

The

Borough Broadcaster

Winter Newsletter

Malvern, PA

January 2015

News from Borough Council

At the Council meeting held on December 16th, Council adopted the 2015 Budget at a millage rate of 4.4200 mills. No increase in property taxes!! That's the good news. The unfortunate news is that Council had to increase the sewer rate back to the 2013 rate. Although Council was very reluctant to increase this rate, they really had no choice. Our sewage flows are conveyed to the Valley Forge Sewer Authority (VFSA) through a conveyance system in both East Whiteland Township and Tredyffrin Township. The Tredyffrin Township Valley Creek Trunk Sewer Line experienced several unexpected breaks in 2014. These breaks resulted in sewage spilling into Valley Forge Historical Park for which Tredyffrin Township has been fined by the Department of Environmental Protection. Because Malvern Borough, along with seven other municipalities, are partners who convey their sewage to the VFSA, we must share in the cost of these fines as well as the cost to repair/replace the trunk line. We have participated in several information-sharing meetings with the engineers hired to look at alternatives for either repairing or replacing this line, but no decisions have yet been made. Once those decisions have been made, regardless of which path is chosen, it will result in a very large \$\$ repair/replacement cost...anywhere from \$20M-\$40M (we are responsible for approx. 7+% of the costs). We must now begin to build up reserves to pay the costs associated with these breaks. Although we maintain sufficient reserves for normal maintenance and repairs to our lines, this was a totally unexpected expense over which we had no control.

In other 2015 Budget news, highlights include the purchase of a new police vehicle and dump truck, HVAC upgrades to the municipal building, the multimodal pedestrian improvements to the traffic signals and pedestrian improvements along No. Warren Avenue, the purchase of Audio/Video equipment for the meeting room, traffic engineering studies and implementation of traffic calming techniques. You should see a lot of activity in the Borough this Summer/Fall.

We are also working with Malvern Retreat to establish a greenway trail that will access their property at Channing Avenue and end at our Ruthland Avenue property and then into Randolph Woods to the Duffryn Trail in Willistown Township. There are several obstacles to overcome, but we are very hopeful and the Retreat is working very diligently with us in this endeavor. They are truly good neighbors!!

As always, if you have any questions about anything going on in town, contact any member of Borough Council, the Mayor, or the Borough Manager. Information is updated regularly on the Borough website at www.malvern.org, on Facebook, and emergency notifications are sent through the ReadyNotify system. If you have not yet signed up for e-mail notifications, please visit our website and click on "Join our Email List" If you haven't signed up for ReadyNotify notifications, see the procedures below and be sure to sign up today!! Be informed!!

There are a lot of exciting things going on in the Borough of Malvern

ReadyNotifyPA

ReadyNotifyPA is a Community Alert System. Notifications through ReadyNotifyPA can be sent directly to your e-mail account (work, home, other); cell phones, pagers or smartphones/PDA's (Blackberry, Treo and other handhelds). All you have to do is go on-line and sign up. If you don't have a computer, you can access this site through the Chester County Library system (they all have computers that are available for your use). Go to <https://chesco.alertpa.org> to sign up. In addition to the resources listed above, we will begin using this ReadyNotifyPA system to notify our residents of events, emergencies or general notifications of interest. Because the message must be brief to send to cell phones, the message may direct you to another site for additional information. Sign up today!

Sidewalk Responsibilities...

The winter weather means another season of snow and snow covered sidewalks and walkways. Please remember that after the snow has stopped falling, The **Malvern Borough Code** requires that sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after it has stopped. In addition, where icy patches result on sidewalks, please be sure to put down salt or some other material that will minimize the chance of someone slipping or falling until the sidewalk is clear and dry. If you have a neighbor who is elderly or unable to clear their sidewalk, perhaps several neighbors could help them out by clearing their sidewalk for them. This will help to ensure that all of the sidewalks in Malvern are passable this winter season. Remember also, it is unlawful to place the snow from sidewalks into the street. Thanks to everyone for their cooperation.

The Codes Enforcement Officer Reminds You...

Smoke detectors have been required in homes; one on each level including attics and basements and one in each sleeping room, for more than ten years! Still, during use and occupancy inspections, I continue to find residences with no smoke detectors in sleeping rooms. As they've been required in all of the mentioned locations for so long, the time to make sure that they're installed in the proper areas is now, not after it's called out on a U&O inspection.

When installing them in sleeping rooms, they should be located on the ceiling, somewhere near the bedroom door, at least a foot out from the wall. If the room has a ceiling fan, make sure that the detector is located several feet from the edge of the fan blades, otherwise the air movement from the fan may keep smoke from getting to the detector. If you must install smoke detectors on the wall, that's ok also, just make sure you mount them at least six inches down from the ceiling.

Historical Commission News

The 125th Anniversary is now officially in the record books, but you can still own a piece of history by purchasing your own anniversary coin or one of the banners that graced the light poles in town last year! The Commission also has many other items for sale as well, including early 20th century replica postcards, coins from the 75th anniversary, refrigerator magnets, and three history books by Nancy Schmitt. For questions or to purchase any of these items, contact the Commission, or visit our next booth at Malvern Blooms in May.

We invite you to visit the Malvern History Center, located on the 2nd floor of the Borough Hall. The History Center is currently open by appointment only. To schedule a visit, simply call the Borough office at 610-644-2602, who will put you in touch with Commissioners who will meet with you and show you around the Center or email us directly at malvernhc@yahoo.com. Come and see what we have to share with you!

We also encourage any and all interested people to attend our meetings. Our meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30pm in the Borough Hall. Please contact us at our email address or call the Borough Office for more information! We'd love to have you visit us! .

Parks & Recreation - Save the Date!!

Malvern Borough's Parks & Recreation Committee will hold their 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, March 28th at 2:00 p.m. in Burke Park**. This event is a BYOB (bring your own "basket", that is). The Easter Egg Hunt is for **Ages 10 and under**. Plan to gather at the gazebo and, if there appears to be a chance of rain, please check the Borough's website at www.malvern.org to see if the event has been rescheduled to the rain date of Sunday, March 29th at 2:00 p.m.. Put the date on your calendar TODAY. Don't forget your baskets!!

A vacancy currently exists on this Committee. If you are interested, please e-mail Malvern@malvern.org or send a letter of interest to the Borough Manager, 1 E. First Avenue, Suite 3, Malvern, PA 19355.

Land Use Survey Results

Thank you to all our residents who responded to the Land Use Survey both on our website through Survey Monkey and by returning the paper copies. The Communications Task Force met recently to review the results of this Survey and are pleased to share those results with you on our website. Go to the Home Page at www.malvern.org and click on the links to view the results.

Many respondents commented on the vacant E. King Street property at Bridge Street. Unfortunately, the property is private property and is not a public safety hazard (it is structurally sound and is not in danger of collapsing), so the Borough is very limited in what we can do. Our Codes Officer has met with the owner on several occasions to walk the property to be sure it is secure and safe. The property owner has agreed to check the property on a continuing basis to be sure it remains secure and safe.

We are hopeful that we may soon see some activity at this location.

FREE!! Shade Trees for Spring Planting!!

In cooperation with the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society (PHS), the Borough would once again like to make available to residents, at no charge, a limited number of shade trees. Our town arborist, Joe Bones, will select from PHS stock those trees with the highest survival rate in our borough. You will be able to choose either a small (full size up to 20 feet), medium (mature at 30-45 feet) or large (mature at 60+ feet) tree from our stock. When we get them, they will be about 8-12 feet tall. We will deliver them to your yard for planting this spring. To see what your tree may look like in three years, please visit Randolph Woods. We've planted trees in the grassy areas adjacent to the wooded areas and the stream. The trees are now 15-20 feet tall and quite beautiful. If you are interested in a tree, please contact us at: malvernstc@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your full name, address and size of tree you are interested in planting. Since we have only a limited number, it will be on a first come, first served basis. Contact us today!! The deadline is coming up shortly!

The Club of Little Gardens

The Club of Little Gardens invites you to attend the following presentations:

February 5, 2015, (Thursday), 1:00 p.m. – “*Rain Gardens for Everyone*” – Master Gardeners from Montgomery County will present.

March 5, 2015 (Thursday), at 1:00 p.m., “*Japanese and Chinese Gardens*” – a slide presentation and talk on the art of oriental gardens.

Everyone is invited to attend!!

The presentations are held at the Malvern Borough Hall, Suite 3 (above the Library).

Malvern Public Library News

- We will be conducting our annual Phonathon on March 22nd and 23rd. This is our major fundraiser for the Library and we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make the phone calls or write the follow up notes. Call the Library (610-644-7259) for more information.
- Interested in helping out your community and Malvern Library? We are looking for people with a talent they would be willing to share with others. Do you have creative talents (knitting, sewing, drawing)? Are you tech savvy? We hope to have workshops run by talented patrons. If you are interested, stop in and ask for Rosalie Dietz.
- Don't forget we have a full slate of storytimes for children. We have programs for babies, 2 year olds and children aged 3 to 6. Call the library for specific days and times or check out our calendar (www.ccls.org).
- In case of bad weather, call the library (610-644-7259) or become our friend on Facebook. We will post delayed openings, early closings or adjusted program information.

SEWER BILL ENCLOSED

Stay Informed... Just a "click" away

The Borough wants you to be informed of all activities occurring within the Borough. To assist you, we encourage you to visit our website at www.malvern.org, and click on "Join our E-Mail List". You will then see a list of choices. Click on the information that you would like sent to you via e-mail. Once that information is available, an e-mail alert will be sent to you. It's that simple!

Facebook is another option available to you. Like "*Borough of Malvern*" on Facebook to receive notifications of information as it becomes available.

We are doing our best to keep you informed.....taking advantage of it is up to you. We hope you will "click on" today.

2015 Tentative Household Hazard Waste Events

2015 TENTATIVE CHESTER COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS -

Residential Only!! www.chestercountyswa.org

BUSINESSES AND CONTRACTORS WILL BE TURNED AWAY

NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE ACCEPTED

ALL EVENTS START AT 9:00 AM AND CLOSE AT 3:00 PM SHARP

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015 - CAT PICKERING CAMPUS

1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015 - OCTORARA HIGH SCHOOL

(Proof of Residency May Be Required) 226 Highland Road, Atglen, PA 19310

PLEASE TAKE YOUR BOXES HOME TO RECYCLE AT THE CURB.

Kimberton Whole Foods in Malvern is Now Open!

Kimberton Whole Foods is a family owned and operated community market. In practice with our Mission and Values, we work with over 100 local producers in the Greater Philadelphia Area. Our newest store is located in the heart of historic Malvern. Visit our store to pick up organic, GMO-free, fair trade, specialty and gourmet groceries; explore the Apothecary; or shop our body care, home and pet selections. Stop by the Deli and Café to enjoy made to order coffee drinks, organic juices and smoothies, and a variety of organic cafe creations, made fresh by our Café Team.

Our store is situated a few blocks east of East Side Flats and King Street's many eateries and boutiques, making it easy for you to enjoy all that this walk-able community has to offer. Thank you for welcoming us to your neighborhood. We are excited to join the community! We are located at 429 East King Road, Malvern PA. 484.324.2800 kimbertonwholefoods.com/malvern
[facebook.com/kwfmalvern](https://www.facebook.com/kwfmalvern)

Malvern Farmers Market Update

Welcome to our Winter Farmers Market season! The Malvern Winter Farmers Market is held the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, inside for the winter, at the First Baptist Church, 148 Channing Ave. from 10 AM - Noon.

Don't let winter's chill keep you from fulfilling your pledge to eat local! Despite the freezing temperatures, our produce farmers are growing amazing produce, locally, in their hoop houses. The sun can warm up a simple plastic covered hoop house to 70 degrees and warmer - perfect for growing lots of veggies, right here in Chester County! You'll be amazed to see the variety! Want to know how they do it - ask them at the market - they love to talk about their growing practices. This time of year our livestock farmers have plenty of meats and poultry, and farm fresh eggs, and cheeses. Fresh baked breads and sweets - we have you covered! We even have treats for Fido! All that and more! Stop by to support the Malvern Farmers Market!!