

Pocopson Township

DECEMBER 2010

A Fabulous Fourth Founders Day!

Beautiful weather. Happy crowd. Excellent music. Good food. Great events. The crowd at the fourth annual Pocopson Township Founders Day couldn't have asked for more! State Representative Steve Barrar and State Senator Dominic Pileggi challenged each other to an ad hoc cow milking contest (tie declared) as County Commissioner Terence Farrell looked on. Local favorite Henry Elser and his dog Ginger won the canine/owner look alike contest. Kevin Delaney and The Pocopson Home Boys got "jiggy" with it. And the State Police out of the Avondale barracks sent two of their finest to talk to kids and parents and do some childrens' fingerprinting.

The kids had a ball with games, clowns, face painting, the moon bounce, pony rides and the petting zoo. Local vendors brought everything from quilts to homemade chocolates. Milk and produce from Baily's Dairy and delicious baked goods from Northbrook Marketplace enhanced the menu of savory sandwiches from Hickory House. Barnard's Orchard provided free apples and beautiful flowers and pumpkins for decor, Del Bittle brought his sound system, George Pellegrino did the announcing, Barnard Baily ran the hay rides, and Dennis Brennan took lovely photos of the day.

The dog jumping contest (courtesy of Geoff Brutscher), a flower arranging demo from Longwood Gardens, the supervisors' cow milking contest, and the ever popular donut-eating contest (featuring wonderful cider donuts provided by Northbrook), rounded out a busy and fun day. Radnor Hunt "stopped the show" when they rode through with their hounds. Many thanks to them for this greatly enjoyed highlight.

Founders Day would not have been possible without the dedicated, hardworking committee who put this event together, handling everything from generating sponsorship dollars to making sure that dog water stations were in place. Special thanks also go to all of the wonderful community volunteers who came out to help run the day and to the many generous local businesses who helped pay for the festivities.



~ Beverly Bruns, 2010 Founders Day Chair

Founding Sponsors:

Toll Brothers, Inc.
VanDemark & Lynch, Inc.

Partners:

Lenape Forged Products Corp.
Northbrook Cattle Company -- Rob & Marcy Fenza
Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, P.C.

Friends

First National Bank of Chester County
Gannett Fleming, Inc. Keystone Municipal Services
Lenape Veterinary Clinic/Michael Spancake, DMD
Melton Architects PECO

Supporters:

Blue Rock Yoga & Pilates Burcham & Associates
Henry Elser Dale & Nannette Krapf
Embreeville Mill The Fence Authority
Kelly's Sports Lenape Village Shops
Plasterer Equipment Company Signal Service
Umbreit Korengel & Associates Young's Garage

Sponsors in Kind:

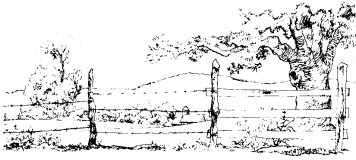
Baily Family Barnard's Orchard Del Bittle
Dennis Brennan Photography
Northbrook Marketplace Wawa Inc.

Founders Day Committee:

Responsible for setting up events; soliciting sponsors; inviting vendors; gathering volunteers; and publicizing this event, this group put in a year of hard work followed by several days of sweat and equity. The Township thanks this hard-working team:

Beverly Bruns — Chair
Ricki Stumpo — Vice Chair
Zeke Hubbard, Suzy Breiseth, and Chris Conaway—
Operations
Julianne Ruocco — Children's Games
Tim Godek and June Spring-Melcher — Marketing
Jennifer Van Anda — Parking
Karen Myers — Scavenger Hunt
Danielle Lawrence — Vendors
Sandy Retzlaff — Sponsorship
Jean Conary — Liaison
Holly Manzone

While we are lucky to have Beverly Bruns back as Chair for 2011, along with several others listed here, additional volunteers are always welcome. Please call the Township Office to join the 2011 team.

**Board of Supervisors:**

Stephen R. Conary, Chair
 Georgia F. Brutscher, Vice-Chair
 Laressa J. McNemar, P.E., Supervisor

Pocopson Township Office:

Phone: 610-793-2151
 Fax: 610-793-1944
 Address: 740 Denton Hollow Road
 West Chester, PA 19382
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1
 Pocopson, PA 19366
 Office Hours: Weekdays, 9 A.M. — Noon
 Web Site: www.pocopson.org
 General questions: info@pocopson.org

Administrative Staff:

Susan Simone, Secretary
secretary@pocopson.org
 Peggy Lennon, Treasurer
treasurer@pocopson.org
 Ricki Stumpo, Receptionist
receptionist@pocopson.org

Building Inspection:

Fran McArdle
 Keystone Municipal Services
 Phone: 610-793-9390

Zoning and Code Enforcement:

Yerkes Associates
 Phone: 610-793-9390

Public Works Department:

Mark Knightly, Director
publicworks@pocopson.org
 Michael Cialini, Ron Miller
 Phone: 610-793-2387
 Cell: 484-947-9379

Township Solicitor:

Ross Unruh, Esquire
 Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, P.C.

Township Engineer:

Jim Hatfield, Vandemark & Lynch, Inc.

Newsletter Editor: Peggy Lennon

Parks, Recreation & Trails Committee

There are two vacancies on this Committee, which meets at 7:30 P.M. on the third Thursday of each month. If you would like to be considered for an appointment to this Committee, please submit by mail or via e-mail to info@pocopson.org a resume or a letter of introduction with a brief statement about your interest in serving.

Additionally, the 2011 Community Cleanup Day is in need of a chairperson. This event is generally held in April to coincide with Earth Day. Please contact the Township if you might be interested. In 2010, over one-half ton of litter, debris, and tires was cleared from these roadsides and creeks by over 100 volunteers:

Pocopson Elementary: Boy Scout Pack 231/Girl Scout Troops 41508 and 41823 and Friends/Adam Peterson, Yasmeen Alikhan, Annette Ward, Lawrie Bolger and Sandy Royer

Creek and W. Creek Road: Melissa & Preston Devens/Jeff Leiser

Route 52: Bethany Siehl/Brandyridge Drive Neighbors/Galer Family *

Corrine and Locust Grove Roads: Marie and John Lofe

S. Wawaset from Pocopson Home to Route 842: The Dolata Family *

Route 842: Northbrook Marketplace/Brandywine Valley Association/
 West Chester Cycling Club

Lenape-Unionville Road: Garrett Bunting/Clean Carpet Concepts *

Red Lion Road from Lenape-Unionville to Corrine: Bolger Family *

Northbrook Road from Route 842 to Marshallton: Northbrook Canoe Co./
 Zeke Hubbard *

Pocopson Road: Pocopson Industries (Paige and Bruce Marra)/Riverside
 (Julianne Ruocco and Neighbors)

Denton Hollow Road and Pocopson Creek Park : Kate Mims

Pocopson Creek: Bill Haaf, Chuck Maston, Bill Taylor

Brandywine Creek: Brandywine Valley Association Volunteers

* denotes PennDOT Adopt-A-Highway participant

Many thanks to these participants and to all the residents who pick up litter while walking through their neighborhoods or visiting the park.

The Township is recruiting businesses, community groups and residents to adopt roads, either through PennDOT's Adopt-A-Highway Program (for State roads) or the Township Adopt-A-Road Program (for Township roads). Call the Township Office at 610-793-2151 for road adoption opportunities or to get supplies for your own litter cleanup.

Open Space Advisory Committee

The Open Space referendum that passed in 2006 allowed the Township five years to identify and commit funding for open space preservation projects. Two significant purchases preserving a total of 175 acres have been completed. Three more potential projects under consideration could preserve up to 190 more acres by the December 31, 2011 deadline.

In 2007 the Township borrowed \$2.5 million for open space purchases, and we anticipate borrowing up to \$1 million more in 2011. The 1 mill real estate tax dedicated to open space will remain in place until all loans are paid off. Although the current loan payoff schedule calls for repayment by 2029, we plan to pay down the loan as quickly as tax receipts allow.

Barnard House Renovations

The Eusebius Barnard House on South Wawaset Road is the future site of our Township Center. The 19th century house will be rehabilitated to hold our Township Office and the Kennett Underground Railroad Museum. Many volunteers gave great effort on two days this spring and summer to remove as many late 20th century interior alterations as possible.

The house is a connection to the last two centuries in the Township and we must maintain what we have in order to utilize it in the future. As we move into colder weather, it is time to winterize the building, with consideration being given to recommendations by the National Park Service for stabilizing historic structures. Gutters were installed last winter to help alleviate moisture in the basement but water infiltration continues to be an issue. Leaks around the roof hatches and the rear basement access are being addressed. The next steps will be to identify and seal the entry points of some unwelcome furry visitors (mice, squirrels, and raccoons) and to hire a pest control service.



Again this summer the fields were leased to a resident for growing crops in compliance with our purchase agreement with Chester County. The historic farm, which was part of the William Penn Land Grant and a stop on the Underground Railroad, continues to be an important reminder of the agricultural past of Pocopson Township.

Fundraising for the renovation of the Barnard House continues with a focus on obtaining grants. Although a major local grant application was denied this fall, we have four federal grants pending. Using a donation from a Township resident, Kristine Parkes of Krisp Communications in

Gilbertsville has been hired as grant writer and fund raising advisor. Her expertise in the field has already helped identify additional funding options and improved our presentations to potential funding sources. With grant availability greatly reduced due to the economy, the Barnard House Project has been divided into three phases (Phase I Stabilization, Phase II Repurposing, and Phase III Meeting Room Construction) for application purposes. Donations to the Barnard House project from residents and businesses are most welcome.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has approved a historical marker for the site in recognition of Eusebius Barnard, a staunch Abolitionist and conductor on the Underground Railroad. The marker will help substantiate the historic significance of the site and may aid in funding. A spring installation is anticipated.

~ Jean Conary, Barnard House Steering Committee Member

Historical Committee

Thanks to the diligent efforts of the Historical Committee and its Chair, Sarah Mims, the Locust Grove Schoolhouse has received significant state and federal grants to support renovation of the building and development of future educational programs. A federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant has been used to purchase presentation items including a projector, screen, display easels, a scanner and software. Additionally, \$50,000 received from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development is being used for architectural services from Frens and Frens and site work by Horstmann Engineering. The Historical Committee has approved a sketch plan that includes restrooms in the basement of the building to be accessed via an ADA-approved path. A 10-space parking lot and bus drop-off/pick-up area will be incorporated into the site. Stormwater management and other land development issues are the next steps in the restoration process.

Once complete, the Locust Grove Schoolhouse will be used for field trips by local school districts. It will also serve as a repository for the Township historical archives. More information about the Schoolhouse restoration project can be obtained by contacting the Historical Committee or attending one of their monthly meetings (second Wednesday of each month).



Protecting Your Property

The past year has seen a substantial increase in property crimes in the southern end of the county. Many of these crimes have been residential burglaries occurring in nearby townships. Often these crimes have been drug related, and people who are under the influence of illegal substances care only about their next “fix” and not you.

There are a number of things you can do to reduce your chances of being a victim. First and foremost, always keep your doors and windows locked. You may only be gone for a few minutes when you leave to pick up your child down the street, but it takes even less time for someone to enter your unlocked home.

Most burglars enter a residence through an unlocked window or door, preferably the rear door or the garage. You should NEVER leave a key under a doormat or flowerpot. That is just as bad as leaving your doors and windows open. Another easy point of entry is through your sliding glass door. There are a number of devices that can be purchased at your local hardware store, such as “charlie bars” that lock down and prevent the door from being slid open. However, for almost nothing you can cut down an old broom stick and use it to block the sliding glass door track. Don’t forget to keep your garage door closed and your vehicle locked. All too often items are taken from garages and unlocked vehicles. Also, lock the door between your garage and your house.

Many of us have alarm systems in our homes, but they do nothing if we fail to turn them on. If you don’t have an alarm system and cash is tight, try purchasing some alarm system decals online. You can buy decals for your house for less than five dollars that are from a real alarm company. Don’t buy fake decals because many burglars know the difference. Some other things you can do to keep your home safe are to trim your shrubs and be sure to have adequate outside lighting. If your window is hidden by a bush, then it will allow someone who is trying to break into your home to hide as well. Also, take the time to get to know your neighbors.

When you see something that doesn’t look “right,” it’s time to call the police. Responding to your concerns is their job, and they get paid to do it.

~ Sean C. Rafferty, Planning Commission

Rafferty is a Chester County law enforcement officer with more than two decades of experience.



The speed limit is 25 miles per hour in a residence district if the highway is not a numbered traffic route and is functionally classified as a local highway. The posted limit is the **maximum** travel speed permitted; road conditions may dictate lower speeds. Please note that Section 3361 of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code designates “Driving too fast for conditions” as a 2-point offense.

Concerned residents have contacted the Township about speeding, both on major roads like Route 52, and within communities. Please observe all speed limits and traffic control devices and be aware of road conditions, especially as winter arrives.

Identifying Your Home for Emergency Service Providers

One of the most frustrating situations for emergency providers is trying to find a house without a clearly marked address. Residents don’t always realize that the house number on your mailbox may be insufficient to identify the actual location of your home.

If your house can’t be seen from the road, then it’s recommended that you post your house number at the entrance to your driveway and on the house itself (in addition to the house number already on your mailbox). This is particularly important for those with shared driveways. Each spur off the main driveway should be marked with the number of the house it leads to, and numbers at least four inches in height, visible day or night, should be posted on each house.

Reflective numbers that can be seen at night can be purchased from Longwood Fire Company, which serves a large section of the Township. Please call 610-388-6880 for more information.

Please take a few minutes to ensure that your address can be seen clearly from the street, especially at night. If you live on a shared driveway, verify that each driveway and each house is clearly identified. And remember to remove snow and leaves from around mailboxes and driveways so that house numbers are visible year-round.

Deer Management Committee

The 2009-10 hunting season was the first for Pocopson's Deer Management Committee, chaired by Don Lane. Hunting was permitted on two Township properties, Barnard House and Pocopson Park. Archery is permitted at both locations; gun hunting is permitted only at the Park. Two deer were bagged during the January 2010 archery season, with another eight taken in Fall 2010. Hunting will continue until January 2011 (please see the web site for details). Residents should be aware that Pocopson Park is not closed during hunting hours (daybreak until 10:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. until dusk, Monday through Saturday).

"Safety zone" is the distance a hunter must maintain from any residential structure, farm building, playground or school. There is a 50 yard safety zone for archery hunters, and 150 yard safety zone for those with firearms. Hunters must have permission from the property owner to hunt, or they are considered to be trespassing. Also, hunters must conform with game laws and other applicable regulations of the State and Township. Concerns about the enforcement of hunting regulations can be phoned in to the PA Game Commission at 610-926-3136.

The Deer Management Committee is researching the installation of deer feeders in several areas of the Township. The feeders apply a topical pesticide which is expected to help reduce the abundance of deer ticks in the area. The cost per feeding station is approximately \$1,100, with an estimated 1½ hours per week to maintain each site. Once a deer feeder is in place, Game Commission rules prohibit deer hunting in the area. Still to be answered are questions such as: Who will pay for the feeders, replenish the feed, and maintain the feeders? Are there any safety concerns with stationing feeders near houses? Do they really help to control ticks? The Committee plans to make a recommendation to the Board on this issue in the new year.

Public Works and Snow Information

2010 Public Works projects: Major projects included replacement of the retaining wall on W. Creek Road, paving of a section of Haines Mill Road, oil and chipping of Waterglen Drive, installation of a water line on N. Wawaset Road, and tree trimming in the Beversrede and Four Streams subdivisions.

Priorities for 2011: Pothole patching and crack sealing will be a major focus in 2011. Davidson, Hickory Hill and part of Locust Grove Road will get maintenance such as shoulder work, drainage, and asphalt patching. Beversrede Trail will be chip sealed. Tree trimming will continue throughout the Township. Routine maintenance work such as installation of new traffic signs and posts, replacement of drainage inlet boxes and grate tops has been budgeted. Also, a new salt shed will be constructed next to the garage on Lenape Road. The existing facility behind the Township building on Denton Hollow Road will be converted for equipment storage.

These projects are scheduled for April and beyond, when the challenge of snow and ice removal is past.

Snow Removal procedures: In the course of clearing roads, snow plows often push snow in front of driveways. Plowing operations typically cause snow to be moved to the right of the moving truck and onto the edge of the roadway. Prevent your driveway from being plowed in by moving snow off the road to the downside of the driveway.



During a winter storm, **do not park vehicles on the street.** Township Code prohibits parking on public roads during snowstorms and for up to 12 hours afterward. Plows must clear streets curb-to-curb to prepare for subsequent storms; vehicles in the street delay this process. **Illegally parked vehicles will be towed** and fees of \$125 and up will apply. Finally, do not shovel or push snow into the street. This is a safety hazard and could cause an accident.

PEMA Reimbursement: Pocopson Township received \$30,653 from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) for costs incurred from the February 2010 snowstorms. Salaries for snow removal (extra plow drivers and overtime for our employees) and debris cleanup; hourly equipment rates for trucks, plows, and spreaders; and the cost to repair buildings and curbs damaged by the snow were submitted for 75% reimbursement. The one-time payment resulting from the disaster declaration in Chester County was helpful in covering the significant costs of last year's harsh winter.

Reporting road problems: Routine maintenance concerns can be left on voice mail at 610-793-2387. For hazards such as downed trees, flooding, or debris in the road, call 484-947-9379. This is the cell number of Public Works Director Mark Knightly and can be used to report road or park emergencies at night or on weekends.

Thank You, Township Volunteers!

Pocopson Township is fortunate to have a dedicated group of residents who contribute their talents to our Committees. **Thank you** to these volunteers who volunteered time in 2010 to improving our community:

Planning Commission

Gary Summers, Chair
Suzy Breiseth, Vice-Chair
Robert Costello
Meg Johnson
Robert Miller
Sean Rafferty
Steven Simonson

Historical Committee

Sarah Mims, Chair
Barnard Baily
Pat Burnett
Jean Canary
Mary Beth Drobish
Doug Fearn
Kris Firey-Poling
Alta Hoffman
Randy Mims
Dan O'Neill
Bill Sellers
Sue Woodward
Bruce Yelton

Agricultural Security Area Committee

Becky Baily
Georgia Brutscher
Judy Cousins
Andrew Elser
George Wickersham, Jr.

Zoning Hearing Board

Nate Wilson, Chair
Jim Noon, Vice-Chair
Bob Woodward

Open Space Advisory Committee

Paul Haldeman, Chair
Tom Bierl
Nancy Ercolani
Holly Manzone
Linda Moore
Dale Stratton

Stream Team

Bill Haaf, Chair
Lawrie Bolger
Jenel Edwards
Carol Haaf
Chuck Maston
Jennifer Matkof
Lauressa McNemar
Kathy Miller
Mims Family
Tony Trease
Nate Wilson

Scenic Byways Commission Representatives

George Zacharkiw
Bruce Yelton, Alternate

Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee

Ezekiel Hubbard, Chair
Joe Stumpo, Vice-Chair
Tom Bierl
Lawrie Bolger
Chris Conaway
Bill Haaf
Ricki Stumpo

Vacancy Board

Randy Mims

Barnard House Steering Committee

Georgia Brutscher, Chair
Jean Canary
Mary Dugan, KURC
Kris Firey-Poling
Alta Hoffman
Rusty Jones, KURC
John O'Neal, KURC
Susan Simone

Chester County Tax Collection Committee Representatives

Bruce Yelton, Primary Delegate
Hal Hoffman, Alternate

Founders Day Committee

Volunteers are listed on page 1.

New Public Works Director Appointed

Mark Knightly, a 13-year Township resident, was appointed Director of Public Works in June. Formerly a member of East Marlborough's Public Works Department, Mark brings a great deal of municipal experience to the position. The Township is fortunate to have him on board.

Mark takes over for Don Lane, who retired from Township service in July. Don worked for the Township in varying part-time capacities for 22 years. He became a full-time Public Works employee in 2005 and served as the Director of Public Works from September 2009 to July 2010. The Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 2010-18 expressing thanks to Don for his years of service as both an employee and a volunteer. The Township wishes him well on his retirement. Don is working a few days each month with Public Works and is chairing the Deer Management Committee.



Show your Township spirit with Pocopson magnets for your car and refrigerator. The 5-1/2" x 4" oval magnets are forest green on a buff background. Designed for Founders Day 2010, they are available for sale at the Township Building for \$3.00 each.

Township Tax Structure for 2011

The Board of Supervisors, in its review of the Township's financial situation, reluctantly determined that a tax increase was necessary for 2011. The Board has held the general fund property tax rate constant at 1.2 mills since 2006. There is an additional 1.0 mill property tax that's dedicated to open space preservation. With the growth of the Township plus added state and federal requirements, costs are rising and more demands are being placed on staff and infrastructure.

Real estate transfer taxes, which represent 0.5% of the prices for new construction and the resale of existing homes, have been running above estimates. However, because transfer taxes can vary dramatically from year to year, the Board has made the decision to continue to conservatively budget this funding source. Faced with raising the property tax or implementing an earned income and net profits tax (EIT), the Board decided that an EIT at 0.2%—well below the 1% allowed by State law—was the better choice. This rate applies both to Township residents and to non-residents employed in the Township. Unearned income such as interest, dividends, pensions, and social security is exempt from the tax. The tax will be collected as of January 1, 2011, with anticipated revenues of \$130,000 for the coming year.

Township employers should ask employees to complete Certificate of Residency forms from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). These forms, which include codes for the municipality in which employees reside, were not ready as of mid-December. However, the codes are available at the DCED website; click on "Get Local Government Support," then "Tax Information," and then follow the links for DCED's Act 32 EIT Collection System. EIT rates are available at that same site under the "Municipal Statistics" link.

Keystone Collections Group (www.keystonecollects.com) is the appointed EIT collector for all Chester County municipalities and school districts and can be reached at 724-978-0300 with questions about how to properly withhold the EIT. Township employers are to withhold at whichever EIT rate is higher—Pocopson's 0.2% rate or the rate charged by the employee's home municipality or school district. Taxes will be submitted to Keystone, which will distribute the EIT correctly between the municipalities in which an employee works and resides.

Residents who work outside the Township can expect to complete the same form. If you work in a municipality that already has an EIT for non-residents, you will likely see no change in your EIT rate. Pocopson's 0.2% is not added to existing EITs; it simply changes the way the tax is distributed. Your employer will withhold the EIT at the higher rate (home versus work) and forward the tax to Keystone, which will funnel Pocopson's share of the tax to the Township and the remainder to the municipality in which the employee works.

Persons who earn less than \$12,000 in a year are exempt from Pocopson's EIT. However, employers must withhold the 0.2% up front, and then those earning less than \$12,000 may request a refund on their local tax returns the following year. This exemption, which mirrors that of the Local Services Tax, applies *specifically* to Pocopson. Please note that if you earn less than \$12,000 from work in another Township that does have an EIT, you may still be subject to the EIT in that community.

The Local Services Tax, which is collected from everyone employed in Pocopson regardless of whether they are Township residents, remains at the rate of \$1/week and will continue to be collected by Berkheimer Associates.



Our web address:
www.pocopson.org

Road Project Update

The three-way intersection at Route 52, S. Wawaset Road and Lenape-Unionville Roads is to be replaced with a roundabout like the one on Route 82 in Unionville. Despite delays due to engineering and design issues and escalating construction costs, the revised project is still underway. Construction of the Route 52 roundabout will not begin until *after* the 18-month project to replace the Route 926 bridge across the Brandywine Creek is complete. That project is currently scheduled to start in Spring 2012.

Another major project on our list is the addition of a left-turn lane at the intersection of Route 52 and Pocopson Road for drivers turning onto Pocopson Road from southbound Route 52. This turning lane will be another important means to minimize backups while the Route 926 bridge is closed. The Township is currently acquiring easements from adjacent property owners that are required for PennDOT approval and hopes to have the intersection improvement completed in Summer 2011.

Pocopson Township
P.O. Box 1
Pocopson, PA 19366

Christmas Tree Pickup

The Public Works crew will pick up Christmas trees on:

Monday, January 10

Tuesday, January 18

Monday, January 24

Please have your tree--
with all lights and decorations
removed--
at the curb by 7 AM.



Update on Township Ordinances

Vehicles and Traffic: Provisions in the Township Code regarding winter parking and the authority to remove and impound illegally parked vehicles have been updated. **Parking on public roads is prohibited during snowstorms and for up to 12 hours afterward.**

The Township will report vehicles that interfere with snow removal, salting, cindering, or plowing operations to our designated towing service and storage facility, Young's Garage, which will dispatch a tow truck. Once the tow truck hooks up to an illegally parked vehicle, it **MUST** tow the vehicle away. Charges will be \$125.00 to tow from any location in the Township to Young's Garage (1022 Lenape Road, north of Birmingham Road), with an additional charge of \$25.00 for each day that the vehicle is not claimed.

Nuisances: Another addition to Township Code is a new chapter titled "Nuisances." The purpose is to define what a nuisance is, to provide for notice of violations and penalties, to permit abatement of nuisances by the Township, and to specify means of additional relief. The text is available at <http://www.ecode360.com/documents/PO2113/source/372500.pdf>, or you can navigate from the Township's home page (www.pocopson.org) to the link in the left column for the Township code. At the top of the Code is an orange box listing legislation not yet codified; click on Ord. No. 3-2010 to learn what constitutes a nuisance or health hazard.

Conservation of Natural Features: The search box on the upper left of the eCode home page allows access to other areas of the Township Code. For example, §250-87, Conservation of Natural Features, is an area of the Code that inspires many questions. This section outlines standards to minimize adverse environmental impacts that may result from residential activities.

Before undertaking home reconstruction, expansions, or projects (gardens are specifically exempt) that may involve land disturbance, tree removal, or partial lot clearing, homeowners and their contractors should be aware of how their plans may be impacted by restrictions regarding steep slopes, wetlands, floodplains, heritage trees, riparian buffers, woodlands, and rare species. It's a good idea to take photos of the site before and after improvements are made to demonstrate that natural resources were not adversely impacted.

Earned Income Tax: In September, the Board of Supervisors enacted Ordinance 4 of 2010 which implements a 0.2% Earned Income Tax in the Township. Please see page 7 for more information on this legislation.