

The Borough of

WEST READING

Fall/Winter 2021

In This Issue



Welcome from Borough Council	2	PSD-Code	6
Borough Directory	2	Online Utility Payment.....	7
Code Enforcement.....	3	West Reading Fire Department.....	7
Message from the Mayor	4	Recreation Department	8
West Reading Police Department.....	4	Calendar of Upcoming Events	8
National Night Out.....	5	Holiday Happenings	8
Officer Spotlight.....	5	Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	
Public Works.....	6	Event.....	9
Committee Vacancies.....	6	West Reading Farmers Market.....	9

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WEST READING HOMEOWNER AND REAL ESTATE EXPERT

THANK YOU TO THE BUSINESSES!

The Borough of West Reading would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to the residents.

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Welcome to the Fall/Winter 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



BOROUGH COUNCIL
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jgombach@westreadingborough.org
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Jennifer Bressler, Member
Ryan Lineaweaver, Member
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POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief Glenn Granitz, Jr.
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 snow emergencies, changes to trash or recycling collection, meeting dates and times or events around the Borough please visit www.westreadingborough.com.



Also, while visiting the Borough website please register with the CodeRED Emergency Notification System to receive time-sensitive, notifications of local emergencies/events that may immediately impact your safety. Messages for the following types of events/emergencies can be received via phone call, text message, and email or through a CodeRED Mobile Alert App:

- Missing Person
- Emergency Preparedness
- Emergency Evacuation
- Weather Related Necessities
- Criminal Activity
- Shelter in Place/Lockdowns
- Boil Water Advisories
- Large Local Events

WEST READING BOROUGH MEETING SCHEDULE

BOROUGH COUNCIL

3rd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

October 20th & 26th November 16th & 23rd December 21st & 28th

BUDGET WORKSHOPS/COUNCIL MEETINGS

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.

October 6th November 3rd December 1st

TRAFFIC & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

2nd Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

October 13th November 10th December 8th

RECREATION COMMISSION

1st Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

October 5th November 1st (Mon.) December 7th

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

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

October 11, 2021 – Columbus Day
November 11, 2021 – Veteran's Day
November 25 & 26, 2021 – Thanksgiving Holiday
December 23 & 24, 2021 – Christmas Holiday
December 31, 2021 – New Year's Day
January 17, 2022 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 21, 2022 – President's Birthday
April 15, 2022 – Good Friday

Code Enforcement Department

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.



Contact Us

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

Keith Yeager
Code Enforcement Officer
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k.yeager@sdei.net

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

Prior to beginning any projects, 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.

Sidewalk Snow and Ice Removal

Thank you for shoveling your sidewalk, it's the neighborly thing to do! West Reading is a vibrant, walkable community, which is why it is vitally important to maintain public sidewalks and walkways in a manner safe for travel.

We do not issue notices/warnings for snow and ice removal from public sidewalks on your property.



Every owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, property agent or any other person responsible for property within the Borough must remove a clear path of at least 36" from public sidewalks within 36 hours following the end of a snow/ice event. In order to accommodate increased pedestrian traffic on Penn Avenue, a path of at least 48" shall be cleared within 24 hours following the end of a snow/ice event. All sidewalks must be maintained free of snow/ice by placing salt, sand or other abrasive or chemical material upon areas where melting and refreezing has occurred to render sidewalks safe for travel. If snow/ice is not removed within the time frame allowed, a fine for each offense will be assessed until the violation is corrected: Fine 1 - \$25; Fine 2 - \$50; Fine 3 and subsequent instances \$100 each.

Also, please be sure to clear snow away from fire hydrants as this will assist fire department personnel to extinguish a fire in the event of an emergency.

As always, the Borough seeks volunteers to assist our elderly and/or disabled residents who cannot maintain their sidewalks in the event of snow or ice. Please contact our office if you are interested in volunteering. On the same note, if you cannot maintain your sidewalk or know a resident that is elderly/disabled and in need of assistance, please contact our office to be added to a list so we may offer assistance.

One never knows when you'll need a little neighborly assistance. Unfortunately, less than half of Americans actually know the people in their communities, a fact that becomes all that more acute when it comes to needing cups of sugar or dealing with snowstorm aftermath. Make an effort to get to know your neighbor and assist each other in staying safe.



IS YOUR HOME READY FOR WINTER?

Use this checklist to prepare your home for winter:

Outside

- Have your chimney checked/cleaned
- Inspect the roof for possible leaks / clear debris from flat roof
- Fill low spots around the foundation
- Check weatherstripping around windows & doors
- Clean gutters & downspouts to make sure water is getting moved away from the home
- Check steps & handrails
- Paint, caulk & seal exterior wood
- Seal masonry and hard surfaces
- Move patio furniture inside or cover to protect
- Check trees for loose/damaged branches
- Check/service snowblower
- Gather shovels/snowbrushes
- STOCK UP ON ICE MELT

Inside

- Change air filters
- Turn off water to exterior water spigot & drain the line
- Test sump pump
- Have your furnace checked/serviced
- Have water heater flushed / pressure release valve checked
- Test your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors
- Check humidifier / clean drain line
- Reverse ceiling fans

"Keep It Safe, Keep It Beautiful"

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

Mayor Andrew Kearney



We are lucky. We live in the best Borough in Berks County. It is beautiful. The people that live in West Reading are loving kind people. The community leaders have made West Reading, namely Penn Avenue, the destination that it is today. I cannot overstate that the community leaders (not elected officials) have done the majority of the work creating the West Reading we enjoy today. Thank you for accepting me as your Mayor for the last 4 years. It has been the honor of my lifetime to be associated with the visionaries and volunteers of West Reading. Thank you for making a positive difference in your community.

We take care of each other and we look out for one another. During my term as Mayor, I have been contacted by so many residents each with a different story, request or need. Thank you for reaching out to me to see if I could help with your concerns or needs. I hope I was able to give the direction, satisfaction or results you were seeking.

I want to thank all the residents and business owners of West Reading for making the last 4 years extremely rewarding and educational. I am humbled by and so appreciative of the people who have expressed to me their approval of how I performed as Mayor of West Reading. Before I was elected, I was told that it is important for elected officials to 'stay in their lane.' Since then, I made sure that, as

Mayor of West Reading, I did not interfere with Borough business not related to the office of the Mayor and the West Reading Police Department.

In closing, please give our West Reading Police Chief and the West Reading Police Department all of the help and support you can. Just like our community leaders, the West Reading Police Department works extremely hard to protect our Borough, its citizens, business owners and its visitors. We, the West Reading Police Department, can use your support and input to improve how we protect our Borough. Our Police Chief and Police Officers are well trained professionals deserving our respect and assistance. They take their jobs seriously. Reach out to them and let them know you care and appreciate their work.

West Reading Police Department

Emergencies Dial 911 • WRPD Station 610-373-0111 • Office Hours Mon – Fri, 8am – 6pm Wed – Until 8pm



A Welcome Message from Chief Granitz:

After an extensive search conducted with the assistance of the PA Chiefs of Police Association, Borough Council selected Glenn Granitz, Jr. as the Borough's new Chief of Police on June 28th, 2021. Chief Granitz has an extensive law enforcement career with the Allentown Police Department as well as attaining a Master's Degree from the University of Cincinnati and a Police Executive Certification from Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command.

Chief Granitz relayed the following message: Here at the West Reading Police Department, we value and appreciate our relationship with the residents and business owners of our Borough. We are committed to public safety and improving our neighborhoods. These goals can be accomplished through communication, understanding and hard work. My personal style is to lead from the front and be very visible within our community. Please do not hesitate to reach out and invite myself and WRPD Officers to community events and or communicate with us on any issue affecting our Borough. We believe that relationships with our citizens are essential to moving forward. We will continue to work hard and remain committed to making the Borough safer for our children, families and visitors.



WRPD Makes the Cover of West Reading Avenues

K9 Zea and her partner Officer Breitenstein were featured on the cover of the Spring edition of West Reading Avenues magazine. The article provided some great insight into our favorite four-legged Officer. Aside from being a crowd favorite, K9 Zea can be seen patrolling the Borough during the afternoon and evening hours. Also, check out the WRPD Facebook page for information on a grant received by K9 Zea from the Berks Community Foundation!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS IN WEST READING



On Tuesday, August 3rd the Borough hosted National Night Out in the area of the baseball field and the pool. The Police Department was joined by Recreation, Fire, Public Works and many employees, volunteers and elected officials. The attendance was amazing and allowed our residents to meet our Officers serving hot dogs, snow cones or even in a dunk tank! Thank you to everyone who came out to make this night a success. A special thank you to Jim & Karen Livingood, who received the Community Award. They are pictured above with Chief Granitz, Fire Chief Chad Moyer of West Reading Fire Department and Borough Manager Dean Murray.

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT: OFFICER ED DELOZIER

At WRPD we want you to know more about the amazing men & women we have working here. We will start with Officer DeLozier, a 21-year veteran, who is a fixture in our community.

Officer DeLozier is a 21-year veteran of the West Reading Police Department working in the patrol division. Officer DeLozier had two transfers to criminal investigations but found working in patrol provides an opportunity to be more proactive and involved in the community.

Officer DeLozier's philosophy is to serve as the protective force for the community and help the community through teamwork and service.

One example of how Officer DeLozier works to bring about change in the community is by serving as the Department's Liaison for the Berks County Juvenile Probation's Youth Aid Panel. Officer DeLozier works with Juvenile Probation and trained community members to offer first-time juvenile offenders a second chance by hearing cases that are referred by the police.

DeLozier feels this process serves two purposes: it prevents kids from becoming more deeply involved in delinquent behavior and makes them accountable to the victim and the community through the completion of panel obligations.

In addition to his role with the Youth Aid Panel, Officer DeLozier is a Controlled Force/Defensive Tactics Instructor, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor, Handcuffing/ OC Spray/ Police Baton Instructor and CPR/First Aid/AED Instructor.

Officer DeLozier is married with three adult children. His wife Stephanie is the owner of Salon Avanti, located on Penn Avenue. Oldest son Matthew is a recent graduate of Millersville University. Daughter Emily is a Senior at Bloomsburg University,

and youngest son Samuel is a Sophomore at Penn State University.

The DeLozier's make fitness a priority in their lifestyle. Ed and Stephanie compete in marathons and triathlons, as well as staying consistent with high-intensity workouts at Orange Theory in Wyomissing. DeLozier states he feels an obligation to the community he serves and the officers he serves with to maintain a high level of fitness to meet the demands of police work.

Officer DeLozier is from Ocean City, New Jersey, and moved to Berks County to attend Alvernia University, where he graduated with a degree in Physical Therapy. DeLozier's younger brother began working for the Sea Isle City Police Department, which caused him to contemplate making a career change into law enforcement.

In the fall of 1999, DeLozier decided to leave Physical Therapy and entered the Reading Police Academy. He was hired as a part-time Officer in West Reading in 2000 and became a full-time Officer in 2001. Officer DeLozier is currently attending Alvernia University pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice.



Are you looking for work, need your high school equivalency diploma, or simply need assistance developing your career plan? The Young Adult Program at the PA CareerLink® of Berks County assists 17-24-year-olds living in Berks County with exploring their career and educational paths through counseling, paid work experience, high school equivalency classes, professional development and more! Participants in need of their diploma can enroll in our High School Equivalency Program to obtain their diploma in around 2-4 months, with classes held every weekday. All costs are covered by the program and interested students can also participate in paid work to earn money while attending classes. Participants who have their diploma and are interested in paid work (internships) can earn between \$10-12 an hour working up to 30 hours a week at a variety of worksites. All enrolled participants work with a case manager to develop an in-depth career plan, which includes resume building, financial literacy, and learning valuable job skills. To get involved in our program, email info@bcccl.org or call 610-988-1300 to be signed up to learn more! Enrollment is based on program eligibility.



Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Language assistance services are available free of cost.
Equal Opportunity Employer/Program For Equal Opportunity information or to file a complaint, contact:
Equal Opportunity Officer: Pennsylvania CareerLink® Berks County, 1920 Kutztown Road, Suite F Reading, PA 19604 • eoofficer@bcccl.org

Public Works Department

Keeping West Reading Moving and Open for Business

The Public Works Department provides the daily direction, planning, coordination and supervision of numerous essential public services. Services include street cleaning, snow and ice control, removal of storm debris, storm drain maintenance, street sign maintenance, street construction and maintenance, pool and park system maintenance, leaf removal and water meter maintenance and repairs. All of these services are completed with a crew of nine.

Go Green Program

Did you know that your yard waste can be disposed of at the Borough Garage?

We currently accept grass and hedge clippings, leaves, tree branches and garden waste. Yard waste can be bundled or placed in biodegradable bags. Plastic bags will not be accepted. The Borough Garage is located at 1st & Chestnut Streets. We ask that you please call 610-374-8605 to schedule an appointment between the hours of 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday or without an appointment on the first Saturday of October and November from 8:00 AM to Noon.

Leaf Collection

The street cleaning program has been a great success! The street cleaning schedule will continue to be used for leaf collection. Please be sure to have your leaves raked out onto the street closest to the curb. Branches and other heavy debris should be separated from the leaves by placing these types of materials in the planting strip. Branches and large debris will be collected at random times. Please remember to remove your car from a street that is posted for street sweeping to avoid a parking ticket.



Keep a Clear Path to Your Water Meter



Make sure there is a clear path to the remote device for your water meter. Keeping a path clear of lawn furniture, toys, hoses, shrubbery, snow and/or ice, etc. will ensure our road crew personnel can get to your reading device to obtain consistent meter readings.

Sewer Backup

As always, avoid flushing anything other than toilet paper. This means no feminine products/wipes, paper towels, wash cloths, toys, etc. At any time, day or night when a sewer backup occurs at your home or business your first call should be to the Borough. A Public Works Member will plunge the sewer trap located near your home/business in an effort to remove the clog, possibly removing the need to hire a plumber. During normal business hours contact Borough Hall at 610-374-8273 and outside of normal business hours contact the non-emergency Police line at 610-373-0111. A member of the Public Works Department will be dispatched to your location to assess the situation. The Borough maintains the sewer system from the curb to the main. Sewer lines from the house to curb are the property owner's responsibility.

Light Poles

Please report Borough streetlight issues to Borough Hall. Providing the location, address and pole number of the light will help field personnel to make the necessary repairs. If you discover a downed streetlight pole, exposed electrical wires or any other hazardous situation please contact the Police Department at 610-373-0111. To report a streetlight that is either on during the day or not on at night, please contact Borough Hall at 610-374-8273 or you may submit a trouble ticket directly to Met-Ed through their online Report a Lighting Problem portal.

Snow Storm Tips

Snow will be here before you know it! Please prepare your home and family in the event of a large accumulation by keeping emergency lighting on hand, including fresh batteries. Also, know where your water and sewer stacks are to keep them accessible in case of an emergency or backup.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES



Join Us! Help shape the future of your community by becoming a volunteer member of one of your local boards or committees. These resident-led groups help shape public policy, direct economic development, provide local services and make tremendous positive contributions to our quality of life. Public service is a valuable resource and our time is greatly appreciated! You can make a huge difference by contributing just a few hours every month. Please refer to the Borough's website: www.westreadingborough.com for a list of current boards/committees with vacancies. Typically, appointments are made during the annual Reorganization Meeting in January. However, appointments to fill vacancies occur throughout the year.

PSD-CODE

What is a PSD code? A PSD code stands for Political Subdivision Codes. These are six-digit numbers that identify municipalities (cities, boroughs, townships) in Pennsylvania.

These codes help employers distribute the correct amount of local Earned Income Tax (EIT) to the tax jurisdiction where you live. A PSD code is based on an address. Employers file a Residency Certification File when hiring each employee to determine the correct PSD rate.

Here is what makes up the six digits:

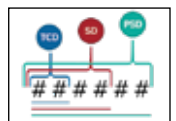
First two digits: These make up the Tax Collection District, usually a county.

This is based on the employee's home address.

First four digits: Combined, the first four digits of a PSD code represent the School District Code, based on the employee's address.

All six digits: Combined, all six digits make up the PSD code, which represents the city, borough, or township where the employee's address is located.

West Reading's PSD code is 061701. Please review your paystubs to ensure that your Earned Income Tax dollars are benefiting you where you reside.



UTILITY PAYMENT

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Our online payment option saves you time and gives you flexibility in how you pay your bill. When you sign up for online bill pay, you will get a secure password to access your personal account at www.xpressbillpay.com, there is also an option to pay as a guest. A reminder email will be sent to let you know when your bill is online. You also have the option to keep our planet happy and healthy by requesting to go paperless.



2022 WATER/SEWER/REFUSE BILL SCHEDULE

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

West Reading Fire Department - Fire Chief Chad T. Moyer

Emergencies- DIAL 911 | Non-emergency- 610-372-9621 | website: www.wrfire.com
Email: westreadingfire@hotmail.com | Facebook: www.facebook.com/westreadingfire



Fire Prevention Week

The week of October 3rd to the 9th is Fire Prevention Week 2021. This year's theme is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety." The goal this year is to educate everyone about the different sounds the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make. Knowing what to do when an alarm sounds will keep you and your family safe. When an alarm makes noises – a beeping sound or a chirping sound – you must take action.

Open House

We will be holding an Open House at the station on October 17th starting at 11:00am and running until 2:00pm. We will have fire prevention displays for the entire family, refreshments, and our fire apparatus and station open for tours. Please plan on stopping by and enjoy the afternoon with your local firefighters!

Smoke Detectors

Please call the station if you have questions about smoke alarms or if you need your batteries changed and are unable to do so yourself. We also have new smoke alarms for sale at a cost of \$10 each installed. Just call or email for more information!

Fire Safety

We are now approaching the peak heating season, so it is important to keep some safety tips in mind. Make sure that you have a functioning Carbon Monoxide detector in your residence. Remember to keep all curtains or other combustible materials away from space heaters, and also be careful to keep children away because just bumping a heater while playing could cause a fire. Also remember that natural Christmas trees can be a hazard if not properly cared for. Please remember to keep the water bowl in the stand full at all times and use only lights that are UL approved for indoor use and have been checked for any problems before they have been installed on the tree.

Kiddies Christmas Party

Saturday December 18th from 2pm until 4pm we will be holding our annual Kiddies Christmas Party for children of Borough residents who are age 10 and under. Admission is free and all children will get to see Santa and receive a small gift. You will need to fill out an online registration form, which is available through the link on our website. Santa will also be riding around the Borough before the event in one of our fire trucks to wave and say hello and remind you of the event. Hope to see you there!

Membership

We are always looking for a few good residents! We accept membership applications starting at the age of 14. If you are interested in volunteering with the West Reading Fire Department, please log on to www.wrfire.com and download an application or visit us any Wednesday night to pick up an application.

WEST READING FIRE CO.
223 PLAYGROUND DR.

**CHICKEN BBQ
OR
PULLED PORK DINNER**

SUNDAY OCTOBER 17, 2021
11:00am - 3:00pm
Cost: \$10.00

**Includes: 1/2 Chicken, Baked Potato,
Applesauce, Roll & Butter
OR
Pulled Pork, Baked Potato,
Coleslaw, Roll & Butter**

**For Tickets Call 610-372-9621 ext 103 or
by Email: wr64bbq@gmail.com**

Presold meals not picked up by 2pm will be resold

Recreation Department - Director Christine Boud



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 the use of West Reading residents and their guests. The Park facilities includes a stone pavilion, walking trails, pickleball and basketball courts, baseball and softball fields, a gravel track, volleyball court, community swimming pool and a disc golf course with a double tee pad to make it an 18-hole course.

Facility Rentals

The Bicentennial House was introduced back in 1976 by Elta K. Bitz. The Bicentennial House is available for small parties, gatherings, meetings and special events. The building has a gathering room with a full kitchen and handicapped accessible restrooms. There is also green landscape for outdoor entertainment.

The Pavilion was built in 1939 by Wyomissing Industries, who helped provide funds for the stone field house. This recreation facility also has a tot-lot, playground and outdoor exercise area. The Pavilion is available for gatherings and small parties.

Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Information pertaining to rental fees for residents and non-residents for both facilities can be found on our website www.westreadingborough.com.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Haunted House

Date: Saturday, October 16th, 2021 with the Out in the Park Event

Friday & Saturday, October 22nd & 23rd, 2021 7 PM – 9 PM

Come see what's new this year during our 6th Annual Haunted House at the Pavilion! A less spooky time for smaller children is available on Saturday, October 23rd from 6 PM – 7 PM. If you are interested in volunteering your hauntingly good time during all of the above dates and times, please contact the Recreation Director at 610-374-8273, ext. 243. Fee to enter the haunted house is \$8

Disc Golf Tournament

Sunday November 7th, 2021

To be Announced - Check the website for more information. After several years of planning, the Parkview Road Pedestrian Bridge spanning Wyomissing Creek has been installed, this will allow better connectivity of the Disc Golf Park course.

Harvest Hayride

Friday & Saturday, October 22nd & 23rd, 2021 7PM - 9 PM

Come see what all the excitement is about as you enjoy a hayride through the Playground area. Beware of those scary drivers who may make a turn down Spooky Lane to the pumpkin patch and wind up in the graveyard! Following the hayride roast S'mores with your volunteer fire fighters. There will be food and drinks available to purchase, spooky games, pumpkins to decorate, and a chance to win a prize at the famous Mrs. Heckler's Duck Pond.

Hayride: \$6 per person

Duck Pond: \$1 per person

Holiday Tree Lighting

Friday, December 3rd, 2021 6 PM

Join us at Delaney Circle for our 93rd Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony! The tradition began in 1928 when the first tree lighting was held in front of Borough Hall with a few Council Members present. Little did our forefathers know they launched what became a tree lighting tradition. The tree lighting ceremony was moved to Delaney



Circle in the 1990's where we can celebrate the night air with music, dancing and warm wishes. Following the ceremony at Delaney Circle join us at St. James Church for an opportunity to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus! **Holiday candy will be available for sale at our tree lighting ceremony.**

Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Sunday, December 12th 2021 7 PM – 9 PM

West Reading Recreation Department would like for you to get into the holiday spirit this season by decorating your home. All houses will be judged from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Sunday, December 12th by our Recreation Committee. You don't need to be home to participate, but make sure you leave your lights on. You may pre-register so we don't miss your house. The committee will look for creativity, originality and over-all presentation. There can only be two winners' so, do your best.

1st place is a complimentary single pool pass for the season or a single playground program for a child.

2nd place is a complimentary 6-day pool pass.

Volunteer

The Borough's Park and Recreation Department provides fun and safe activities for Borough residents. We have a Recreation Commission which meets regularly to discuss and plan upcoming events and projects. We are always looking for volunteers, so if you have the time, come out and join us!



Throughout the year, the Recreation Department hosts a variety of activities including the Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Dance, Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Tree Lighting, Haunted Hayride, Community Moonlight Swims and so much more. Every summer, Borough children are invited to take part in the Borough's playground program, which provides activities and field trips for children ages 5-12 years old.

If you would like to join or just volunteer your time with the Recreation Commission, please contact the Parks & Recreation Director at Borough Hall 610-374-8273 ext. 243.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS ON THE AVENUE!

Join us in welcoming the Holidays with Carriage Rides, Music + more! Make sure you follow Visit West Reading on Facebook + Instagram to get notified during this busy season! Join our email list + receive updates weekly all in one place. Email Emily@visitwestreading.org to join our list.



Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Looking for a responsible way to dispose of unwanted paints, cleaners, oils, batteries and pesticides at no cost to you? The Berks County Ag Center, located at 1238 County Welfare Road will be hosting a hazardous waste disposal event on Saturday, October 23rd from 8am to 2pm rain or shine. This event is free to all Berks County residents, pre-registration is required. Please visit www.co.berks.pa.us/swa to register. Household hazardous waste is any household product that is labeled: caution, danger, flammable, explosive, toxic, warning, corrosive, poison, volatile or any combination of these characteristics. Placing these items in the trash or down the drain contributes to the pollution of our air and drinking waters.

When is Bulk Trash Pickup?

On the first Friday of every month, each household may place one bulk item at the curb for collection with your weekly trash. Bulk items may weigh no more than 75 pounds nor exceed five-feet in length. Items such as tires, appliances, water heaters, batteries, items with Freon, etc. will not be accepted. These items must be recycled at a recycling center. For more information, please contact the Berks County Solid Waste Authority at 610-478-6362 or visit their website at www.co.berks.pa.us/swa.



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. For more information as to why these items are accepted or not accepted, please visit the Borough website and search for "What to Recycle".

Car batteries, and any other type of large, lead-acid batteries cannot go into your household trash or recycling. You can look up where to dispose of car and other lead-acid batteries on Earth911 or visit any automotive parts store. Likewise, **rechargeable batteries** must be taken to a collection site that can be found on Earth911 or visit the Berks County Solid Waste Authority Electronic Recycling Center. **Regular AA, AAA**, or other letter-named batteries are now safer to throw directly into the trash, but they can also be recycled into different things such as cement or new batteries. No matter what you decide to do with your regular batteries, make sure to tape the ends since they could have a little spark left and could start a fire if they come into contact with other batteries.

WEST READING FARMERS MARKET BY GROWING ROOTS PARTNERS



The West Reading Farmers Market features the very best in locally grown food every Sunday from 9am - 12 noon on the 500 Block of Penn Ave + on 6th Ave! Market is held weekly during our regular season, and twice a month during our winter season (see below for schedule). The producer-only market features locally grown fruits and vegetables, sustainably raised meats, poultry and farm fresh eggs, fresh cut flowers, artisan baked goods and breads, local beer & wine, kombucha, hand-made pasta, local honey, and value-added products made with locally sourced ingredients. We are committed to supporting and promoting the rich agricultural history of Berks County! Check out the market website www.GrowingRootsPartners.com/west-reading for more information including the updated weekly line-up of producers or to subscribe to the market newsletter.

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