

South Coventry News

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Clean Water Practices You Can Make a Difference!

How you live and care for your family, lawn and garden affects local creeks and rivers and—ultimately—the purity of the water you drink. The reason? Water drains downhill. When it rains, some water soaks into your flowers, plants and trees. Some may also run off your property and flow into a nearby body of water—a spring, creek, river, or pond, for instance.

Water run-off from lawns, driveways and streets takes with it residual motor oil, fertilizer, pest-killing products, pet waste, and other pollutants. This kind of unintentional polluting of the watershed is called “nonpoint source pollution.” It’s a byproduct of human activities and natural processes involving land, air, and water.

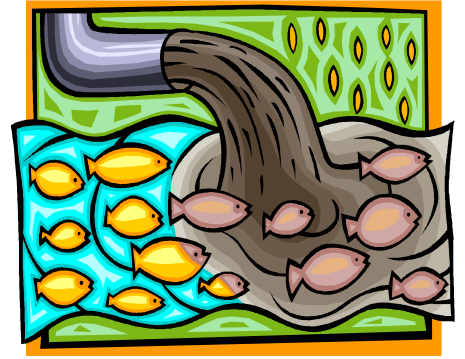
You can help reduce the nonpoint source pollution affecting the French Creek watershed and smaller creeks and springs in South Coventry by:

- ◆ **Directing your home’s downspouts** into a heavily planted area, grassland or existing wetland on your property, rather than onto driveways and walkways.
- ◆ **Letting bugs live—at least outside.** Attract birds and bats to your yard and you’ll have less need of pesticides that harm waterways
Plant Coneflowers, Goldenrod, and Winterberry/Serviceberry shrubs and the birds you attract will eat insects and their eggs year-round
- ◆ **Fixing a leaky car or lawn mower.** Leaks of oil, gas, antifreeze, and other motor fluids run off lawns, driveways and roadways and into the watershed when it rains and when snow melts.
- ◆ **Properly disposing of hazardous materials**—used motor oil, batteries, antifreeze, paints—at a community collection site (call your township for collection dates and places).
- ◆ **Going native.** Let “survival of the fittest” become your lawn-care motto and you’ll never have to irrigate or fertilize your lawn again! Over time, with the help of wind and birds, bare spots will fill in with clover, moss, wildflowers, etc.

Reduce the “lawn” in your yard by planting:

A wildflower or native grass meadow. Perennial grasses like Switch Grass, Big Bluestem and Indian Grass are native to PA, vary in height from two-to-eight feet, and provide cover and food for wildlife. The deep root systems these grasses develop over time help filter groundwater.

Shrubs, trees or groundcover—like Periwinkle—to prevent soil erosion.



SmartPower

Help make South Coventry Township a Clean Community!

The Board of Supervisors passed a resolution committing to use 20% clean energy by 2010 for all Township buildings and facilities. Making this clean energy commitment is the first threshold necessary for South Coventry Township to ultimately qualify as a Pennsylvania Clean Energy Community. The Pennsylvania Clean Energy Communities Campaign is an initiative of the Pennsylvania Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) and SmartPower, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting CLEAN ENERGY.

As part of the campaign, the Township will receive a free 1 kW solar energy system when 7% of our community signs up for clean energy. Sign up your home and/or business for CLEAN ENERGY today! See page 2 for details.

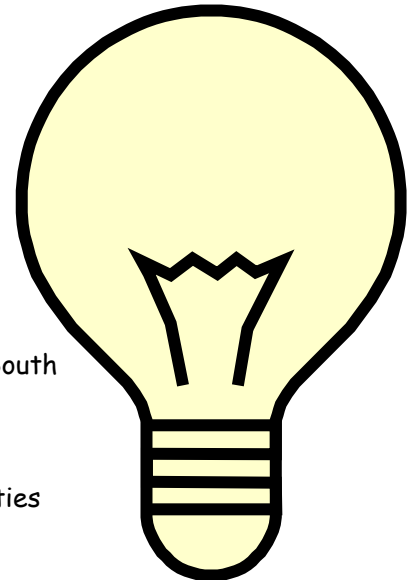
MAKE SOUTH COVENTRY TOWNSHIP A PENNSYLVANIA CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY NOW!

**EVERY HOUSEHOLD & BUSINESS IN SOUTH COVENTRY
TOWNSHIP CAN NOW SIGN UP FOR CLEAN ENERGY!**

When you sign up for clean energy, the lights will still go on and all of your appliances will work just the same as they always have. The only difference is that you will be helping to create cleaner air, a healthier community and true energy independence.

Act now and there is a **SPECIAL BONUS**: when 7% of our local community signs up for clean energy with one of the Pennsylvania clean energy suppliers listed below, South Coventry Township will receive a **FREE 1kW solar energy system** as a symbol of the Township's leadership!

To see how many people have already signed up, visit the PA Clean Energy Communities Campaign website: <http://communities.trfund.com/>.



CLEAN ENERGY, IT'S REAL. IT'S HERE. IT'S WORKING IN SOUTH COVENTRY TOWNSHIP!



Mark Your Calendars!! Pughtown Village Walk

Join us for the **Pughtown Village Walk** on **Thursday, August 23, 2007**, with tours beginning at 6:00 PM. The Village of Pughtown is situated in a hollow surrounded by wooded hills to the north and rocky inclines to the south. The French Creek and Beaver Run pass through this valley. James Pugh, a Welsh Quaker, settled here and began a plantation in the 1700's; hence the name "Pugh Towne". The historical village once housed businesses such as blacksmiths, wheelwrights and tailor shops, as well as a creamery, a hotel, schools and a general store. The village historians will be dressed in period costume and share a brief history of the featured properties.

Many volunteers are still needed. Consider volunteering for one of the following jobs:

Historians - share a brief prepared history of one of the featured properties

Tour Guides—usher groups of 15 to 20 guests from property to property

Registrars—welcome guests and assign them to a tour guide

Call the Township Office (610 469-0444) to volunteer or for more information!

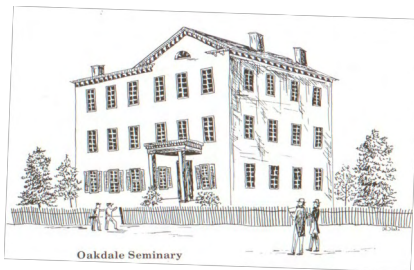
Parks & Rec Update

Connie Batdorf Park - The playground is completed and bustling with lots of activity. A pavilion will be erected adjacent to the playground. Nick and Nate Braskey have offered to build the pavilion and furnish it with handmade picnic tables for their Eagle Scout projects! Many thanks to Nick and Nate!!

Woody's Woods—The Parks & Rec Board will be preparing a Recreation/Conservation Plan for Woody's Woods. Native plant and wildlife species will be identified. A trail map highlighting items of interest will be developed.

**BE RESPECTFUL!!
CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR
PETS!!**

Please note: This has become a problem throughout our Township. Remember—It is YOUR responsibility to clean up after your pets.



Pughtown Book

Jane Latta and Mark Busenkell have been busy working on an enhanced reprint of Mary Busenkell's book, *Portrait of a Village, An Informal History*. We anticipate having the book available for purchase at the Pughtown Village Walk. Many thanks to Jane and Mark for their many hours of dedicated work on this project!

Maintaining your On-Lot Septic System

- ◆ Have the tank pumped regularly
- ◆ Don't drive or park on your absorption field; vehicles can compact soils and crack pipes
- ◆ Avoid "septic tank additives." Some clog your leach field and contaminate groundwater
- ◆ Don't pour cleansers, medicines or chemicals down the sink or toilet; they kill "good bugs" needed to break down septic waste
- ◆ Avoid septic overload. Give your system wastewater processing "breaks" between laundering, dishwashing and bathing activities
- ◆ Do not use toilets to dispose of bulky, slowly decomposing wastes
- ◆ Do not use a garbage disposal - these types of wastes are very hard on your septic system
- ◆ Do not plant trees and shrubs over or close to your septic system
- ◆ Route surface water and downspout drainage away from your absorption field. Water from melting snow, heavy rains and other runoff can temporarily overwhelm your septic field
- ◆ Investigate or report sewage odors in your neighborhood. Septic odors are NOT normal or healthy for you or the environment!!

Upcoming Meetings in South Coventry

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EVENING MEETING - 7:30 PM

- ◆ Monday, July 9, 2007
- ◆ Monday, August 6, 2007
- ◆ Tuesday, September 4, 2007

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MORNING MEETING - 7:30 AM

- ◆ Friday, July 6, 2007
- ◆ Friday, August 3, 2007
- ◆ Friday, August 31, 2007

SOUTH COVENTRY PLANNING COMMISSION - 8:00 PM

- ◆ Monday, July 16, 2007
- ◆ Monday, August 20, 2007
- ◆ Monday, September 17, 2007

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL - 7:00 PM

- ◆ Monday, July 16, 2007
- ◆ Monday, August 20, 2007
- ◆ Monday, September 17, 2007

HISTORIC COMMISSION MEETING - 7:00 PM

- ◆ Monday, July 9, 2007
- ◆ Monday, August 13, 2007
- ◆ Monday, September 10, 2007

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD - 7:00 PM

- ◆ Monday, July 23, 2007
- ◆ Monday, August 27, 2007
- ◆ Monday, September 24, 2007

OTHER BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS -

- ◆ Scheduled on an as-needed basis

All meetings are held in the South Coventry Township Building unless otherwise noted.

South Coventry News

South Coventry Township
Board of Supervisors
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Pottstown, PA 19465

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