects could present some inconveniences for residents and travelers alike. Please use extreme caution through changing traffic patterns and detour routes. Allow additional time during your travel through the Borough for the safety of everyone!

**Sewer Backups:** Backups can be caused by a multitude of problems such as grease build up, tree roots, feminine products, towels/wipes, toys, etc. Therefore, we want to remind all residents and businesses to avoid flushing anything other than toilet paper. At any time, day or night when a sewer backup occurs at your home or business your first call should be to the Borough. As part of your sewer maintenance fee, the Public Works Department will plunge the sewer trap located near your home/business in an effort to remove the clog, possibly saving you the expense of hiring a plumber. If the clog is located between your home and the curb line, we will notify you of the need for plumbing services. The Borough maintains the sewer system from the curb to the main. *To report a sewer backup during normal business hours (Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm) contact Borough Hall at 610-374-8273; outside of normal business hours contact the non-emergency Police line at 610-373-0111 to dispatch a member of the Public Works Department to your location.*

## Public Works Department *continued*

### Go Green Program

**Did you know that your yard waste can be disposed of at the Borough Garage?** Yard waste may be disposed of between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday by appointment at the Borough Garage, please call 610-374-8605 to schedule an appointment. Or yard waste may dispose of on the first Saturday of the month without an appointment from 8:00 a.m. to Noon during the months of April through November. The following types of yard waste will be accepted: Grass clippings, Hedge clippings, Leaves, Tree branches (cut 4' or shorter and no thicker than 4" in diameter) and Garden waste.



The Borough Garage is located at South 1st Avenue and Chestnut Street. The program is open to West Reading residents only, proof of residency is required. No contractors are permitted at the drop off site. We reserve the right to refuse large quantities or unsuitable materials. The yard waste will be transported to an area facility and converted into mulch to keep yard waste out of the landfill.

## Recreation Department



WEST READING  
**recreation**

The mission of the West Reading Recreation Commission is to provide excellence in the delivery of programs, events and services. The Borough's 23-acre park is for use of the West Reading residents and their guests. The park facilities include a stone pavilion, walking trails, tennis and basketball courts, baseball and softball fields, a gravel track, volleyball court and community swimming pool. A new edition to the park area is a 9-hole Disc Golf Course with pro and amateur tee pads. Both courses can be played for an 18-hole course.

## RECREATION HAPPENINGS

### SUMMER PLAYGROUND GROUP

Come and let your children enjoy their summer at our summer camp at the West Reading Pavilion. The program is for children ages 5-12. Your child/children will get to play with old friends and make new friends too! The number of participants in the 2021 program will be limited in order to maintain social distancing guidelines. Priority will be given to Borough residents.



**Dates:** June 14th to August 6th

**Cost:** ½ Day Residents Monday – Friday 9am to Noon: \$175

**Cost:** Full Day Residents Monday – Friday 9am to 4pm: \$350

**Cost:** ½ day Non-residents Monday – Friday 9am to Noon: \$200

**Cost:** Full Day Non-residents Monday – Friday 9am to 4pm: \$400

**EVERY FRIDAY IS POOL DAY**, so bring your swimsuit and towel and get ready for some fun! (9am to 1pm for ½ day program) *Field Trips: Due to social distancing requirements field trips have been cancelled for the 2021 season.*



**Lunch Program:** If you wish to have your child participate in the lunch program, the cost is \$200 for eight weeks. A healthy lunch is provided every day and a menu will be provided on the first day of camp.

**Borough Resident Early Bird Registration:** A 10% discount will be offered when you register your child by 5pm on Friday, May 14, 2021. Payment must be made in full. Registration forms are available on the Borough website and can be submitted via email to [hmoyer@westreadingborough.org](mailto:hmoyer@westreadingborough.org) or via the drop box located in the Borough Hall parking lot near the handicap ramp and police vehicles. Proof of residency will be required.

**Deadline to register is June 4, 2021, no exceptions.**

### HAPPENINGS AT THE WEST READING PARK

#### Concerts in the Park:

**Dates:** June 20th, July 18th,  
August 15th & September 19th

**Time:** 2pm to 7pm



Bring your family and blankets or chairs, and join us on Sunday afternoons in the Park. There will be music, drinks, food and games. These events are hosted by West Reading Recreation and Pollen Consolidated. Bands will be announced at a future date, so please check our Facebook page for further information.

#### Independence Day Celebration - Sunday, July 4th

In order to maintain social distancing guidelines all Fourth of July events have been cancelled.

### HAPPENINGS AT THE WEST READING POOL

#### Pool Schedule:

May 29-31st 2021 ..... Open Memorial Day Weekend Only  
..... (12:00pm-8:00pm)  
June 5th–Aug. 1, 2021..... Open Every Day (12:00pm-8:00pm)  
Aug. 2nd– Aug. 29, 2021 .. Open Every Day (12:00pm-6:30pm)  
Aug. 30th–Sept. 3, 2021 ... Pool Closed  
Sept. 4th–Sept. 5, 2021 .... Open Labor Day Weekend Only  
..... (12:00pm-6:30pm)  
Sept. 6, 2021 ..... Open Labor Day (12:00pm-6:00pm)  
Sept. 6, 2021 ..... Reopen for Doggie Swim (6:00pm-7:00pm)





## Recreation Happenings *continued*

### POOL RATES:

	Resident	Non-Resident
Under age 2	Free	Free
Age 3-12	\$85	\$150
Age 13-60	\$125	\$200
Age 61+	\$65	\$150
Daily Rate	\$8	\$15
6 Day Pass	\$45	N/A
Spectator Fee	\$5	\$5
Family Pass		
2 Adults + 2 Children under 17	\$325	N/A
Additional Child	\$25	

### Early Bird Registration Pricing:

A 10% discount will be offered to those that reside within the Borough of West Reading, and who purchase their membership, paid in full by 5:00pm on Friday, May 7, 2021. Registration forms can be found on the Borough website and submitted via email to [hmoyer@westreadingborough.org](mailto:hmoyer@westreadingborough.org) or via the drop box located in the Borough Hall parking lot. Proof of residency will be required. This discount does not apply to family pass memberships.

### SWIM LESSONS

Swim lessons are taught by a qualified water safety instructor. The cost for five ½ hour long swim lessons are as follows:

<b>Resident semi-private lessons:</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Non-Resident semi-private lessons:</b>	<b>\$150</b>

Dates and times are based on the instructor's availability. Semi-private lessons consist of 1-2 members. Private lessons may also be arranged by visiting the front desk at the pool. All swim lesson forms will be available beginning Memorial Day weekend. Classes are limited to 3-5 students depending on skill level.

### MOONLIGHT SWIM

Mark your calendars to join us at the pool for our Friday night moonlight swims!

**Dates:** July 9th, 16th & 23rd

**Time:** 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM

**Cost:** \$4 for residents/members;  
\$7 for non-residents



### LOOKING FOR MORE TO DO AT THE POOL?

**Aqua Zumba Class:** TBA

**Aqua Glow Party:** Aqua Zumba by Moonlight Glow Party TBA

**Aqua Hydro Jump:** This new aqua fitness class utilizes a trampoline that is fixed to the bottom of the swimming pool with suction pads. This aquatics fitness class is limited to 20 participants. Date TBA

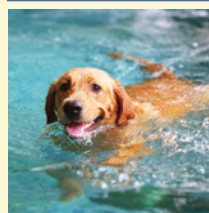
### Doggie Day at the Pool:

Come swim with your furry friend!

**Date:** Monday, September 6th

**Time:** 6 - 7 pm

**Cost:** \$10 (\$5 entrance fee & \$5 donation to the Animal Rescue League)



### PICKLEBALL

The fastest growing sport you've never heard of is coming to West Reading! In the very near future the West Reading tennis courts will be retrofitted to pickleball courts. Pickleball is something of a mix between tennis, racquet ball and ping pong. Players use solid paddles made of wood or composite materials to hit a perforated polymer ball, much like a wiffle ball over a net. The game is quick, making it a convenient way to get some exercise!



*If you would like more information regarding any of our programs, please call at 610-374-8273 x243.*



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