



WILLISTOWNE CRIER

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2025 • VOLUME 96

CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE TOWNSHIP CAMPUS!

As you may have heard, the Public Works facilities here on Sugartown Road are slated for a significant upgrade. Public Works Director Bill Hagan has been working for many months with the design team at Gorski Engineering to develop a site and building design that will serve the department for many, many years to come.

The main new building, a structural steel frame building, includes a drive through maintenance garage with twelve vehicle bays, office space for the Public Works Director, Foreman, and Roadmaster; much needed meeting space; storage space for parts and equipment; and proper bathroom and breakroom facilities. Health and safety features such as shower facilities for PW personnel who have performed hazardous work e.g., sewer trench work; ventilation systems; a sprinkler system; and a trench drain for proper reclamation of runoff are also included in the main structure. Ancillary to the main building but included in the design are: demolition of the current buildings, removal of the underground fuel tanks, installation of a new fuel station with aboveground storage tanks, a salt shed with increased storage capacity, small equipment storage garage, necessary site work, and a stormwater management facility. We look forward to commencing demolition of the current structures and construction of the new facilities this year.

To learn more about the project, visit willistown.pa.us/publicworks.

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK...

Another beautiful summer is just ahead here in Willistown Township. I can't think of many better ways to spend summer days than right here in Willistown exploring our beautiful preserves, enjoying the music at "In Tune and On Tap" at Greentree Park, at a Biergarten event at Historic Sugartown, or completing a *GO WilMa!* field guide with the youngsters in your life. You can find out more about all these events in the pages of this issue of the WillisTowne Crier.

The Willistown Public Works staff have been hard at work in the parks this spring! Exciting new upgrades for 2025 include a new swing set and lighting upgrades at Rita Reves Memorial Park, a GaGa Ball pit and a new water fountain with bottle filler station at Greentree Park, and a new storm drain system at Mill Park to help keep the dugouts dry.

Expansions to the Township network of parks and open space are also on the horizon. Faithful readers of the Crier will recall last year's announcement of the newest Township acquisition of parcels along Monument Road, which are slated to become a neighborhood park and bird sanctuary. Work will commence soon to demolish the house on the site, the first step in the process to make these properties publicly accessible. The Board is also excited to announce that we have begun the process to acquire the US Army Nike Missile Control Site along Delchester Road through the Federal Lands to Parks program. The Township has been in talks with the Federal government regarding this potential acquisition for many years, and the Board is excited to bring this site, with its fascinating Cold War history, into the network of Willistown Township parks and open spaces.

We look forward to welcoming residents like you to the Township parks and preserves this summer and for many years to come.

- Shanna Lodge, Township Manager



WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP SUMMER EVENTS

PA WILDLIFE SUMMER EVENING WALK

MONDAY, JUNE 16 • 6:00–7:30PM

Location: Okehocking Preserve

Pre-register at WillistownSummerWalk.eventbrite.com

School is out, let's get outside with environmental educator Dawn White, of Indian Run Environmental Education Center, and her animal ambassadors to learn more about our local wildlife. Meet live birds of prey and reptiles, discover their roles in our local ecosystems, and find out how we can better accommodate wildlife in our yards and neighborhoods. The program will be followed by a nature walk through the woods and fields of Okehocking Preserve, to discover various species of plants and animals. *For ages 6 and up.*

SCHOOL'S OUT—LET'S GO WILMA!

TUESDAY, JUNE 17 • 5:30–8:00PM • Rain Date 6/18

Location: Greentree Park

Summer is here! Let's celebrate with our annual School's Out – Let's GO WilMa! park party at Greentree Park. This family-friendly event includes Puppets Pizzazz, pony rides, a kid's DJ, food for purchase, GO WilMa! sign up, and more!



GREENTREE IN TUNE & ON TAP

Location: Greentree Park

Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy a relaxing summer evening with music at Greentree Park. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Please leave your four-legged friends at home. No outside coolers. Please support the vendors who take the time to come and staff this event.



JUNE 24: Sun Brothers • 5:30–8:30PM • Rain Date 6/26

Enjoy covers from Steely Dan, Eagles, Stones, Doobies, Ray Charles, Elton John, The Beatles, Billy Joel, and much more!

JULY 15: Jeff Dominck & The Fraction • 5:30–8:30PM

Rain Date 7/17

Classic rock including the Allman Brothers, Grateful Dead, Little Feat, The Band, Bonnie Raitt, Fleetwood Mac, CSN, and more.

WILLISTOWN COUNTRY FAIR

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 • 5:00–7:30PM • Rain Date 8/21

Location: Greentree Park

Wrap up summer with Rick's Office Band playing rocks, blues and alternative music, community booths, face painting, GO WilMa! prizes, balloons artists and more.



GO WILMA! OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM

GO WilMa! stands for "Get Outside Willistown and Malvern" and combines outdoor recreation, health and wellness, summer reading, and FUN! Explore the natural and historic treasures in the Greater Willistown and Malvern community. There is no fee for GO WilMa! The program is funded and presented by Willistown Township.



Our adventurers follow clues to checkpoints, or Inspiration Stations (with etching plates), in parks, trails, historic and other special sites in and around Willistown Township, Malvern Borough, and Easttown Township!

Find as many of the Stations as possible by following the clues in this Field Guide. **Turn to your Stamp Collection pages to "stamp" your Field Guide. Use a crayon or side of a pencil to rub the etching at the top of the post in the space provided.** Submit your collection to Malvern, Paoli, or Easttown Library—either as you go or when you have visited all the Stations you want to. To be entered into the raffle, submit your stamps no later than Saturday, August 16.



Join in the Adventure! Registration opens at our School's Out—Let's GO WilMa! Park Party on June 17, rain date June 18, from 5:30-8 PM, and is ongoing throughout the summer at Easttown, Malvern and Paoli Libraries.

This year's theme, based on the National Collaborative Summer Reading Program theme of Color Our World is...drum roll, please... **Explore Our Colorful World!**

For more information, please visit willistown.pa.us/GoWilMa.

SUMMER CAMPS

There are still a few spots in the Willistown Weekly Summer Fun Camps

More information at willistown.pa.us/camps • Register at jumpstartsportshilly.com

June 16 – August 8 (8 Weeks)

CAMP LOCATION: Sugartown Elementary School, 611 Sugartown Road, Malvern

AGES: For Boys and Girls Ages 5-12 Years Old

CAMP TIMES: Half-Day 9:00am–12:00pm • Full-Day 9:00am–3:00pm

Before Camp Care 8:00–9:00am

After Camp Care 3:00–5:30pm

Jump Start Sports provides Willistown's Summer Fun Camps, and we include more than sports! Children ages 5-12 will enjoy games, arts and crafts, water play, sports, free play, and more. We focus on cooperation, teamwork, sportsmanship, and summertime fun. Themes change weekly. Each day features a full-camp game in the morning, skill instruction in a sport, and recreational games and activities.

RESIDENT RATES*:

Half Day: \$180/week or \$1300 for all 8 weeks

Full Day: \$225/week or \$1600 for all 8 weeks

Before Care: \$40/week or \$200 for all 8 weeks

After Care: \$60/week or \$350 for all 8 weeks

NON-RESIDENT RATES:

Half Day: \$190/week or \$1350 for all 8 weeks

Full Day: \$235/week or \$1650 for all 8 weeks

Before Care: \$40/week or \$200 for all 8 weeks

After Care: \$60/week or \$350 for all 8 weeks



*Willistown residents: email parcs@willistown.pa.us with you name and address to receive the resident discount code.

GOT BATTERIES? HANDLE THEM SAFELY!

From your cell phone and laptop to power tools, lithium (Li-ion) batteries are everywhere. They're smaller, lighter, more affordable and pack more energy than ever – but that also makes them risky, if not handled properly, especially at the end of their life.

WHY PROPER BATTERY DISPOSAL MATTERS

Li-ion batteries pose serious fire hazards, even when they seem “dead.” Chester County landfills and waste collectors face real risks from improperly disposed batteries potentially leading to fires in garbage trucks and landfills.

Do NOT throw rechargeable batteries in the trash or recycling.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- Li-ion batteries are labeled Li-ion, Li+, LiB, LIB, UN 3480, and UB 3481
- Watch out for counterfeits: batteries that are low cost, in cheap packaging or from suspicious third-party online sellers can be risky

SAFE DISPOSAL TIPS

Even used batteries can hold a charge and catch fire if punctured. To prevent problems down the road:

- Tape their terminals or place like batteries (e.g. all NiCads) in a clear plastic bag before disposal
- Don't try to remove embedded Li-ion batteries yourself
- Alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, etc.) are the ONLY ones that can safely go in trash
- Staples, Home Depot and Lowes often accept batteries. Or use call2recycle.org/locator to find a local disposal site
- Bike and tool batteries: check with local retailers or opei.org/battery-basics
- Household Hazardous Waste Events: Chester County HHW events take rechargeable batteries. Upcoming events include Friday, 6/20, Saturday, 8/23 and Sunday 10/5. Registration is required. Visit chestercountyswa.org for more information.

Batteries *are* getting recycled for their component metals, thereby reducing extraction needed from the earth. Do your part- dispose of them safely and responsibly.

BACKUP POWER SAFETY TIPS

During summer storms, generators provide a vital source of backup power, preventing potential hazards and inconveniences caused by power outages. By using a generator safely and effectively, you can ensure the comfort and safety of your home and family, even when the grid goes down.

GENERATOR SAFETY



Always keep generators at least **20 feet** away from your home



Always use **grounded cords** and inspect cords for damage prior to use



Never operate a generator in an **enclosed space**



Use the **proper cord** for the wattage being used



Make sure the generator has **3-4 feet** of clear space above and on all sides for proper ventilation



Always use **GFCI protection**

CODE CORNER

Give a weed an inch and it will take a yard!

The Township tree-mendously values the protection and development of wildlife habitats and food sources and encourages plantings that are native to the area, suitable and functional to the site, and resistant to insects and disease which enhances their longevity.

When undertaking a project, consideration must be given to any disturbance of natural vegetation (removing vegetation or performing excavation work). Be-leaf it or not, depending on the limit of disturbance, there could be a permit required for your project. Stumped? Call the Planning & Zoning Department at 610-647-5300 with earth disturbance questions.

Willistown Township also follows the International Property Maintenance Code when it comes to regulating property maintenance issues. Now let's get into the weeds. Overgrown vegetation can be more than just an eyesore. If neglected for too long, pesky rodents and harmful insects may take refuge among the dense vegetation and become a real thorn in the side. Tall weeds and grass can also cause sight distance problems for drivers at intersections. The Code states *"Premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 10 inches. Noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens."*

When cutting and edging lawns, remember no grass clippings should enter storm drains. They can clog drains, causing flooding and contaminating waterways. Grass clippings should be composted or bagged for your waste hauler to collect. Better yet, leaving grass clippings on your lawn, also known as grasscycling, is generally beneficial for lawn health. They act as a natural fertilizer, returning nutrients to the soil and reducing the need for artificial fertilizers. Grass clippings also help retain moisture in the soil and prevent soil from drying out too quickly.

To cut to the chase: please keep your property compliant with the regulations to keep our community safe and beautiful, and mow-tivation to avoid the lawn enforcement!

WILLISTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Awards Night and Promotions

PROMOTIONS

At the April 28 Board of Supervisors meeting, Chester County Court of Common Pleas Honorable Judge Deborah Ryan administered the oath of office for the following promotions:

- Lieutenant Jeffrey Heim to Captain
- Sergeant Stephen Jones to Lieutenant

The following officers were recognized at the annual awards ceremony:

2024 OFFICER OF THE YEAR:

- Officer Ashley Logan



Pictured L to R: Lieutenant Jones, Chief Klinger, Ashley Logan—2024 Officer of the Year, and Captain Heim

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION:

- Ring presentation for Sergeant George Hill and Sergeant Mike Lapira

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION:

- Incident #2024117385 (Missing Person)
Officer Mark Monroe
Officer Thomas Wooding
- Incident #2024157381 (Road Rage Incident)
Sergeant George Hill
Officer Jeffrey Hagan
Detective Matthew Brown
Detective William Murrin
- Incident # 2024208800 (PFA Violation)
Sergeant Zachary Bullock
Officer Mark Monroe
Officer Amber Davenport
Officer Thomas Wooding
- Incident #2024359322 (Stabbing)
Sergeant Zachary Bullock
Officer Josh Goodwin
Detective Matt Brown
Detective William Murrin

WILLISTOWN CONSERVATION TRUST EVENTS

Please register for upcoming programs and events at wctrust.org/events

UNCOVERING LIVING CLUES TO STREAM HEALTH

June 11, 2025 • 5:00–6:30pm • Cost: \$15
Location: Ashbridge Preserve, 1691 E Strasburg Rd, West Chester, PA 19380



WILDFLOWER WEEK

Self-guided Meadow Tours

July 21–27, 2025 • Cost: Free with registration • Location: Various WCT Preserves

INTEGRATING NATIVE WILDFLOWERS INTO LAWNS

July 23, 2025 • 5:00–7:00pm • Cost: \$25
Location: WCT Offices, 925 Providence Rd, Newtown Square, PA 19073

PAOLI LIBRARY

TRY SOMETHING NEW: PAOLI LIBRARY'S LIBRARY OF THINGS

More than just books, Paoli Library now offers a Library of Things for patrons. Items range from crafting technology (such as a Cricut machine) to children's audio devices such as a Toniebox and Yoto Player. Take a peek at local birds using the binoculars, hunt for buried treasure with the metal detector, or make use of the portable document scanner to digitize family files and photos. No matter what you're looking for, the library is there to help with your next project! Each item can be checked out for 7 days at a time, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

PAOLI TEENS EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH ART

During Tredyffrin/Easttown School District's spring break, teens enjoyed four different art workshops taught by local professional artists and authors. Paoli Library offered these workshops, collectively called *Big Teen Art Week*, were made possible by the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Office of Commonwealth Libraries with additional support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, individual donors and other funders.

First, teens enjoyed an afternoon of needle felting with Jae Kazmar, a local fiber artist from Reading, Pennsylvania, who also is a product designer for Dimensions crafting company. Crafters made everything from fruits to flowers, pets, and more.



The next day, teens came back for more fun! This time they learned to express themselves through zines in a workshop by published zine author, Katie Allen, from Philadelphia. Students really took creative liberties with their zines, making ones as wild as "How to Drink Water."

Midweek brought a collage workshop led by local poet, author, and artist Robin Gow. Teens filled their pages with cut-outs, poems, and layered textures, creating personal pieces that were both quirky and thoughtful. One participant even made a collage entirely from vintage gardening magazines to create a new type of monster!

Big Teen Art Week wrapped up with a photography and film workshop hosted by local Philadelphia photographer, Dan Barends. Teens experimented with disposable film cameras, light, and storytelling techniques, capturing everything from posed portraits to moody still shots.



Paoli Library was buzzing all week with creativity, laughter, and the joyful mess that comes from making art together. Teens left inspired, proud of their work, and already asking when the next Big Teen Art Week will be!



SUMMER READING BEGINS

Tredyffrin Public Library Kick Off Party Monday, June 16 th at 2PM	Paoli Library at Greentree Park Tuesday, June 17 th at 5:30PM
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Participate in reading and learning challenges all summer long!

NATURAL LANDS SUMMER EVENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Friday, June 20 • 7:00–10:00pm

(Gates open at 6:00pm)

ChesLen Preserve, Coatesville, PA

Live music, wine and beer, s'mores toasting, star gazing, and sunset socializing at one of the most beautiful settings in all of Chester County. Friday Night Lights is the must-not-miss event of the summer. This June, join us for live music under the evening sky.

STARDUST! SUMMER CELEBRATION

Friday, June 6, 2025 • 6:30–9:30pm

Bryn Coed Preserve, Chester Springs, PA

Kick off summer at our annual fundraiser with an outdoor evening of cocktails, roving supper, and much merriment all under the stars, while wrapped in a stunning conserved landscape as far as the eye can see.

PINTS ON THE PRESERVE

[+ FAMILY EDITION]

Saturday, July 12 • 3:00–7:00pm

(Special family edition from 3:00–5:00 pm)

East Branch Brewing Company will be pouring suds at the Lenfest Center pavilion on select Saturdays. Bring a chair or blanket, invite your friends, and lounge on the lawn. These pop-ups events are free, but please register at the links below.

Activities at the pavilion:

- Make crafts to take home.
- Enjoy lounging, lawn games, and outdoor fun.
- Small snacks will be available for CASH-ONLY purchase.
- Pints for the grown-ups (cash or credit card).

Activities in Ollie Owl's

NaturePlayGround:

- Search for clues for the Ollie Owl Scavenger Hunt.
- Climb logs, build stick teepees, hunt for bugs, explore small streams, and get a little dirty, tired, and inspired.
- Free play is encouraged and is a great way for kids to gain an appreciation for nature.
- Ollie Owl's NaturePlayGround is designed for children ages 4 to 12 years old, but older kids and adults have fun, too. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Kiddos are encouraged to explore at their own pace, so stay and play as little or long as you like in this drop-in event.

UPCOMING BIERGARTENS AT HISTORIC SUGARTOWN

Historic Sugartown announces two summer biergartens! These popular events take place on our property at 260 Spring Road, Malvern, PA. Enjoy an evening of good food, beverages, and live music! Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased ahead of time at historicsugartown.org.

June 14, 2025 • 5:00–8:00pm

Beverages will be available for purchase from Locust Lane Craft Brewery, Chaddsford Winery, and Manatawny Stillworks and food available for purchase from Dixie's Down Home Cooking and On the Roll Food Truck. Music will be supplied by Johnny Never!

August 21, 2025 • 5:00–8:00pm

Beverages will be available for purchase from Locust Lane Craft Brewery, Chaddsford Winery, and Manatawny Stillworks and food available for purchase from Humpty's Dumplings and Pizzeria La Familia!

For more information, please contact us at info@historicsugartown.org or (610) 640-2667.

THE 76TH ANNUAL GOSHEN COUNTRY FAIR

The Goshen Country Fair is more than a carnival! Sure, we have rides, food and games, but also judged competition for livestock, arts and crafts, Lego, baked goods and pets. Live music every night, bingo, firefighter tug-o-war; a great family event. Then there are those world famous Goshen Donuts!



This year's fair runs from Monday 7/28 through Saturday 8/2. The fairgrounds open at 6PM (5 PM on Saturday), 1320 Park Avenue, West Chester and there is plenty of free parking. The fair is our single largest fundraiser and is organized and staffed by dedicated volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please email President@goshencountryfair.org.

More information is available at www.goshencountryfair.org.

MALVERN PUBLIC LIBRARY

When school's out for the summer, there is plenty to do at the Malvern Public Library.

TRY SOMETHING NEW: LIBRARY OF THINGS: You already know the Malvern Library as a wide variety of books, from bestsellers to the classics. Our collection also includes DVDs (no rental fee!), board games and puzzles, video games, and beginner birding kits. Don't forget our catalog of Museum Passes. Reserve yours today at malvern-library.org.

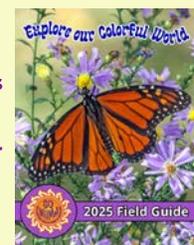
BE ROAD TRIP READY: Wonder Books – Want to read and book AND listen to it? Wonderbooks even have a Reading Comprehension mode where the book asks questions about what you read! We've got plenty to choose from: picture books, early readers, bridge books, graphic novels, nonfiction, and chapter books. Launchpads come preloaded with apps and games. Perfect for road trips, no Wi-Fi required.

PROGRAMS, STORYTIMES AND CLUBS: We have events all summer long from family story time and 3D printing to a variety of crafting & art workshops and clubs. Visit our calendar at malvern-library.org/calendar.



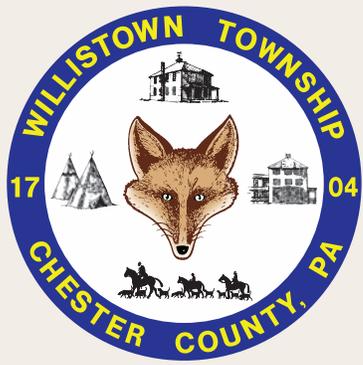
Instruction Booklets available at Malvern Library after 6/17

SUMMER READING PROGRAM
Read and complete activities to earn prizes!



Field Guides available at Malvern Library after 6/17

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM
Explore our local parks through a series super fun scavenger hunts!



Willistown Township
Charles E. Coxe Memorial Campus
688 Sugartown Road
Malvern, PA 19355

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WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP

Coxe Memorial Campus
688 Sugartown Road
Malvern, PA 19355
Phone: 610-647-5300
Email: comments@willistown.pa.us

Summer Administration Office Hours

Effective May 30 – August 29
Monday – Thursday: 9:00am–5:00pm
Friday: 8:00 am–12:00 pm

Board of Supervisors

Robert T. Lange, *Chair*
Molly H.B. Perrin, *Vice Chair*
William R. Shoemaker, *Member*

Township Manager

Shanna P. Lodge

Chief of Police

Robert P. Klinger

Keep in Touch!

Facebook: [@willistowntwp](https://www.facebook.com/willistowntwp)

Instagram: [@willistowntwp](https://www.instagram.com/willistowntwp)

Township Updates:
willistown.pa.us/NotifyMe

willistown.pa.us

WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP BULLETIN BOARD

Board of Supervisors Meetings

June 16
July 21
August 18

Willistown Township Building
at 7:00pm

Township Offices Closed

Juneteenth
June 19

 Independence Day
July 4

June 16

PA Wildlife Summer Evening Walk
at Okehocking Preserve
6:00–7:30pm

Pre-register at
WillistownSummerWalk.eventbrite.com

June 17

School's Out - Let's GO WilMa! Park Party
at 5:30–8:00pm
(rain date 6/18)

Greentree In Tune & On Tap

June 24 at 5:30–8:30pm
(rain date 6/26)

July 15 at 5:30–8:00pm
(rain date 7/17)



August 19

Willistown Country Fair
at 5:00–7:30pm
(rain date 8/21)

For a full calendar of events,
visit willistown.pa.us/calendar