

Pocopson Township

JUNE 2010

Pocopson Park Upgrades

While watching a baseball game or strolling the loop trail, you may have noticed some recent upgrades to Pocopson Park.

- The baseball and soccer fields are groomed for league play, and the back-stop has been repaired.
- New nets have been installed on the tennis, volleyball and basketball courts.
- Fresh mulch has been spread at the playground and swing set and damaged swings have been replaced.
- A new swing set will be installed at the tot lot playground shortly.
- A new horseshoe pit has been installed near the pavilion.
- The restrooms have been power washed and are scheduled for painting.

To keep the park looking good throughout the spring and summer, the Public Works crew maintains a weekly mowing schedule. It takes about three full days a week to mow all Township property, which includes the park, Locust Grove Schoolhouse, the Barnard House property, and trail easements throughout the Township. Trail maintenance to repair washouts, perform weed control, etc., has begun and will continue on an as-needed basis.

Section 147-28 of the Township code requires that on public park land, dogs must be kept on a leash no more than six feet in length. All pets must be under the immediate control of a competent person. No pets are allowed in picnic or children's play areas, and owners must clean up after their dogs. For information on reserving park facilities, please see page 4.

2010 Census is Underway

April 1, 2010 was the official "Census Day," but efforts are still underway to accurately count the approximately 390 million people living in the United States. Pennsylvania and its municipalities stand to lose two critical things, money and political power, if we fail to achieve a full, accurate count in the final weeks.

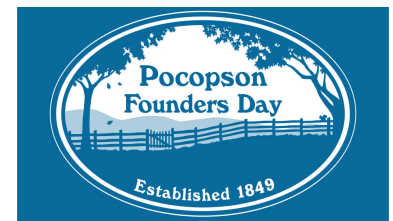
Census figures determine how \$400 billion in federal funding is allocated each year to communities nationwide. This money helps to support such things as local roads and bridges, emergency services, recreation and economic development, schools, job training, senior centers and hospitals. The number of legislators each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, which has a fixed number of 435 seats, is also determined by the census.

Some residents, particularly in the Riverside and Osborne Place communities, did not receive forms in the mail. Contact the Census 2010 telephone help line at 1-866-872-6868 to report your census data or to obtain a paper form.

Census workers will only visit your home if you haven't returned your information. Field representatives must carry an identification badge with a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark and expiration date. If a properly credentialed census worker visits your home, please provide the confidential data requested. Our goal is to have an accurate count of every Pocopson Township resident.

Founders Day Sunday, Sept. 19

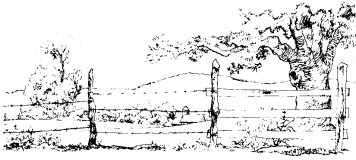
Those who attended Pocopson Founders Day last year know what a delightful day it was! Music, local vendors, good food, games, a scavenger hunt, hay rides, antique cars, pony rides, petting zoo, cow milking contest—there was no end to the family fun! People chatted with neighbors, listened to music, met the supervisors, enjoyed lunch and kicked back in the late summer sunshine.



Founders Day 2010 will feature all of the same enjoyable attractions as past years, plus some additions introduced by new Committee Chair Beverly Bruns. Celebrating the beauty of the place we live in and the equestrian population who help make Pocopson special, we will welcome mounted members of the Radnor Hunt. New contests will challenge your dog to jump higher than your neighbor's dog and invite everyone who looks like their pet to prove it! All events are free, courtesy of Pocopson Township and generous local sponsors.

Please join us from 12 to 4 P.M. on Sunday, September 19. Keep your fingers crossed for sunny weather!

Additional volunteers are still needed. Please call the Township Office at 610-793-2151 if you might be interested in joining the Committee or helping out that day.

**Board of Supervisors:**

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

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:

Don Lane, Director
 Michael Cialini
 Ron Miller
 Phone: 610-793-2387
 Cell: 484-947-9379

Township Solicitor:

Ross Unruh, Esquire
 Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees

Township Engineer:

Jim Hatfield, Vandemark & Lynch, Inc.

Newsletter Editor: Peggy Lennon

Open Space Advisory Committee

Pocopson Township has purchased the development rights on 90 acres of farmland in the northwest section of the Township. A trail easement is being finalized that will allow public access on a portion of the property.

This is the second significant open space preservation project completed since Pocopson voters approved a 2006 referendum dedicating one mill of property tax to open

space preservation. There are 85 acres already held under a separate conservation easement that restricts future development.

The Township's Open Space Advisory Committee has met with several property owners and continues to identify potential open space preservation opportunities. Interested property owners may call 610-793-2151 for more information on the program.

Barnard House Committee

The Township has budgeted funds for essential repairs to the exterior of the Barnard House. Cornices, soffits, fascia and molding were repaired prior to the installation of aluminum gutters and downspouts that, while new, are designed to resemble the originals. These initial steps will help preserve the structural integrity of the building until more extensive interior improvements can be made. Grant opportunities are being pursued to fund additional physical plant improvements.

On Sunday, April 18, the Township and the Kennett Underground Railroad Center (KURC) sponsored the first Barnard House Volunteer Day. Approximately 50 volunteers ripped out carpets and laminate, tore out bathroom and kitchen fixtures, and removed partition walls and paneling—filling two dump trucks with debris. Outside, volunteers created planting beds, mulched, planted flowers and shrubs, and cleaned up the grounds.

Stop by to stroll the loop trail on the property (parking is available behind Barnard House) and see what a facelift our volunteers have given to this beautiful site.

Historical Committee

2009 and early 2010 brought great news for fundraising for the restoration of the Locust Grove Schoolhouse. The Historical Committee received a \$7,500 grant from the Fair Play Foundation, a Wilmington foundation that has been very supportive of the project. Thanks to the diligent efforts of Committee Chair Sarah Mims, a significant federal grant for development of educational materials has also been allocated. Additionally, we received \$50,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Once complete, the Locust Grove Schoolhouse will be used for field trips by local school districts as well as a repository for the Township historical archives. More information about the Schoolhouse restoration project can be obtained by contacting the Historical Committee or by visiting the Schoolhouse on Founders Day on Sunday, September 19.



Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic and Computer (E-Waste) Drop-Off Schedule

There are three drop-off dates left this year for residents to dispose of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and two for electronic and computer waste. Labels on HHW products usually include such words as Caution, Corrosive, Combustible, Danger, Explosive, Flammable, Hazardous, Poisonous, Reactive, Toxic, or Warning. Acceptable items for drop-off include:

- Household batteries
- Smoke alarms
- Pool chemicals
- Septic tank degreasers
- Fuel additives, brake and transmission fluid, empty oil containers, gas, antifreeze
- Joint compound, caulking compound, roof cement, asphalt sealer
- Oil-based paints, paint thinner, stain, shellac, varnish, stripper
- Weed killer, pesticide, poisons
- Drain openers, acids/caustics/solvents
- Rug/wood/metal cleaners
- Reactive metals



2010 Drop-Off Schedule
Sites open 9 AM—3 PM

Friday, June 25
CAT Brandywine Campus *
1635 E. Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320

Saturday, September 11
New Garden Maintenance Building
8934 Gap Newport Road
Landenberg, PA 19350

Saturday, October 9
Government Services Center *
601 Westtown Road
West Chester, PA 19380

*** = Computers Accepted**

HHW must be in the original, labeled containers. Drop-off sites will not accept latex paint, explosives, tires, ammunition, appliances, radioactive waste, infectious waste, unidentified waste, or commercial or industrial waste. Events are sponsored by Chester County, SECCRA, DEP and municipalities.

Fire Company Service Areas

Your first call in a fire or medical emergency is to 911. But do you know who will respond?

Pocopson Township is served by two volunteer fire companies. Longwood and Po-Mar-Lin both receive financial support from the Township based on the number of residences that fall within each company's service area.

The boundary between the two begins on Lenape-Unionville Road where Pocopson meets East Marlborough Township, runs east on Lenape-Unionville Road to Locust Grove Road, then north on Locust Grove to Hickory Hill Road, then northeast to Route 842, across the bridge to the Brandywine River, then east along the river approximately 500 feet to the Pocopson/East Bradford township boundary.

Po-Mar-Lin (610-347-2179) serves fire calls west of this boundary, with the east side handled by Longwood Fire Company (610-388-6880). All emergency medical services (EMS) in Pocopson are provided by Longwood Ambulance Company. Please support these vital community organizations.

ReadyNotifyPA is a community alert system that will immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency. The system is your personal connection to real-time updates, instructions on where to go, what to do or what not to do, who to contact, and other important information.

When an incident or emergency occurs, authorized senders will instantly notify you using the Roam Secure Alert Network administered by Chester County Department of Emergency Services. Alerts can be sent to multiple devices, including email accounts, cell phones (via SMS), pager, and smartphone/PDA (BlackBerry, Treo & and other handhelds).



Community Alert System

Local alerts on your cell or email about:

- Emergencies
- Severe Weather
- Road Closures
- Crime alerts

Sign up for free at <https://chesco.alertpa.org/register.php> (or type ReadyNotifyPA into your browser and follow the link for Chester County). You will create an account with the locations you're interested in (home, work, school, etc.) and specify the types of alerts you'd like to receive. You can register multiple devices at one time. Because wireless carrier may charge you a fee to get messages on your cell phone or wireless device, contact your carrier to find out how much these messages may cost you with your current plan.

Focus on the Environment

Recycling

Chester County residents are great recyclers. Properly prepared and collected recyclables are valuable commodities. But when too many non-recyclables are mixed in with recyclables, **it all becomes trash**. Mixed loads are too costly to separate, and so they end up dumped at the landfill. Please follow these guidelines (*information provided by the Chester County Solid Waste Authority*):

- **Scrap metal, wood, yard waste, hangers and old toys can “contaminate” recyclables.** Scrap metal may be taken to a scrap dealer, yard waste can be composted, hangers can be returned to your dry cleaner, and children’s toys may be donated (but throw them away if broken). Wood scraps should go out with the trash if not worth saving for another project.
- **Plastic bags can jam the source-separating equipment at recycling facilities.** While you might choose to store your recyclables in plastic bags at home, please dump the contents out when filling recycling bins; then throw the used plastic bags in the trash. Clean plastic shopping bags can be recycled at many supermarkets; look for a bin near the entrance.
- **All curbside programs in Pocopson collect mixed paper, flattened corrugated cardboard cut down to 18” x 24”, paperboard (such as cereal boxes), glass bottles and jars, steel, aluminum and bi-metal cans, and #1 and #2 plastics** (look on the bottom for the triangular recycling symbol with a number inside). Please check with your private trash hauler to see if their recycling program collects more items than those listed above, such as plastics with recycling symbols #3-7.
- **Do not put plastics with #3-7 recycling symbols — or with no numbers at all — in the metal recycling bins behind the Township Building** at 740 Denton Hollow Road. SECCRA’s recycling facility does not accept them. Plastic flowerpots, take-out containers with no recycling symbols, and the plastic trays that hold flats of annuals are the biggest offenders here.
- **Remove lids from water bottles, detergent bottles, and the like.** While plastic, they are not recyclable.

Don’t be overzealous when recycling. Good intentions can be thwarted when items that do not belong end up “trashing” a load of otherwise recyclable materials.

If in doubt about whether something can be recycled, **throw it out!**

Open Burning

Except for recreational fires, it is unlawful to burn anything outdoors in the Township except during daylight hours. Controlled burning of branches from storm cleanup is permitted under specific requirements in Ordinance 4 of 2008. All controlled burns must be reported in advance to the Chester County Fire Marshall dispatch line (southern Chester County locations should use 610-268-3171), who must be re-notified when the fire is out.

Always prohibited are the indoor or outdoor burning at any time of: leaf waste, municipal waste (household trash and discarded materials), household hazardous waste, construction/demolition debris, rubber, junked cars, human and/or animal waste; or recyclables, including all paper and cardboard products and packaging.

Grants/Funding

Pocopson Township is awarded State funds based on our annual recycling totals. We report to the State the tonnage of various types of recyclable materials collected, including collections at Pocopson Home and the County Prison. In 2009, our award was \$5,476, and we hope to top that this year.

The more we recycle, the higher the annual award. Tossing recyclables in the trash is like throwing away money.

What Can I Do?

- 1) Recycle everything that your hauler accepts.
- 2) Get everyone in your household involved in ensuring that recycling bins are placed curbside for pickup every week.
- 3) Drop off old electronic and computer equipment on special collection dates; *see page 3 for details*.
- 4) SECCRA empties the Township recycling bins every Monday. Occasionally, the bins fill up over the weekend. Please do not leave recyclables outside the metal bins if there is insufficient space to add yours.

Park Facility Reservations

Planning to reserve the Pocopson Park pavilion for a Scout gathering or family reunion? The Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee has a new procedure for reserving use of Township recreational facilities by groups of fifteen or more. Reservation forms are available at the Township Office or you can print one from our website (click on the Parks, Recreation & Trails Committee link at the top of the home page for www.pocopson.org). Depending on the size of your group and whether you’re planning a one-time event or a regularly scheduled activity, a fee may be charged and proof of insurance may be required. Before completing the required paperwork, please call 610-793-2151 to check whether the park facility you want is available and to inquire about fees and other requirements.

Agricultural Security Area

Under guidelines of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Farmland Preservation, the Board of Supervisors has created an agricultural security area (ASA) in the Township. Participating owners agree to keep their land for agriculture use in return for certain benefits. Parcels included in the ASA must be at least ten acres of viable land, or if smaller than ten acres, must generate at least \$2,000/year from the agricultural production of crops, livestock, and/or live-stock products. Participation is purely voluntary and there are no penalties for changing land use.

This summer, Pocopson's Agricultural Security Committee will contact landowners who might be eligible to join the Township's ASA. Please call 610-793-2151 if your property meets the guidelines above and if you would be interested in learning more about the ASA program.

Road and Public Works Information

Maintenance

Residents may not realize that certain roads in the Township fall under State jurisdiction. State roads in Pocopson Township include Routes 926, 842, and 52, along with Pocopson, Unionville-Lenape, Wawaset, Red Lion and Northbrook Roads. To report problems such as potholes or clogged drains on State roads, please call 484-340-3200.

All other roads in Pocopson, with the exception of private roads and streets in subdivisions that are awaiting dedication, are Township roads. These are maintained by the Public Works crew. Upcoming projects include:

- Pothole patching (began in mid-April and will continue twice a week until completed)
- Replacement of retaining wall on W. Creek Road
- Road bank mowing (to begin in June 2010)
- Paving of a section of Haines Mill Road
- Line striping (locations to be determined)
- Oil and chip at Waterglen Drive in late summer

Please report road maintenance issues by calling 610-793-2387. For hazardous conditions such as downed trees, flooding, or debris in the road, call 484-947-9379. This is the cell phone number of Public Works Director Don Lane and can be used to report road or park emergencies, particularly at night or on weekends.

Curbside Chipping and Leaf Collection

Besides maintaining the roads, the Public Works crew is also responsible for the curbside chipping and leaf

collection programs. The Township no longer sells leaf bags; any biodegradable paper bags are acceptable. Leaves will be picked up curbside in October and November; check the website in early fall for the dates.

Recognizing that the February 2010 storms caused an unusually large amount of downed tree limbs, broken branches, etc., the Board of Supervisors approved an enhanced chipping schedule. This added three weeks, plus two Saturdays, to the customary one-week spring chipping service to accommodate increased demand for chipping from residents. In March and April, 65 dump truck loads — more than 200 tons — of material were chipped over nearly four weeks.

Snow Removal

Like other municipalities, Pocopson Township is responsible for plowing snow on Township roads (51 lane miles). Through a contract with PennDOT, Township personnel are *also* solely responsible for snow removal on all 38 lane miles of State roads in Pocopson. For Winter 2009-10, just under 500 tons of salt were delivered for snow removal on these roads.

With two full-time employees and three seasonal plow drivers, the Public Works staff worked long hours this past winter. While hoping that next winter does not bring anything close to the record-breaking snows of this past season, the Township requests your patience in allowing our crew to effectively clear all roads.

Please note that the Township Code prohibits parking on public roads during snowstorms and for up to 12 hours afterward while roads are being cleared.

Help Your Community's Emergency Responders Help You!

The Chester County Emergency Services Department maintains a special needs registry for residents who may be at risk during a disaster. These individuals are identified by the County as those who cannot receive, understand or act upon emergency protective orders. The special needs population includes but is not limited to residents who are deaf, blind, bedridden, mentally impaired, or without radio or television.

Direct computer entry is the most efficient way to register. Go to www.specialneedspa.org and click on "New users click here to register" to complete the process. If you are unable to access a computer, please contact the Township Administrative Secretary at 610-793-2151 to complete the registration or to obtain additional information.

Trails Feasibility Study Complete

Funded in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), this three-year project produced both the [Pocopson Trails Feasibility Study](#) and the [Master Trail Plan \(Draft\)](#). The Study creates an inventory of existing trails, existing trail rights-of-way, and proposed trails. The inventory also describes trail features and projected installation costs. The Plan breaks the trail system and cost into phases to provide a prioritized guide to the continued unfolding of the trail system. Projected maintenance costs are also included. After comments are received from DCNR, the Board of Supervisors will be moving to adopt the Plan for the Township.

This project required significant input from a Study Committee of Township residents. Thanks to Chris Conaway, Judith Cousins, Bill Haaf, David Miller, Jim Jordan, Kathy Miller, Sandy Retzlaff, Jerry Schreck, Bill Sellers, Ricki Stumpo, and Gary Summers for their efforts, which were ably supported by paid consultants from the Brandywine Conservancy and Register Associates.

The Board of Supervisors extends special thanks to Tom Bierl and Zeke Hubbard. Appointed as Chief Project Official and Project Coordinator, respectively, their diligence and attention ensured that deliverables were provided and deadlines were met.

The updated map of existing trails that was produced as one aspect of the project is available at our website (click on the Parks, Recreation & Trails Committee link at the top of the home page).

Which library is Pocopson's?

Pocopson Township is served by **both** the [West Chester Public Library](#) at 415 N. Church Street in West Chester (610-696-1721) and [Bayard Taylor Memorial Library](#) at 216 E. State Street in Kennett Square (610-444-2702).

Recognizing that our location between the two boroughs means that both facilities receive significant use by Pocopson residents, the Township allocates equal funding in our annual budget to the two libraries.



Why not visit both the West Chester and Bayard Taylor libraries this summer? Register for the children's summer reading program, find out what the book clubs are reading, and check out some audiobooks for those trips down the shore. Browse through thousands of books, magazines and DVDs on site, or request that materials from other Chester County libraries be delivered to the library of your choice for pickup. Take some time to take advantage of this tremendous public resource.

Township Thrives on Volunteer Time and Talent

Pocopson Township is fortunate to have a great group of residents contributing their talents to our Committees. Thank you to these volunteers who dedicate their time 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 Bailly
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

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

Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee

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

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

Founders Day Committee

Beverly Bruns, Chair
Ricki Stumpo, Vice-Chair
Lawrie Bolger
Marie Bontigao
Suzy Breiseth
Jean Canary
Chris Conaway
Jennifer Coyle
Lele Galer
Berle Goldman
Bill Haaf
Zeke Hubbard
Danielle Lawrence
Holly Manzone
Linda Moore
Karen Myers
Julianne Ruocco
Sandy Retzlaff

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

Stormwater Management Education

Untreated or uncontrolled runoff from stormwater is the number one cause of pollution in local waterways. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established a municipal stormwater management program — the **MS4 Program** — that's intended to reduce the quantities of pollutants that stormwater picks up and carries into sewer systems and waterways. In Pennsylvania, the MS4 program is administered by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

The MS4 stormwater management program has six elements, termed “minimum control measures.” Three of the minimum control measures involve cooperation from residents:

Public Education and Outreach

Distribute educational materials and conduct outreach to inform citizens about the impacts that stormwater runoff has on water quality.

This article and links on the Township's web site (www.pocopson.org) educate residents about why managing stormwater is important.

Public Participation/Involvement

Provide opportunities for citizens to participate in the stormwater

management program or other programs that improve water quality.

The Stream Team takes water samples from Pocopson Creek at least twice a year to assess the health of local waterways. Please call the Township if you'd like to volunteer for one of the fall testing dates.



Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Develop and implement a plan that detects and eliminates non-stormwater discharges into the stormwater system.

The Township has mapped all the stormwater piping and drainage ditch systems that we own and are

responsible to maintain. Systems are inspected periodically to detect “illicit discharges”—which is when something that's exiting a storm drainage pipe or drainage ditch is not stormwater and could potentially pollute our streams. The types of illicit discharges typical for a community like Pocopson are septic system overflows, chlorinated pool water, paint, oil, gasoline, and other vehicle fluids.

If you see something exiting a storm pipe or ditch that appears to be something other than stormwater, please contact the Township so we can track it to its source. To report an illicit discharge, call 610-793-2151 or send an email to secretary@pocopson.org.

Pocopson Township is committed to improving water quality within its watersheds through continued management of stormwater runoff. Residents and business owners can participate in the municipal stormwater program by:

- preventing — or trying to reduce — pollutant runoff from their own properties; and
- reporting any non-stormwater discharges into local waterways.

Road Project Update

Local residents have been hearing for several years about “the roundabout.” This federally funded demonstration project will replace the three-way intersection at Route 52, Wawaset Road and Unionville-Lenape Roads with a roundabout—or more familiarly, a traffic circle similar to the one on Route 82 in Unionville. The Township had anticipated receiving PennDOT approvals and permits in 2008 with construction to start soon after. However, several unforeseen factors, including a change in the lead engineering firm and escalating costs, have delayed the project. Pocopson officials continue to work with PennDOT and Chester County to move these projects forward; but at this point, we are at least a year away from an approved design.

In early 2011, PennDOT is scheduled to start an 18-month project to replace the Route 926 bridge across the Brandywine Creek. Because Route 52 is a parallel route across the Brandywine, it is expected to bear greatly increased traffic volumes during the Route 926 construction. Therefore, residents will be relieved to hear that construction of the Route 52 roundabout is not likely to begin until *after* the Route 926 bridge replacement is complete.

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 commercial properties that will be required for final PennDOT approval.

Finally, a runaround lane is planned for Route 52 at Locust Grove Road. This will allow northbound drivers to pull around to the right instead of stopping behind cars that are turning left onto Locust Grove Road from Route 52.

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

Noise Ordinance

As summer brings longer days and outdoor activities, please be aware of the Township noise ordinance (Chapter 125 of the Township Code, available from a link on the website home page).

7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. is the quiet time — no weed whackers or lawnmowers; no revving the engine of your classic car or straight-pipe motorcycle; no CDs or radios (not even if broadcasting the Phillies) played loud enough to disturb the neighbors.

Our web address:

www.pocopson.org

A musing on Township happenings. . .

This isn't an amusing note, but rather some observations gleaned from the last 16 years of Township newsletters. Some topics that continually appear (and current happenings) are:

- **Personnel changes.** The office staff hasn't changed in the last two years, but there have been changes in Public Works. Don Lane stepped up and has done an admirable job as Public Works Director for the last several months, but he still intends to retire in July. We're searching for his replacement.
- The number of **interested volunteers** who help the Township. Some of the names on the list on page 6 of this newsletter have appeared consistently over the last 16 years. Thank you! But we do need new blood.
- The challenge of **keeping the roads clear in the winter.** This past

season was noteworthy for its record-setting snowstorms. Applause for the Public Works crew—they did a great job under difficult circumstances and followed up with yeoman work to chip the downed branches.

- **Residential growth.** We have welcomed many new residents over the sixteen past years, some through resale of existing homes and some through the creation of new subdivisions. As our resident population approaches 1,350 households and 3,500 persons, we will rely on census data to give us an accurate accounting of our growth.
- The 1998 newsletter commented on the launch of what turned out to be a three-year **Comprehensive Plan update** project. It's time to update this important blueprint for the Township again. Volunteers are needed!

Some things never change. We strive to be fiscally conservative, especially with the current unprecedented economic stresses, but pressures continue. Unfunded mandates continue to increase Township costs and health care costs continue to rise, yet real estate transfer revenues have slowed and property assessments declined—the list goes on.

The Township Board of Supervisors meets at 7:30 PM on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. These are public meetings and we encourage residents to attend. Should you wish to speak at a Board meeting, please send an e-mail to secretary@pocopson.org (by the Thursday preceding a meeting, if possible) so that our agenda reflects all anticipated speakers and topics.

*Steve Conary
Chair, Board of Supervisors*



Pocopson Township Founders Day
Sunday, September 19, 2010 12 — 4 P.M. Pocopson Park