



The Solebury Messenger

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Fall Issue

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Open Space Funding Referendum on November Ballot

Solebury residents will be asked on the Nov. 5 ballot to approve the next round of borrowing for the Township's Land Preservation Program. For more than three decades, Solebury has worked neighbor-to-neighbor to permanently preserve our working farms and protect open spaces from development, earning statewide and national recognition.

The upcoming referendum authorizes the Township to issue bonds for up to \$12 million over the next several years, maintaining sufficient funds for the Land Preservation Program to continue in its mission to preserve

Solebury's landscape and protect natural resources. The four previous referenda were overwhelmingly approved, each earning the support of no fewer than 17 out of every 20 voters.

With approximately 38 percent of its acreage under some form of conservation, Solebury is a leader in land preservation. The visible benefits of the program are at the heart of Solebury's rural character, protecting and maintaining the natural beauty of the Township.

Other ecological benefits are less visible.

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Meet Nate Spence, Coordinator of the Deer Management Program

Solebury Township, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new director of the White-tailed Deer Management Hunting Program.

Nate Spence will be the USDA Wildlife Technician overseeing



the implementation and success of the program aimed at achieving the township goals of reducing the damage to agriculture, property, and human health and safety.

As the white-tailed deer

population continues to grow, so will the damages, and the success of this program pivots on the participation of property owners in Solebury Township. This program is designed to connect dedicated, qualified hunters with property owners to conduct the ethical harvest of white-tailed deer.

Harvest data will be professionally tracked by USDA Wildlife Services. This data will be analyzed to ensure the effectiveness of the program that we hope will continue to offer exceptional hunting opportunities through the years, but more importantly, ensuring the safety our residents and aiding landowners in reducing property and agricultural damage. Residents with their own private hunters are encouraged to participate in

the program as well to assist in maximizing the collection of harvest data.

Thank you to all of the land owners currently enrolled, we look forward to a successful year ahead! To schedule a site visit or for information regarding program enrollment please feel free contact the program director:

Nate Spence
USDA Wildlife Services
Solebury Township
215.297.5656 ext. 135
nspence@soleburytwp.org
nathan.e.spence@usda.gov



Fall and winter bring the best opportunity for individuals to take action against the Spotted Lanternfly. Details on page 3.

What's in Your Inbox?

Meeting agendas, police alerts, weather bulletins and more are available by email. Visit SoleburyTwp.org and click "Email Notices."

EAC Recycling Forum Highlights Need for Consumer Education

We need to stop "wishful recycling" — that's the main takeaway from a recent forum on recycling hosted by Solebury Township's Environmental Advisory Council.

"It's that moment when you're standing over the trash can, wondering if something is recyclable," explained Supervisor Kevin Morrissey, who is the Board Liaison to the EAC. "You figure it probably, maybe, is and you put it in the recycle bin. Only to be retrieved by a recycler further down the process."

It's not obvious what should and shouldn't end up in the recycling bin — Cardboard shipping box: yes, cardboard pizza box: no; plastic soda bottle: yes, plastic bottle cap: no — and this confusion is leading to a contaminated recycling stream, increasing costs and reducing the number of processors willing to take our materials, according to the forum panelists.

The issue came to the forefront when China began implementing "Operation Green Fence," a more strict enforcement of that country's environmental regulations. Recycled materials that were deemed contaminated were returned to the US, at the expense of the recycling firms and shippers that sent them. This greatly increased recycling program costs.

"I see this as an opportunity to change the way we are buying things and using things," said Patti Lynn, the Bucks County Planning Commission Recycling Coordinator. "Recycling is a verb, a verb is an action word, and action is behavior. So what we're talking about is your behavior."

The habits that the panelists encourage are Avoid, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, Treatment, and Disposal, from most preferable to least preferable. Good recycling behavior begins with not buying what you don't need, being mindful of packaging when you make a purchase, and knowing what goes into the bin and what doesn't.

The panelists also discussed steps they say that the recycling industry and state regulators should take to improve recycling.

Jason Leck, the vice president of Leck Waste Services, pointed to glass and plastic bags as the most problematic items in the recycle stream. Due to its weight, which leads to high transportation costs, glass is extremely


expensive to process when it's part of a single stream recycling program. Plastic bags, Leck said, are a nightmare for recycling processors because they tangle sorting equipment, jamming and damaging the machinery.

Leck suggests that the answer may be found at the supermarket, where glass and bags are returned to where they were purchased for recycling. Glass bottle deposits were commonplace a few decades ago, and still active in a few states. And some stores are beginning to accept returns of single-use plastic bags.

State funding and grant distribution were another topic of concern. Patty Barthel, a panelist from Waste Management, noted that recycling grants in Pennsylvania are currently funded from a landfill tipping fee — so the more you recycle, the less money is available for recycling.

Both Barthel and Leck noted that the state often dips into recycling grant money to fund other programs, and the grants themselves are unrestricted, allowing some municipalities to use recycling grant money to fund purchases that are not directly related to recycling.

All of the materials from the forum, along with an audio recording of the event, are available on the Township website.





**SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION
HALLOWEEN NIGHT**


OCTOBER 31 from 6 to 8 P.M.

**STOP BY AND SEE US AT THE CORNER OF
NORWALK WAY & KITCHEN'S LANE IN NORTH POINTE**

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT
***We will be handing out
special lighted items to help
make our kids more visible.***

***IT'S ALL FREE ...
SEE YOU THERE!***



Open Space Bond Referendum on the Ballot This November

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Solebury is one of the few municipalities in the region where all of its water resources — spring heads, watersheds, outlets — lie completely within its boundaries. This gives the Township a unique ability to manage and protect our watersheds and wetlands, and land preservation plays a critical part in keeping our water clean.

Solebury's long-term financial stability is due in no small part to more than 30 years of preserving open space. Limiting the land available for development reduces the burden on community infrastructure, like costly water and sewer systems, or the myriad construction costs associated with boom-and-bust population cycles.

With available land constrained, developers have strong incentives for more efficient design, planning, and greater cooperation with the Township.

In the long run, the Township enjoys steadily increasing property values and stable property taxes as a result of the Land Preservation Program.

The 2014 Comprehensive Plan survey indicated that residents consider preservation of open space as one of the top three reasons to live in Solebury. A Land Preservation Forum was held in March of 2019 and received a very positive response from Solebury residents.

The authorized \$12 million of additional borrowing would occur over a period of years. It has been estimated that under current conditions, the next \$5 million of borrowing by the Township for open space purposes would increase taxes for the average Solebury Township household by about \$50 per year. That figure is subject to change based on market conditions.

The actual wording of the November 5th referendum will be as follows:

<p align="center">SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP</p> <p align="center">OPEN SPACE DEBT REFERENDUM</p> <p align="center">“Shall debt be authorized to be incurred as debt approved by the electors in the sum of Twelve Million Dollars (\$12,000,000) for the purpose of financing the acquisition of interests in or improvements to real property for open space, including but not limited to the preservation of environmentally sensitive areas and open space for agricultural and conservation easements, active and passive recreation, and cultural purposes?”</p> <p align="center">Yes_____ No_____</p>

The Solebury Township Board of Supervisors encourages all residents to vote on Nov. 5, 2019 to approve this referendum.

Fall and Winter are Spotted Lanternfly Eradication Seasons

The Spotted Lanternfly and hops, the Spotted Lanternfly starts laying its eggs in the fall, and it's our duty to destroy them.

Since this invasive plant-hopping pest was first sighted in Berks County five years ago, it has overspread Eastern and Southeastern Pennsylvania. From Kutztown to Philadelphia, adult lanternflies have been seen by the dozens on decks and patios, along sidewalks and bike paths.

An existential threat to grape vines and stonefruit trees, as well as hardwoods

and hops, the Spotted Lanternfly sucks the sap from trees and vines, killing them. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture says that the bug threatens \$18 billion worth of state agricultural production.

The greatest impact that individuals can have against this bug is now, in the fall egg-laying season, by seeking out, scraping and destroying its egg casings.

Egg Scraping

Identifying and eliminating egg casings can be a bit tricky.

The pest lays its eggs on just about any hard surface it can find, including tree bark, cement blocks, or vehicle undercarriages. Some egg masses might be laid at the tops of trees. The eggs resemble smeared putty or bubble gum.

The eggs can be readily scraped off with a plastic card or putty knife, but be sure to scrape them into a bag or container filled with rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them. Smashing and

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Spotted Lanternfly Eradication Season

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burning the eggs can also be effective.

Every destroyed egg mass gets rid of 30 to 60 insects that would otherwise hatch out next spring, according to the Pa. Department of Agriculture.



The Spotted Lanternfly egg mass resembles smeared putty or bubble gum and can be scraped into a bag or bottle containing alcohol or sanitizer to kill them.

While many efforts are under way to control the pest — scientists at Delaware Valley University are testing a trap; researchers at Cornell University are studying two fungi that have proven fatal to the bug — egg scraping remains, for the moment, the most effective and efficient way to reduce the Spotted Lanternfly population.

Quarantine and Permitting

The Pa. Department of Agriculture has imposed a quarantine in affected counties. Bucks County was added to the quarantine early last year; the quarantine area has continued to expand since then.

For residents, the quarantine requires that you check all outdoor items for the bug or its eggs before moving them outside the quarantine

area. The quarantine currently covers Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia and Schuylkill Counties.

For commercial concerns, Pennsylvania currently requires a permit for any vehicles traveling from or within a quarantined area. All of Bucks, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties are now quarantined, so any business running vehicles from one end of the county to the other needs permits.

Permits are free and available at <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly-permit-training> after a brief online training and quiz.

Host Eradication

The most common host plant is the Tree of Heaven. This invasive species thrives in our climate, grows rapidly and is especially difficult to control and eradicate. It is commonly found along roadsides and is



Tree-of-heaven is often confused with sumac, black walnut, and butternut. The leaf edges of all of these native trees have small teeth while those of tree-of-heaven are smooth. The foul odor produced by the crushed foliage and the scraped bark is also unique to tree-of-heaven.

occasionally used in landscaping. You can learn more about Tree of Heaven at the Penn State Extension Service website, extension.psu.edu/tree-of-heaven, where they have

compiled extensive information on identifying and eliminating this plant.

Any shrub or tree that is hosting Spotted Lanternflies must be killed through herbicide applications and removed.

Chemical Control

Home remedies, often found online, will not be effective and can cause harm to people, pets and plants alike. Penn State Extension strongly recommends against any concoction made from items in your pantry or under the kitchen sink.

Pesticides are most effective against Spotted Lanternfly when applied in spring and early summer. Some direct sprays might be effective in the fall for individual plants and trees; contact a tree care professional to determine if chemical control would be an effective solution for your particular yard or garden.

More Information

The Spotted Lanternfly, along with the Emerald Ash Borer and Walnut Tree Beetle, can severely damage the working farms and tree-filled open spaces that define much of Solebury's character.

The Solebury Township website has a page dedicated to keeping track of these pests at soleburytwp.org/pests. The web page offers links to in-depth information from agriculture departments and extension services, quarantine details and maps, expert presentations and other information gathered by the Township's Environmental Advisory Council.

Keep a storm kit at the ready

Whether its a late-season hurricane or a gusty nor'easter, keeping your household prepared can be the difference between an event and an emergency. Having a few simple items in a "go bag" is an important part of being prepared for severe weather.

Flashlights, a battery-powered radio and clock, car chargers for your phone, first aid supplies, cash and copies of critical information should be at the ready before a storm hits. Extra batteries and a three-day backup of medications should also be in your kit.

Build your supplies over time, adding a few items each week or month, and be sure to check and replace any items that go bad over time.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency suggests

that your storm kit provides for these basic needs:

- **Emergency Communication.**

Make sure you have everything you'll need to get in touch with your family either through cellular phones or email.

- **Medical Needs.**

Be equipped to tend to any current or unexpected medical conditions your family may have.

- **Critical Documents.**

Place any important documents in a waterproof container to help keep them dry and easily accessible.

- **Tools and Safety Items.**

Small items like matches, flashlights, a multi-purpose tool, and a whistle can make a huge difference for your family while weathering the storm.

- **Food/Supplies.**

Have at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food and water



for your family. Remember to pack anything specific to your family's needs.

- **Hygiene and Sanitation.**

Sanitizer, wet wipes, paper towels.

- **Gear for the Weather.**

Protect yourself by packing warm clothes and blankets; don't forget protective footwear and gloves, too.

- **Comfort & Priceless Items.**

Grab any items that are irreplaceable or may provide comfort to your family, especially your children, and toys for the pets.

Pantry provisions: what to have on hand

Emergency preparedness guidelines recommend that we all keep three days of food and water on hand for each member of the family (pets, too) to weather a severe storm or other major event. But what constitutes emergency food, anyway?

Can you cook if the power goes out? A fireplace, outdoor grill or camp stove will meet your needs, along with a sturdy pot and skillet (non-stick cookware isn't meant for fireplace cooking, but cast iron is). Make sure your storm supplies match your equipment: Think instant rice, not risotto.

Water: One gallon per person per day. But water can get boring quickly, so cold-brew tea bags and powdered drink mix can liven things up.

Buy canned and jarred food that can be finished in one meal. Without a working refrigerator, leftovers are off the menu. Canned beans, potted meat, seafood and chili are good protein sources; a variety of jarred veggies will help balance the meal. Keep a manual can opener handy.

Root vegetables and long-lasting fruit, like oranges and melons, are good to have on hand if purchased right before a storm hits.

For packaged food, stick with high protein items that are filling. Instant oatmeal, single-serving packages of cereal, peanut butter and nut butters are good staples. If you can boil water, you can make pasta with a small jar of store-bought sauce.

Snacks help fend off cabin fever. Candy, cookies, pudding cups; crackers, seeds and nuts, as long as they're low in salt to prevent thirstiness; granola and trail mix all have long shelf-life.



Storm Outage Contacts

PECO 1-800-841-4141 or www.peco.com/Outages/CheckOutageStatus/Pages/OutageMap.aspx

Verizon 1-800-837-4966 or www.verizon.com/support/residential/service-outage

XFINITY (Comcast) 1-800-934-6489 or www.xfinity.com/support/status

K-9 Blitz is Training to Join the Solebury Police Department

The Solebury Township Police K-9 Unit has its first four-legged officer, and after a few months of extensive training will be in active service in early 2020.

Local businesses and Solebury Township residents helped fund and establish the K-9 Unit this year. With the initial donations, K-9 Blitz was purchased and paired



with Officer Matthew Rice. The pair are honing their skills at the Penn Vet Working Dog Center through the end of this year.

Starting next year, the team will receive ongoing training and respond to all types of calls, including burglaries, missing persons, narcotic searches, and traffic stops, as well as track suspects who have fled from a crime scene on foot.

In addition to their field duties, K-9 teams are routinely requested for demonstrations at community meetings, safety fairs, school events, and various types of community

gatherings. This builds community support and the interaction necessary for a good relationship.

The K-9 Unit is supported by generous donations from groups, businesses and residents. Solebury Township Police Department is grateful for the support and strives to ensure that the K-9 detail will fulfill its commitment in a way that serves the entire community.

To help support K-9 Blitz, please visit our K9 Fundraiser page to make an online donation or send a check payable to Solebury Township, PO Box 139 Solebury, Pa.

Township Directory

Police:

Emergency? Dial: 9-1-1. Nonemergency? Call: 215-297-8201.
General Inquiries: Police2@soleburytpd.org

Administration:

Township Number: 215-297-5656
General Inquiries: soleburytownship@soleburytpd.org

Township Manager Dennis H. Carney:
soleburymanager@soleburytpd.org

HARB Administrator, Environmental Advisory Council Secretary
Christine Terranova: cterranova@soleburytpd.org

LPC Administrator, Planning Commission Administrator
Jean Weiss: jweiss@soleburytpd.org

Parks & Recreation Director Dudley Rice:
soleburyparks@soleburytpd.org

Right-To-Know Officers

Administrative Records: Jean Weiss,
soleburymanager@soleburytpd.org
Police Records: Police Chief Dominick Bellizzie,
police@soleburytpd.org

Board of Supervisors

Chair Mark Baum Baicker mbaumbaicker@soleburytpd.org	Vice-Chair John Francis jfrancis@soleburytpd.org
Supervisor Noel Barrett nbarrett@soleburytpd.org	Supervisor Robert A. McEwan rmcewan@soleburytpd.org
Supervisor Kevin Morrissey kmorrissey@soleburytpd.org	

Township Calendar

*Calendar information is subject to changes.
Confirm all dates and times with the Township office.
All meetings are held at Solebury Township Hall.
Meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

October

10/15 6 p.m. Board of Supervisors
10/17 6 p.m. Land Preservation Committee
10/21 Environmental Advisory Council
10/24 Parks & Recreation Board
10/28 Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee

November

11/4 Historical Architectural Review Board
11/7 6 p.m. Board of Supervisors
11/12 Planning Commission ~ Environmental Advisory Council
11/13 Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)
11/19 6 p.m. Board of Supervisors
11/21 6 p.m. Land Preservation Committee ~ Parks & Recreation Board
11/25 Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee
11/26 Solebury Farm Committee

December

12/2 Historical Architectural Review Board
12/9 Planning Commission
12/10 6 p.m. Board of Supervisors ~ Environmental Advisory Council
12/11 Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)
12/19 6 p.m. Land Preservation Committee ~ Parks & Recreation Board
12/30 Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee

*Stay on top of meeting times with email alerts!
Visit: SoleburyTwp.org and click "Email Notices."*