

South Coventry News

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Help Your Neighbors By Gardening!

South Coventry Township is partnering with the North Coventry Food Pantry and the Owen J Roberts School District to distribute fresh produce to those in need.

Six schools in the Owen J Roberts School District have built raised planting beds to provide an opportunity for hands-on education, teaching students about planting seeds, plant growth and the nutritional value of produce. South Coventry learning that some of the schools need help tending the beds when school is out of session since students and teachers are not as available as during the school year. Volunteers are needed to help water and weed the beds as well as to harvest and deliver produce.



Produce harvested from the OJR Middle School, French Creek, West Vincent & East Vincent Elementary Schools and St. Andrews Church.

The harvested produce is being distributed to clients of the Food Pantry. Manned by volunteers, the North Coventry Food Pantry started as a way to assist residents after Hurricane Agnes. Currently the Food Pantry serves all municipalities within Owen J Roberts School District including South Coventry Township. As a part of the Chester County Food Bank, the Food Pantry supplies food to over 90 families in Northern Chester County primarily through donations made by the public.

As the North Coventry Food Pantry normally distributes once a month, South Coventry is collecting the harvested produce and has become a weekly produce pick-up location for clients of the Food Pantry. Produce has been received from the OJR Middle School, French Creek, East Vincent and West Vincent Elementary Schools and St. Andrews Church as well as from some volunteers' home gardens!

If you are willing to help maintain or harvest produce this summer, please contact the Township Office at (610) 469-0444 or email scoventry@fast.net. For more information on the North Coventry Food Pantry, please check out their Facebook Page or call (610) 326-5659. Donations of non-perishable food items can also be dropped off at the South Coventry Township Office during normal business hours.

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**Starting with the November
2012 General Election,
PA Law now requires
voters to show an acceptable
photo ID to vote at the polls.
See page 2 for more.**

Valid Photo ID Required for Voting in November

Starting with the November 2012 General Election, Pennsylvania law now requires voters to show an acceptable photo ID in order to vote at the polls. All IDs must contain a name, photo and an expiration date that is current. Acceptable forms of ID include:

- Pennsylvania driver's license
- PennDOT photo ID card
- U.S. Passport
- U.S. Military ID
- Photo ID issued by a PA care facility
- Employee photo ID issued by a Federal, State, County or Municipal government
- Photo ID issued by an accredited PA public or private institution of higher learning



A registered voter that does not currently have an acceptable form of ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes at a PennDOT Driver's License Center. The voter must fill out the correct application and provide two other required forms of identification to obtain a photo ID. Absentee voters will be required to provide their PA driver's license number or photo ID number on their application for absentee ballot or the last four digits of their Social Security Number.

For more information, regarding Pennsylvania's new Voter ID Law visit www.VotesPA.com or call 1-877-868-3772. For more information on how to obtain a photo ID for voting purposes, stop by a PA Driver License Center or visit www.dmv.state.pa.us/voter/voteridlaw.shtml.

Summer Stormwater Tips

Keep these tips in mind when planting and performing maintenance around your home!

- Try to limit the amount of impenetrable surfaces in your landscape. Use permeable paving surfaces such as wood decks, bricks or concrete lattice to let water soak into the ground.
- Allow thick vegetation to grow along streams and creeks to slow runoff and soak up pollutants.
- Plant trees, shrubs and ground cover on your property. They can absorb up to 14 times more rainwater than grass lawns and require less work to maintain!
- Don't hose down driveways or sidewalks. Instead dry sweep paved areas to prevent additional runoff.
- Wash your car on grass so water will soak into the ground instead of flowing into stormwater systems.
- Place litter, INCLUDING cigarette butts, in trash receptacles. Litter that is thrown in the streets will be washed into our waterways.
- Properly dispose of household hazardous wastes. Check out www.chestercountyswa.org for upcoming collection dates and locations.

ROVER Transportation

ROVER has been part of the community since 1984 and was created to provide reliable and diversified transportation for the residents of Chester County. Their services are especially designed for citizens who no longer drive or have no other means of transportation. ROVER is ideal for residents who may need special assistance to travel.

ROVER's service area generally consists of Chester County but trips can be made as far as 15 miles outside of Chester County for medical trips. Group rates are also available. Riders must schedule their rides at least a day in advance.

Anyone can ride ROVER but you must first register. To participate in certain reduced rate programs you must also qualify. To register or find out more info visit www.riderover.com or call (610) 696-3854.

Check Out Chester County's Guide to Local Farm Products!

The Chester County Agricultural Development Council's Guide to Local Farm Products is celebrating its 10th anniversary of helping people find local agricultural products! Check out their Guide to Local Farm Products which showcases what makes Chester County so special: highly skilled farmers working some of the best soils in the world to provide fresh, high-quality farm products. The 2012 guide includes a map and listing of local producers and retail outlets, profiles on Chester County's Farmer of the Year, a harvest calendar, delicious recipes and numerous informative articles on farming and how it benefits Chester County. Check out the 2012 Guide to Local Farm Products at www.chesco.org/agdev or stop by the Township Office to pick up a copy!

'Steer Clear' of Road Crews and Emergency Responders



It is that time of year again, and you know what that means, road workers will be out patching potholes, maintaining storm drains and paving roads. And while you may be in a hurry to start your vacation, here are some sobering statistics to keep in mind:

- More than 20,000 workers are injured in road construction work zones each year
- In 2010, there were 1,886 vehicle crashes in work zones across PA, including 110 crashes on local roads. Four of the 23 resulting deaths were workers.

Pennsylvania has several statutes that are aimed at protecting road crews and motorists. The Commonwealth's work zone safety laws require drivers to turn on their headlights when entering posted work areas. Stiff penalties are enforced including a 15-day suspension of your license, certain fines being doubled for certain traffic violations including speeding, driving under the influence and failure to obey traffic devices. Anyone convicted of homicide by vehicle for a crash that occurs in an active work zone may receive up to five years of additional jail time. In 2011, 571 motorists had their license suspended for work zone violations.

In addition to work zone safety laws, PA also has a Steer Clear Law, which requires motorists to use caution at the scene of an emergency, traffic stop or a disabled vehicle being assisted by emergency responders. This law requires drivers to move into the left lane when first responders are stopped on the right shoulder. If drivers cannot move over because of traffic or other conditions, the law requires them to reduce their speed. Although 49 states have adopted "steer clear" laws, 71% of the population is not aware they exist.

PA Steer Clear Law applies any time an emergency vehicle has its lights flashing or where road crews or emergency personnel have set up flares, signs or other traffic control devices. Failure to move or slow down can result in a summary offense and a fine of \$250. Fines are doubled if they occur in construction zones and if a worker is injured, the driver could have his license suspended for 90 days. When law enforcement isn't present, Steer Clear allows road crews and emergency responders to report violations and citations can be issued based on those reports.

The bottom line is to use caution when you see road workers, law enforcement, fire officials, EMTs, tow truck operators, or any emergency vehicle along the road. These professionals put their lives on the line to protect and serve the public. Do your part to protect them while they ensure your safety!

South Coventry News

South Coventry Township
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South Coventry Township Upcoming Meetings

Board of Supervisors - 7:30 PM

Monday, July 9, 2012
Monday, August 6, 2012
Tuesday, September 4, 2012
Monday, October 1, 2012

Board of Supervisors - 7:30 AM

Friday, July 6, 2012
Friday, August 3, 2012
Thursday, August 30, 2012
Friday, September 28, 2012

Historic Commission - 7:00 PM

Monday, August 13, 2012
Monday, September 10, 2012
Monday, October 8, 2012

Planning Commission - 7:30 PM

Monday, July 16, 2012
Monday, August 20, 2012
Monday, September 17, 2012
Monday, October 15, 2012

Open Space, Recreation & Environmental Oversight Board - 7:00 PM

Monday, July 23, 2012
Monday, August 27, 2012
Monday, September 24, 2012
Monday, October 22, 2012