



What's the Buzz?

On Saturday, June 15, a neighbor and former board officer contacted the Civic Association to inform of a bee swarm that had formed on Pennsboro Drive. Board President Ken Lee contacted the Capital Area Beekeepers Association and within a week they sent back a photo of the bees' new habitat! They have been named the "Pennsboro Swarm." Bee removal specialists know how to relocate bees without harming them and can prevent them from returning to a yard. Bee swarming season in Pennsylvania is from May to June and most species of bees in the state nest in the ground or in wood.



You can help wild bee populations by planting available food sources year-round, providing nesting habitat, and reducing pesticide use. Conserving bee biodiversity helps preserve critical pollination services. Hornets, yellow jackets, and wasps can produce painful stings but most wild bees are not aggressive. Some tips to help prevent bee stings include staying away, moving slowly, carefully picking up items on the ground, and taking precautions if you are allergic. Remember that bee keepers wear protective gear to handle them!

[Learn more about Capital Area Beekeepers Association here at their website.](#)

They have list of swarm collectors who may be available to advise or come collect the bees.

Civic Association Board 2024

President: Ken Lee

Vice President:

Amy Waugh

Secretary: Elizabeth Potter

Treasurer: David Krall

Zone Directors:

Linda Lippert

Dan Gross

Jason Petronis

Steve Crosby

Laura Witte

Joe Washburn

Richard Sopko

Jim Nace

Lee Williamson

Dean Converse

Lauren Ortiz

Matt Reis

Nell Nickolas

Scott Cawthern

There are current vacancies for Zone Directors. Please contact us if you are interested.

Important Dates

July 4 Independence Day

Aug 20 Cumberland Valley School District First Student Day

Sept 2 Labor Day

What's Happening in Westover

Westover Mom & Daughter Volunteer Together!

Melissa and Brooke Washburn, who live on Whitehill Drive, were recently featured in local news for their work together as firefighters for [Hampden Township Volunteer Fire Company](#)! They attended the Citizens Academy together in 2019 and you can read about their journey [here on Patch News](#) and [here on CBS 21](#).



2024 Street Resurfacing Project Notice

Westover East is scheduled to be resurfaced September 3 to September 6. Motorists should expect modified traffic patterns which will be controlled by certified flaggers to ensure safety. There may be limited local road closures at times, however access to developments and properties will be maintained throughout the project. Mail delivery, trash, school bus, and emergency services will not be disrupted. The contractor will use message boards and issue notices to residents regarding the project schedule, on-street parking restrictions and temporary road closures. The Township and Pennsy Supply request that residents comply with parking restrictions and make every effort to use off street parking during construction. Additionally, trash/recycling bins and temporary basketball backboards should not be placed in the roadway once notice of a paving schedule and parking restriction are posted on a specific street. These efforts will expedite resurfacing of the streets and help limit any inconvenience the project may cause. When feasible, motorists are strongly encouraged to avoid the project areas while work is ongoing. If a motorist notices paving material on their car, after traveling through the project area, they are encouraged to wash the car as soon as possible to remove the material. [Click here to find Township updates on this project.](#)

We LOVED seeing everyone at the Spring Picnic!

Many thanks to Steve Crosby and all who helped with the Spring Picnic. It was fun to see all the balloon creations, families connecting, and new faces!

Haven't paid dues for 2024 yet? [Please visit the Store on the website to pay your dues](#) if you have not already paid for 2024. Dues provide for shared maintenance of the Commons areas, holiday decorations, the Spring Picnic, support of events for children and families, the directory, and Westover communications through email and the website. A second round of dues letters will be coming next month for those who have not yet paid for 2024. We appreciate your support!

Creating a Tick Resistant Garden

These tips were published 5 years ago in the newsletter, but we get good feedback when we include outdoor care tips so we are sharing this article again! Westover Zone Director and resident Anella Nickolas, who is also a Master Gardener, contributed these tips. According to the CDC, Pennsylvania leads the nation in Lyme disease cases. Climate change is changing the seasonal temperatures to extend the seasons where ticks are active in PA. [There is also a great graphic at this link with zones of tick prevention for your home.](#) You may question some of the tips about deer, but we've heard from morning runners that they see deer in Westover at dawn; maybe you've seen them in your yard or on a motion camera.

Landscape changes you can make in order to keep your property as close to a tick-free habitat as possible:

- Restrict areas where deer, rodents and ticks are common, such as forest and brush. Make them off-limits for family activities.
- Create a three-foot barrier of woodchips or rock to separate the off-limits area from the lawn.
- Keep woodpiles away from the home, or site them on the woodchip barrier.
- Remove leaf litter.
- Create a tick-safe zone, a nine-foot barrier of lawn between the woodchips and patios, gardens, and play sets.
- Create open, sunny areas by pruning trees to let in more sunlight.
- Place play sets in sunny areas.
- Keep lawns mowed.
- Trim shrubs near walks and patios.
- Remove groundcover around trees.
- Surround gardens with fieldstone, gravel or lawn paths.
- Construct an eight-foot-high fence to keep deer out. (*Fences require permits in our Township*)
- Select deer-resistant plants for your landscape.
- Remove exotic-invasive species that deer love to browse, such as Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*).

REMINDER: Obey Traffic Signs

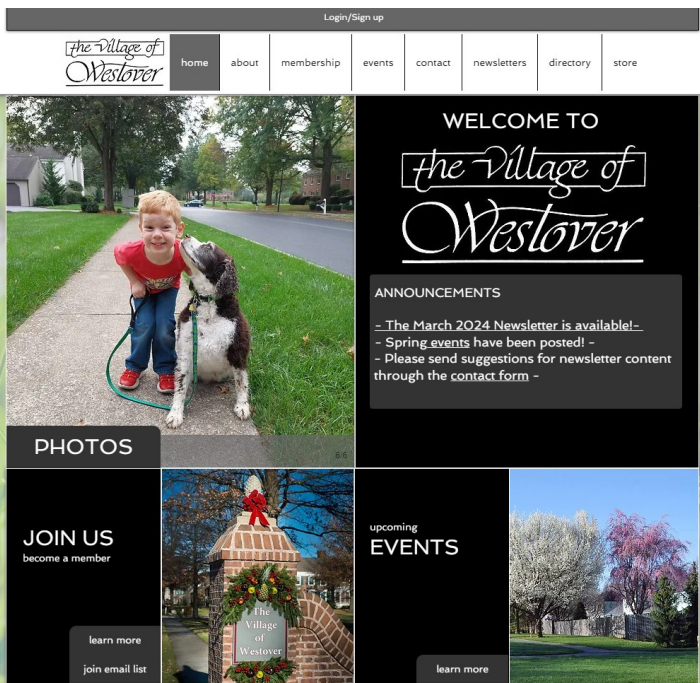
The **SPEED LIMIT ON SKYPORT** is 35 MPH. In **WESTOVER**, **SPEED LIMITS** are 20 and 25 MPH. Neighbors continue to voice concern about vehicles speeding through Westover. Dogs, kids, runners, walkers, contractors, and unexpected objects can appear quickly. **Turning in from Skyport Road can be a cue to slow your speed.** Be mindful of stopping at **ALL STOP SIGNS** within Westover. Pedestrians have responsibilities as well and should do their part to stay visible, use established sidewalks, or stay as close to the curb on the road as possible.



What can you find on the Westover Website?

Glad you asked!

At www.villageofwestover.org, you will find upcoming events, recent and archived newsletters, photos from events over the years, and much more! You can pay your dues online, access the members only log-in to find the directory or your elected zone director, and even make a donation to Westover Civic Association! The fitness trails are mapped as well, so you can find ways to walk, run, bike, or meet your movement goals. Check out the website or share it with a new neighbor! It's also a quick way to contact us if you have a lost pet, trash issues, or bees! Click Contact on the top menu to send a message!



SCHOOL'S OUT

Please be cautious driving in the neighborhood as kids are enjoying the summer and families are out enjoying all hours of daylight! On especially hot days, more people are out walking and exercising their dogs before the heat hits. Be attentive if you are a driver or a pedestrian!

Also, the speed limits do not change! As posted earlier, speed limits in Westover are 20mph and 25mph and Skyport Rd is 35mph. There is also a crosswalk near Hampden Elementary that is still used often in the summer so drive carefully!

Westover Willie



Dear Westover Willie,

Q: My gram has this app on her phone called Merlin ID. She has a "life list" of birds she has tracked in her backyard and in state parks she visits. She doesn't have any owls but she has over 100 birds logged from her travels! She gets it out when she visits us in Westover and it's amazing how many species we have right here in our yard! No owls yet.

A: Maybe that explains why people are on their phones in the Commons and while walking in Westover! Best not to be distracted but we birds are interesting creatures, I know. Yes, Merlin ID is a like a citizen science project that helps to identify birds by picture and song/call. The calls are very accurate, I heard one once and thought it was a real feathered friend. I hope you and your gram enjoy learning more about birds through the app! Thanks to our friends at Cornell Lab for sparking more interest in the life of birds! The app is powered by billions of observations shared by people around the world contributing to the database. Not to brag, but I'm pretty good at keeping to myself because I'm nocturnal and very alert. Happy to answer your questions in this newsletter even if I don't make into your app.

Neighborhood Dog Reminders

1. Please Clean Up after your Dog.
2. Please respect other people and pets' space. You are always welcome to ask before approaching another dog or person.

[Township Codes guide control of pets via voice or leash and you can find the codes here.](#)

the Village of
Westover

Village Of Westover Contact List	
Name	Phone number
EMERGENCY – Fire, Police, Ambulance	911
Westover Civic Association	Villageofwestover.org
Comcast Cable	1-800-934-6489
Cumberland County Offices	717-240-6100
Cumberland Valley School District	717-697-8261
District Justice	717-697-2201
Fredricksen Library	717-761-3900
Hampden Township	717-761-0119
Hampden Pool	717-737-4219
Hampden Recreation Department	717-761-4951
Hampden Township Utility Department	717-909-7145
Humane Society	717-564-3320
PA American Water Co	1-800-565-7292
P A Dept. of Transportation	1-800-932-4600
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
PPL Electric Utilities	1-800-342-5775
Waste Management	1-800-869-5566
Township Tax Collector	717-737-4822
UGI Gas Utilities Inc	1-800-276-2722
United Water PA	717-564-3662
Verizon Communications	1-800-837-4966

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