Township Updates Sewage Management Plan

Changes to Pa. Act 537 Demand More Detailed Planning

In keeping with changes to the state’s Sewage Facilities Act—also known as Act 537—Solebury has resumed its revision of the Township Sewage Management Plan.

When the Solebury Messenger went to press, a partial draft—started a few years ago—was in the process of being completed; the full draft is expected to be posted on the Township website in the spring.

First adopted in 1966, Act 537 requires Pennsylvania municipalities to plan for the sewage disposal needs of their residents—either by providing centralized sewer services or by enforcing state standards and regulations for the construction of multi-home and individual on-lot septic systems.

More recently, the Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) added a higher level of planning and governance to these requirements, which has forced most municipalities to extensively revise earlier plans.

In addition to meeting the new requirements, Solebury wants the revision to embrace the vision of sustainability outlined in the Township’s Comprehensive Plan.

Since the conservation and protection of the Township’s water supply are central to that vision, the new plan will strive to prevent any treated or discharged sewage from diminishing local water quality and potentially harming residents’ health.

Study Process

CET Engineering Services of Harrisburg, Trevose, and Huntington Valley began the revision process by first surveying the Township to develop a profile of Solebury’s sewage disposal needs, capabilities, problems, and limitations.

The engineers surveyed 320 existing sanitary systems from 13 different areas of the Township (Solebury has roughly 2,500 on-lot systems in all). In addition, they examined 310 wells for signs of possible sewage contamination, with a focus on areas of the Township that are more densely populated.

(continued on page 3)
Dear Taxpayer:

Through the Solebury Messenger, the Board of Supervisors gives you, the taxpayer, firsthand information about Township matters. In these pages, you will read about what is being done to preserve and improve the quality of life as you know it, as well as how your hard-earned tax dollars are being spent.

The Solebury Messenger is created by Kay Hayes and Marie Collins, of School Window Publications; the newsletter celebrated its 15-year anniversary with the publication of the Nov. 2010 issue.

This bimonthly periodical is primarily ad-sponsored—a method which allows the Township to provide taxpayers with six professional newsletters each year for a fraction of the actual cost. To place an advertisement supporting this periodical, contact Kay at 609-397-8483.

If you live in the Township, but are not currently receiving a copy of the Solebury Messenger through the mail, please contact Kay so that she can add your name and address to our mailing list.

Other correspondence should be directed to the appropriate Township official. For more information, see the Township directory on page 7.

Kay and Marie

Printed on recycled paper by Hermitage Press, Trenton, NJ
© School Window Publications

A NOTE TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Publication of advertisements in the Solebury Messenger does not represent endorsement by the Township or its officers of any products, services, businesses, or ideas mentioned. Also, no political advertisements will be accepted.

Staying on top of meeting times with email alerts!
Visit: soleburytwp.org
Click the News tab, click “Email Alerts,” and enter your email address.

Solebury Roofing Contractors, Inc.

- Locally owned and operated
- All work installed by owner
- All work 100% guaranteed
- Fully insured and bonded
- Roofing professionally installed since 1970

215-534-0284
Soleburyroofing.com

2302 Street Road Lahaska, PA
Office and Fax 215-794-7634

New Hope Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab

215-862-4195
NewHopePT.com

All Insurances Accepted
Comprehensive Pain Relief for a Better Life

Joyce, Kathy, Janet, Bill, Natalie and Ann
Planning a Winter Getaway?
Police Dept. Warns of Vacation Safety Issues

While you may think of the summer as vacation prime time, criminals also see winter getaways—especially those that take place on lengthy school breaks—as opportunities for burglaries.

Police Chief Dominick Bel-lizzie urges resi-dents to “make your home look lived-in when you go away.”

In particular:
• Let friends and neighbors know when you will be away for vacation.
• Before you leave, let police know exactly when you will be away and how you can be reached.
• If you are leaving a car home, ask a neighbor to move it each day.
• Set any alarms and be sure the alarm company knows how to reach you.
• Don’t leave trash or recycling cans at the roadside for pickup—ask a neighbor to move the cans for you at the appropriate times.
• Cancel newspapers (or have someone pick them up) and have the post office hold your mail.
• Set timers to turn lights on and off intermittently (don’t leave the porch light—or other outside light—on all day and night).
• Lock all doors and windows.
• Don’t leave valuables in plain sight.

For help with any non-emergency home safety concerns, contact Township Police at 215-297-8201 during business hours.

Planning an Addition or Renovation?

Be smart: Talk to the Township first. We can help you navigate the Township’s forms, approval process, codes, and zoning regulations. Getting it right the first time could save you time and money.
Aquetong Watershed Association Completes Watershed Assessment
Recommends Action Plan to Protect Water Supply

AQUETONG WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
aquetongwatershed.org

The Aquetong Watershed Association recently completed a comprehensive two-year assessment of the Aquetong Creek watershed with help from a Pa.-DEP Growing Greener grant, paid consultants, and more than 50 dedicated volunteers, Association Treasurer Les Isbrandt reported.

The Bucks County Conservation District managed grant funds for the association.

The assessment engaged experts in evaluating existing data as well as in collecting new data on the eight-square-mile watershed, which spans parts of Solebury and New Hope.

Findings suggest that the watershed as a whole and its 23 miles of streams appear to be healthy now, but show signs of stress related to development and use.

Concerted action is needed to protect the future quality and quantity of the water supply, Les said. On the basis of the assessment’s findings and observations, the association has identified a range of actions to protect and conserve the watershed, some of which follow.

Water Quality
Homeowners with private wells that supply drinking water have responsibilities to their families and the community to monitor and safeguard the water supply.

Action: Develop a well-testing education program and provide guidance to encourage homeowners to have their well water tested annually to ensure safe water quality.

Under Act 537, each municipality is required to have a DEP-approved sewage facilities plan.

Action: Help to educate property owners with on-lot septic systems on good management practices that reduce the potential for contamination of the water supply.

Moderate-to-high nitrate levels are present in surface water and groundwater as a result of fertilizers from residential and agricultural sources.

Water Quantity
Various studies conducted by Solebury estimate that the Aquetong watershed may incur a water deficit of as much as 500,000 gallons per day in normal precipitation years and 750,000 gallons a day in drought years, with lower deficits in years of higher-than-average rainfall.

Due to increasing strain on supply—such as population growth, continued exporting of wastewater to Lambertville, and changes in weather patterns—two successive drought years could present significant additional challenges to the water supply.

Action: Encourage all residents to conserve the water supply through behavioral and engineering practices.

Watershed Conservation, Protection, and Preservation
Local streams, ponds, and lakes experience elevated temperatures on hot summer days, which impair stream conditions.

These higher water temperatures are exacerbated by the impact of dams, impervious surfaces (like parking lots and roads), and lack of adequate tree cover along streambanks.

Action: Continue to seek ways to reduce the amount of water subjected to dams, improve stormwater and impervious surface ordinances, protect riparian buffers from encroachment, encourage people to stop mowing down to the streambanks, and plant more trees.

Join Us at Our Open House
March 29 & 30
9-11 AM

Pre-K for 4’s and young 5’s
Pre-School Classes for 3’s
Toddler-Grow for 2½ year olds
- Dedicated to the social & emotional development of the young child
- Small class sizes & gentle atmosphere for learning
- Long-standing, experienced staff
- Faith-based principles support a home-like environment
- Extended full-day program available

Called 609-397-8483.

CFS EQUITY SERVICES, INC.
PA Licensed Mortgage Brokers PROVIDING MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS
www.cfsequitymortgage.com

William A. Frey, Jr.
President
Office: 215-297-9745
Cell: 267-337-0488
Fax: 215-297-8866
Email: wfrey10@comcast.net
7 Sugan Close St., New Hope, PA 18938
Please call me for mortgage solutions.

William Frey
- Solebury Resident Since 1977
- Member, Pa. Assn. of Mortgage Brokers
- NMLS #103405
Development along the Route 202 corridor will create more impervious surfaces and runoff into Aquetong Creek.

**Action:** Work to improve green and low-impact development practices, and create demonstration projects to protect stream corridors.

Riparian buffers play a key role in protecting streams from encroachment, pollutants, and excessive runoff.

**Action:** Be vigilant in finding ways to protect, preserve, and improve these areas from development, poor land-use practices, and poor maintenance habits.

The region’s infrastructure was severely damaged and altered by the combined impact of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011. If the natural resource protections that were enacted in the last two decades had not been in place, the impacts of these storms would have been even more severe.

**Action:** Continue to strengthen ordinances; participate in any comprehensive planning conducted by the Township; and work with local governments on the key findings of the assessment and problem areas identified.

The overabundance of invasive plants and dense deer population crowd out or destroy native flora and generally distort the ecological balance of the forests.

**Action:** Encourage both municipalities to develop a long-term and integrated program to find ways to restore the balance, by working first in designated areas near the headwaters of main streams and proceeding downstream to mitigate negative impacts throughout the watershed.

Aquetong Lake and Aquetong Spring (also known as Ingham Lake and Spring) are both valuable assets of the Aquetong watershed and our community.

**Action:** Encourage Solebury Township to diligently develop the Aquetong Lake property for the community. The dam and cold water bypass issues are clear mandates for the Township.

---

**Other Beneficial Actions**

The association offers the following reminders as a guide to actions that support the watershed:

- **Chill Out:** Reduce dam impact, increase tree canopy, improve riparian buffers.
- **May Not Last Forever:** Don’t take water supply and quality for granted.
- **Get Smart(er):** Strive for more natural resource protection, not less.
- **Go Native:** Take back areas decimated by invasive plants.
- **Let’s Talk:** Maintain an open dialog with residents and Township officials.

---

**What Can You Do?**

Unless someone like YOU cares a whole lot, nothing is going to get better.  
—Dr. Seuss

- Go for a walk and become aware of what’s happening around you.
- Plant native, non-invasive plants and trees.
- Inspect and maintain your private well and septic field.
- Test your drinking water or read your utility’s water quality reports.
- Get informed and get involved: Join a watershed association.

---

**FREE Consultation When You Mention This Ad**

**PROBATE:**

Let Me Help You Through the Process

Attorney Yvette E. Taylor-Hachoose is an experienced probate lawyer who can help you avoid problems that may arise after someone has died. She can also guide you through:

- Wills & Living Wills
- Trusts
- Estate Planning & Elder Law
- Business Succession Planning

Law Offices of Taylor-Hachoose  
Washington Crossing, PA  
215-321-4033  
www.ythlaw.com

Yvette E. Taylor-Hachoose is the author of Stop! What Are You Waiting For?  
Your Step-by-Step Guide to Estate Planning. She is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center. She has served as Vice President, with Prudential Insurance Company and Assistant General Counsel with both CA Corporation and Prudential.
Supervisors Recognize Volunteers

The 2012 Board of Supervisors is pleased to present the Township residents who have volunteered to staff the Township’s advisory boards and committees in 2012.

“While we engage professionals in many key capacities, local government functions in large part because Solebury residents step forward to staff our advisory boards and committees,” explained Supervisor Chair Robert Heath, Jr.

“Many communities struggle to find volunteers,” he noted, “but we have a long tradition of participatory democracy in Solebury, and we take a lot of pride in that.”

Please join the supervisors in thanking your neighbors for their service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012 Advisory Boards and Committees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Advisory Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Liaison: Dominick Marano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Schwalm, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widgette Kelly, Vice-Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Phillips, Assoc. Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Benner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Farbotnik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry Fetterolf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren McDonough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Architectural Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Liaison: Paul Cosdon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurence Peseski, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betsy Muzina, Vice-Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cristian Blackwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moira McClintock, AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Ruddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Preservation Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Liaison: Robert Heath,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm Crooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Hafner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley A. Marcus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph O’Banion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karl Pettit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Ubel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Zanidakis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Liaison: James Searing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor Liaison: Edward McGahan,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Hearing Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For ad rates, call 609-397-8483.

Bank on Bahnck
for all your
Tree and Lawn Care Needs

Fully Insured
Free Customized Estimates
215-651-8716
www.bahnck.com

Treatment and Management of
Eye Diseases & Disorders

www.seelife.net
Lambertville • 609-397-7020
Rt. 29 & 179 at Bridge St., Lambertville, NJ 08530
Hopewell • 609-466-0055
84 East Broad St., Hopewell, NJ 08525

K. Daniels, OD FAAO and Associates
Academic Faculty at the Penn. College of Optometry
Book Author:
Contact Lens, Refractive Surgery, Dry Eye & Presbyopia
Difficult Contact Lens Fittings
Laser Vision Co-Management
Dry Eye Treatment
Children’s Vision
Corneal Reshaping
Surgical Staff Affiliated with Wills Eye Group in Princeton

Majority of Vision Plans and Medical Insurances Accepted
Our offices are also providers for many of the same vision plans offered at the majority of retail eye centers.

To learn more about Township advisory bodies, visit: SoleburyTwp.org
Parks and Recreation Dept.

Upcoming Events

Annual Easter Egg Hunt
March 31, 10 AM, rain or shine, Pat Livezey Park
Children 8 and under. Arrive early to make sure your children do not miss the start of the hunt. Parking is available at the upper entrance of the park at the corner of Hagan and Parkside Drives. In the event of rain, prizes will be distributed at the snack stand until supplies are exhausted.

Summer Adventure Camp 2012
July 2 - August 10, NH-S Upper Elementary School, 180 West Bridge St., New Hope
For more information and registration form, visit: http://www.soleburytwp.org (Parks & Recreation tab)

To keep abreast of local sports news, visit these websites:
www.soleburytwp.org (Parks & Recreation tab)
www.soleburybaseball.org (baseball)
www.soleburybasketball.org (basketball)
www.tcteams.com/nhspopwarner (football)
www.tcteams.com/solebury (soccer)
www.soleburywrestling.com (wrestling)

Bowman’s Hill
WILDFLOWER PRESERVE
Where Mind, Heart and Spirit Bloom

Save the Dates!
Spring Native Plant Sale
May 5 & 6 and May 12 & 13
10 am - 4 pm

Located 2.5 miles south of New Hope, PA
1635 River Road • 215-862-2924 • www.bhwp.org

STAND UP
AND BE NOTICED
with a full-page insert like the one in this issue.
609-397-8483

New Jersey's leading auction house is just across the river in Lambertville.
FREE VALUATIONS OF FINE ART, ANTIQUES, JEWELRY, ASIAN, ESTATES AND COLLECTIONS. PHOTOS WELCOME.
- David Rago: 20th/21st C. decorative arts info@ragoarts.com
- Meredith Hilferty: Fine art meredith@ragoarts.com
- Tom Martin: Estate furnishings, decorative arts and Americana tom@ragoarts.com
- Sarah Churgin: Jewelry, silver, and accessories sarahchurgin@ginall.com

FREE WALK-IN APPRAISAL MONDAYS FROM 1–4 PM
RAGO ARTS AND AUCTION CENTER • 333 North Main • Lambertville, NJ 08530
609.397.9374 • ragoarts.com
Solebury Township Parks and Recreation presents

Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 31, 10 am • Rain or shine • Pat Livezey Park
(see p. 7 for details)

The next issue of the Solebury Messenger will mail on May 2.
Deadline for advertisements is April 5.

*SPOONER*
15% OFF PACK AND SHIP

The UPS Store
Logan Square
New Hope
215-862-3600

Offer expires July 4th!

THC
THOMAS H. CREWS, INC.
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR
PA & NJ www.CrewsSurveying.com
Property Surveys • Site Plans • Subdivisions
Stormwater • Land Development • Grading
Thomas H. Crews, PLS
THC_ThomasHCrews@comcast.net
215-766-2477 Fax 215-766-2399

SOLEBURY CHIROPRACTIC
DR. MICHAEL J. PREDIGER
2996 SUGAN ROAD • BOX 85
SOLEBURY, PENNSYLVANIA
215 297 8444
HANDS ON HEALTH CARE
FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Your ad could be here.
609-397-8483

RESTIGE
Heating & Cooling
Solebury, PA
• Free estimates on new installations
• Seasonal tune-ups
• Maintenance Agreements
• Service on all makes & models
• Water heaters, humidifiers
• Emergency service available
215-297-0811
Family owned and operated.

Concerts in Sergeantsville, NJ
March 17 - Beppe Gambetta, guitarist
April 21 - Wayne Taylor & Appaloosa
Bluegrass at its best!
Tickets $20
Buy tickets: wdvrfm.org or 609-397-5991
WDVR • Rt. 604, Sergeantsville, NJ