



LITTLE BRITAIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Spring 2025

Volume 31 Issue 1

As some of you may recall, in our Spring 2022 Newsletter the Board happily advised that it was receiving \$447,090.62 through the American Rescue Plan funding. At the time the funding was received, the guidelines on its use were vague. It took nearly a year for clear regulations and options to become available. One thing that was clear from the beginning was that each governmental entity had to have all funds spent or obligated by December 31, 2024. Any unobligated funds after that date would have to be returned to the federal government.

While there was obviously a LONG “wish list” of items on which to spend this funding, the Board thoughtfully reviewed all their options. We are now pleased to report how the Board utilized this one-time influx of federal funding.

In October 2022, the Board used \$17,488.00 to replace the roof on both pavilions and the restroom/storage building at the park. An additional \$28,200.00 was spent in June 2023 to repave the park’s parking lot.

In April 2023, new laptops and printers for both township offices were purchased for \$5,579.13.

The construction of the front porch on the municipal building was completed in 2023 at a cost of \$77,500.00. This addition has already shown a marked decrease in our monthly electric and fuel bills.

A new playground structure was recently added at the park which cost \$80,775.00. This structure replaces the original play structure

that was built when the park opened in 1986 and was in dire need of replacement. This new structure should provide years’ worth of enjoyment and play for the families who use our park.



The Board has also placed an order for a 2025 Peterbilt Truck at a cost of \$215,656.00. While a definitive delivery date has not yet been established, the new vehicle will replace one of the two 2000 Peterbilt’s currently in use.

Lastly, the Board was able to transfer close to \$28,000.00 to its general fund from the ARP fund to cover some engineering fees that were incurred during 2024 in their efforts to obtain State/PennDOT approval on a road project.

While not all items on the “wish list” were able to be completed, the Board hopes our residents are pleased with the manner in which this one-time funding was allocated.

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PROPERTY REASSESSMENT

The Board would like residents to know that Lancaster County is preparing for the 2027 property reassessment and encourages property owners within Little Britain Township to do the same. Counties are required by law to conduct periodic reassessments of all properties. The County of Lancaster previously completed reassessments in 2017.

Property owners can begin checking their property record through the Property Assessment Website, which is noted at the bottom of this article, to ensure that all data on file is correct. Property owners who find inaccurate or missing information may complete a Property Correction Form or may contact the Property Assessment Office by emailing paquestions@lancastercountypa.gov.

A reassessment is the process used to determine accurate and fair property values within the County. The process of the assessment will begin in 2025 for the 2027 Reassessment. In 2025 and 2026, an assessor from the Lancaster County Property Assessment Office may visit your property for an **outside-only** inspection, including taking photos from the exterior of the property. Assessment staff will have county identification, and their vehicles clearly marked designating them to be from the Property Assessment Office.

The purpose of a reassessment is to ensure the fairness of taxes relative to property values, not to increase taxes. Reassessment does not generate additional revenue for the County, Municipality or other real estate taxing bodies. Even though a property's assessment may increase, taxing bodies must adjust their current tax rate to remain neutral, before making any other adjustments.

The property assessment office is ready to assist residents with preparation for the 2027 reassessment and are prepared to answer any questions you may have. For more information visit www.lancastercountypa.gov/154/property--reassessment or call 717-299-8381.

FROM THE ZONING OFFICE

Another Spring is upon us. You are reassured the bitter winter weather is gone when you see the typical telltale signs; temperatures rising, trees budding, manure being spread and ground being worked. Spring is a season that fills our senses, you not only see the signs it has arrived, but you also hear and smell the season. As I write this article my neighbor is spreading the smell of Spring right outside my front door, working on making green acres green once again. Please remember the State of Pennsylvania requires **ALL** persons who house livestock/produce manure or spread manure on their ground, regardless of the number of animals or the size of the property, to have a Manure Management Plan (Chapter 91.36). Properties whose livestock numbers verses spreadable acres owned reach certain thresholds, will require additional planning via a Nutrient Management Plan. These plans must be available for review upon the request of the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD) or Department of Environment Protection (DEP). Please note, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has updated the Manure Management Plan Guidance and Workbook effective April 27, 2024 and all persons are to be using the newly revised workbooks. To make the transition easier, I do have copies available at my office free for the taking.

PRODUCE WASH WATERS

For many years Little Britain Township had regulations in place addressing how produce wash water (water generated during the washing and packing of produce) were to be handled. At the request of an operator The Board of Supervisors spent months communicating with DEP in an attempt to ensure our requirements were compliant. At the conclusion of this process Little Britain Township drafted and adopted an ordinance establishing standards and procedures for the installation, use and maintenance of storage tanks designed to receive agricultural waste. This ordinance took effect on December 10, 2024. These new regulations apply to all storage tanks. A storage tank is defined as a retaining tank for the collection and storage of agricultural and food

processing waste (including produce wash water). We also drafted an LBT Tank Ordinance Fact Sheet which has been posted in the lobby with plenty of free copies available to members of the public. This Fact Sheet clearly explains the steps all produce farmers need to take to become compliant (existing operators and new operators). It has been three (3) months since the enactment and response has been minimal. On March 11, 2025 the Little Britain Township Board of Supervisors set a filing deadline of June 9, 2025 for all operators. This filing deadline means that all growers who are generating water from washing produce, regardless if they are using a tank or discharging directly to the land, must make application to become compliant no later than June 9, 2025. Starting the steps to become compliant for those individuals using a storage tank as part of their operation means they must have filed a Storage Tank application with Rick Prettyman by the June 9th deadline. Individuals operating a facility generating wash waters that do not contain soaps, chemicals or other cleaning agents and not using a storage tank must provide a copy of their Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the property. Said plan must specifically document only clean water is being discharged to the land and the E&S controls being implemented to address said. To meet the June 9th deadline, you can either submit a copy of your E&S Plan or a letter from the planner who will be drafting the document. I have included a copy of the Fact Sheet on page 5 of this newsletter to ensure everyone is aware of their obligations for the handling of produce wash waters.

POND UPDATE

If you are planning the installation of a new pond or the enlargement, alteration or cleaning out of an existing pond, please be sure to contact the Township Office for guidance. These projects must be reviewed by the Department of Environmental Protection and Lancaster County Conservation District to determine what, if any, permits will be needed. These agencies will make their determination by checking design criteria, including not limited to,

wetlands, floodplains, drainage areas, maximum depth, storage volume, disturbance area, etc. If permits are necessary, they must be obtained prior to the start of the project, and copies provided to the Township. If your project does not need a permit from either agency, it may still need an Erosion and Sediment Control permit from the Township, again prior to the start of earth disturbance. Please don't hesitate to contact the Township for further information or assistance.

STORMWATER SMALL PROJECTS

Per the Little Britain Township Stormwater Ordinance, which was adopted May 13, 2014, a Small Project is defined as *“regulated activities that, **measured on a cumulative basis (from the date of enactment of this Ordinance)**, create additional impervious area of up to 5,000 sq. ft. or less...”* If you fall within the definition of a Small Project, you are granted the ability to self-plan your stormwater facility using a simplified approach, which only addresses the first 1” of rainfall. We have designed a user-friendly workbook that provides clear instructions, application pages, and sample drawings to make the process easily understood.

Recently, there has been some confusion regarding this definition, specifically the meaning of *“**measured on a cumulative basis.**”* The term cumulative means, starting May 13, 2014, the total square footage of newly impervious surface for each project you planned is added together and when that total square footage reaches 5,000 square feet no future project will qualify under the simplified approach (AKA small project planning). Once you reach this limit all future projects will require the assistance of a professional land planner who will design a stormwater feature using the standard method of addressing both rate and volume of the stormwaters.

Please note for properties directly associated with an agricultural activity containing between ten (10) acres to twenty (20) acres, your cumulative new impervious surface area is 10,000 sq. ft. and for properties over twenty (20) acres your new cumulative impervious surface

area is 20,000 sq. ft. Specific criteria must be met to qualify for the additional coverage. For example, the farm must have an active, implemented, and functioning Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control or Conservation Plan, verified in writing by a qualified planner. A copy of the plan and the verification letter must be submitted with the small project application and design.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

On behalf of the Little Britain Township Board of Supervisors, I would like to thank those residents who took the time to complete and return your survey documents. Your input is important, and we thank you for your efforts. The Little Britain Township Steering Committee continues to work on revising the Township Comprehensive Plan and upon completion will move the document into the review process.

Avian Flu In Pennsylvania

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been confirmed in five Pennsylvania counties: Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and Lehigh. The first case of 2025 was detected on January 27 and the Department of Agriculture, worked in concert with the USDA taking measures to contain the virus, including quarantining affected farms and testing nearby facilities.

Any person who encounters a sick or dead wild bird, do not touch it, but rather contact the Game Commission by dialing 1-833-742-9453. If you become sick after contact, you should call your primary care physician. Farmers who suspect infection should contact the Department of Agriculture by dialing 717-772-2852 and press option 1. This line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Farmers and owners of backyard flocks can find control or surveillance zones on the PADLS website at <http://padls.agriculture.pa.gov/> Choose the Disease Information tab and click on **AI/HPAI**. It is important to note the public should avoid non-essential visits to farms and be sure to avoid bio-secure areas. The Township does have a supply of HPAI laminated posters with all important information available free of charge in the lobby.

LBT Storage Tank Ordinance

FACT SHEET

► **What types of storage tanks require a permit from the Township?**

Any above-ground or underground retaining tank for the collection and storage of agricultural and food processing waste (including produce wash water).

► **What are the requirements for collection and use of produce wash water?**

Based on guidance from the PA Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”), the following requirements apply to produce wash water:

WATER ONLY

Produce will be cleaned only with water, without the use of any soaps, chemicals, or other cleaning agents.



- May be stored in a Storage Tank and/or discharged directly to the land subject to appropriate erosion controls.
- Erosion controls must be documented in an Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (“Ag E&S Plan”).

WATER WITH CLEANING AGENTS

Produce will be cleaned with water and/or soap, chemicals, or any other cleaning agent.



- May be stored in a Storage Tank in accordance with DEP regulations.
- May be pumped from the Storage Tank in accordance with DEP regulations.
- May be applied to the land via drip irrigation or other system, subject to DEP requirements which are summarized below.

► **What are the requirements for land application of produce wash water?**

Based on guidance from DEP, Water with Cleaning Agents constitutes Food Processing Residual (“FPR”) waste. Typically, the discharge of residual waste requires a residual waste permit issued by DEP. FPRs may, however, be applied to the land for agricultural purposes without a residual waste permit if the application complies with best management practices (“BMPs”) set forth in the DEP Food Processing Residual Management Manual. The manual is available online at: <https://greenport.pa.gov/elibrary/>

► **What does the Township require for a Storage Tank permit?**

Residents seeking a Storage Tank permit to collect produce wash water will be required to:

- Verify whether the Tank will store Water Only or Water with Cleaning Agents; and
- Verify whether Water with Cleaning Agents will be applied to the land:

► YES: The resident must: (1) verify the method of application (drip irrigation, spray irrigation, etc.); and (2) provide documentation of compliance with BMPs in the form of: (1) an approved Nutrient Management Plan (with Conservation District approval letter); (2) an approved Ag E&S Plan (with approval letter); or (3) other acceptable document demonstrating a Food Processing Residual Management Program for the property.

► NO: The resident must provide documentation that disposal will comply with DEP regulations in the form of: (1) an approved Nutrient Management Plan (with Conservation District approval letter); (2) an approved Ag E&S Plan (with approval letter); or (3) other acceptable document demonstrating disposal and removal in compliance with DEP regulations.



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PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
YORK, PA 232
PERMIT NO

Spring  CLEAN UP DAY
Saturday, May 17, 2025 8 am til Noon

\$5.00 Up to a truckload of items
\$3.00 All tires up to 15" diameter
\$15.00 All large whites - doors MUST be removed

Batteries will be accepted free of charge.

No electronics (computers, printers, TVs) will be accepted.

No hazardous materials, paint cans or plastic ground cover will be accepted.

No ash from household trash, burn piles or coal.

