



CHESTNUTHILL
TOWNSHIP



ANNUAL **REPORT** 2021

A great place to live, work, and play.

Chestnuthill Township

KEEP IT CLEAN. KEEP IT GREEN.





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OUR HISTORY

Our community was officially founded September 20th, 1763, in the time before the Chestnut Blight of 1900. Our Township was named for the abundance of chestnut trees which filled the area's rolling hills. Throughout our history, farming has been the primary industry which gave life to countless mom and pop shops to support the coming centuries. Farming remains a pivotal part of our region, and small businesses continue to thrive and meet the needs of our growing population.

Today, Chestnuthill Township is the second largest township in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, with a population of approximately 17,156 residents. Additionally, our Township encompasses over 155 miles of publicly maintained roadways, making road maintenance a budgetary priority. Throughout our history, the Township has been focused on providing quality municipal services to meet the needs of both our residents and businesses. The Township is governed by three locally elected Supervisors; Carl B. Gould II, Eric Snyder, and Robert Baxter. Supervisor meetings are held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Municipal Building (271 Route 715, Brodheadsville, PA).

OUR MISSION

Chestnuthill Township aims to provide quality municipal services to its residents and businesses in an efficient, effective, and economically responsible manner, striving to provide and maintain a safe, clean, and enjoyable place to live and do business.



Resident Promise:

Chestnuthill Township is committed to making our community a great place to live, work, and play. We will continue to implement improvements to our public facilities that meet the diverse needs of our 17,156 residents.



Business Promise:

Chestnuthill Township is committed to fostering the growth of our business community. We will continue to invest in infrastructure and development projects to meet the needs of our 600+ local small businesses.





LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Dear Chestnuthill Township Residents,

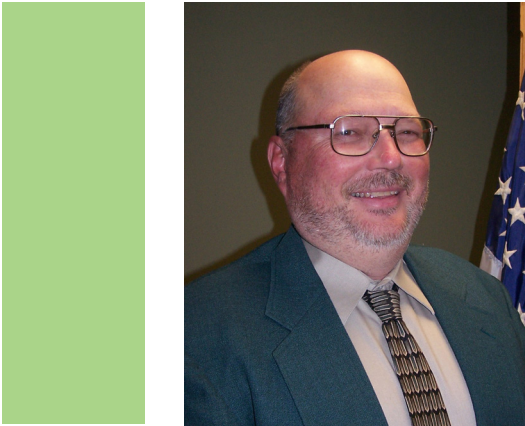
2021 was a challenging year, but it was also a year of community, recovery, and hope. Within this annual report, you will find important updates on all that has been achieved within our departments throughout 2021. This report will keep you informed on the happenings within the Township.

There were several projects identified within our Capital Improvements Plan that were completed in 2021. These projects include the Pheasant Run and County Park Culvert replacements (Page 20). Additionally, the Township received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, which provided a COVID-19 relief package to state, county, and local governments. These funds will go towards investments in our community (Page 22).

As we move forward into 2022, the Township will continue to serve its residents by accomplishing projects that pertain to our roadways, parks, infrastructure, and services in accordance with our mission. To learn more about our upcoming projects, please read page 24 for more details. We hope that this annual report finds you well, and that the report keeps you updated on all the happenings in Chestnuthill Township.

Sincerely,
The Chestnuthill Township Board of Supervisors

MEET THE BOARD



Carl B. Gould II
Chairman

The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Carl B Gould II. "Chuck", is a lifetime member of the West End Fire Company. He is serving as the Director of the Monroe County Conservation District Board, as well as the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts Regional Director for the Northeast. Additionally, he chairs the Chestnuthill, Jackson, Eldred, Ross, and Polk Township (CJERP) Regional Planning Commission.

Eric Snyder
Vice-Chairman

Eric Snyder is serving as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Eric is the Office Manager for the Kresgeville Office of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Inc. He is a partner at this firm and is a member of the Board of Directors. He is a board member for the West End Parks and Open Space Commission and the Pocono Chamber of Commerce. He is the chairman of the West End sub-comity for the Chamber.



Robert Baxter
Supervisor

Robert Baxter serves as a Supervisor for Chestnuthill Township. He is a founding member of the Pocono Heritage Land Trust (PHLT), where he continues to serve PHLT as the Chair of the Acquisitions Committee. He also has an over 40 year career with Keller Williams Real Estate Office in Pocono Pines. Additionally, Rob is a member of the Chestnuthill Township Historical Society.

RECYCLING CENTER

THE IMPORTANCE OF RECYCLING

To maintain the natural beauty of our community, we encourage every resident to take advantage of our award-winning “pay-as-you-throw” Recycling Center. Located at 3223 Hillcrest Dr in Effort, our Recycling Center allows residents to recycle over 38 items including styrofoam, batteries, rigid plastics and so much more. For more information on our facility, please visit www.chestnuthilltwp-pa.gov.



HISTORICAL IMPACT

The Chestnuthill Township Recycling Center provides a donation area for the Historical Society, dedicated to preserving the historic Merwinsburg Hotel. Residents may donate acceptable items such as bikes, books, toys, tools, and more. Then, these items can be purchased by other residents for a simple contribution to the Chestnuthill Township Historical Society. All residents should see the attendant before they depart the recycling center to ensure that their item is acceptable for donation.

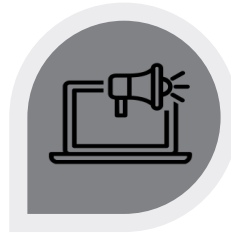


EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

To ensure the efficiency and ease of use of the Recycling Center for our residents, improvements to the facility are being made to decrease wait times. The Township is looking at a potential redesign that would allow for an increase in the number of people that can recycle simultaneously. The operations processing efforts are being reviewed to determine the most effective way to create high quality, marketable recycling commodities. Chestnuthill Township plans on utilizing a portion of the American Rescue Plan funds and State Recycling Grant funds to implement these improvements.

EFFICIENCY

Reduce waste and increase the speed of materials handling.



MARKETABILITY

Increase the quality of the recycled materials we bring to market.

TIME

Allow residents to move through the facility with ease and speed.



SAFETY

Protecting our most valuable commodities, our residents and staff.



ROAD DEPARTMENT

The Road Department is responsible for maintaining the roads through snow plowing, snow removal, road drainage, road paving, line striping, road patching, street sweeping, street signs, and other essential roles. To keep efficient and well-maintained roads, it is necessary to systematically repave all Township roads over a 15-year period, which requires 10 miles of roadway be repaved every year.



Street Sweeping

The Road Department distributes salt and cinders to the road surface for safety during the winter storms. After the winter, these materials need to be removed from the roadways, which requires the Road Department to street sweep.



Road Paving

Each year our roads are evaluated and graded through our Township integrated road grading system. Low graded roads are scheduled for resurfacing based on drainage, traffic patterns, traffic volumes on the road, finances available, and other characteristics.



Tree Trimming

During the summer, tree limbs and branches that breach the road right of ways are trimmed to reduce potentially dangerous situations. Not only does this process improve visibility for drivers, but it also allows snow and ice to melt easier on the roadways in the winter months.

WINTER STORM REPORT

During the 2020-21 winter season, the Chestnuthill Township Road Department had 13 sizeable snowstorms in addition to the snow squalls and dusting that impacted our area. The largest snowstorm dumped approximately 2 feet of snow from January 31st until February 2nd which required 548 man hours. This event also required nearly 150 tons of salt for the roads throughout the duration of the storm. The average cost per storm this winter was \$12,962.30 at an average of \$85.84 per mile.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TOO...



OIL ROOM PROJECT

The dedicated oil room was completed in January of 2021. This room now safely houses all of the Road Department's oil-based materials in a centralized location. This improvement allows our crew to store bulk oil onsite and access it more efficiently.



MECHANICS TRUCK

In May 2021, a 2003-335 Peterbilt truck with a Vanier compressor and stellar crane was purchased to be a mobile mechanic's workspace. This acquisition allows our mechanics to work off-site on all the vehicles and equipment the Township maintains.



Storm Repairs

Tropical Storm Henri and Hurricane Ida damaged our roads and resulted in issues such as shoulder wash-outs and undermined roads. Our Road Department worked tirelessly to ensure that these storms inconvenienced residents as little as possible.



ALTEMOSE DR CULVERT REPLACEMENT

In June of 2021 Chestnuthill Township acquired an emergency permit to replace a failed culvert on Altemose Drive. The failed concrete culvert was replaced with a 36-inch smooth lined pipe with poured in place headwalls.



PARKS & RECREATION

The Chestnuthill Township Supervisors are dedicated to providing quality park and recreational opportunities in our community, including the Chestnuthill Township Park, West End Regional Park, Big Woods Natural Area, and Silver Valley Natural Area. They would like to extend their gratitude to the West End Parks and Open Space Commission (WEPOSC) for their shared vision and dedication to making this goal a reality. WEPOSC and the Township's Building & Grounds Department work tirelessly every year to maintain the hundreds of acres of natural areas and dozens of community events they host. If you would like more information on any of the parks listed above, or upcoming community events visit www.chestnuthilltwp-pa.gov.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PARKS



CONCERTS IN THE PARK

The Concerts in the Park began nearly six years ago. A variety of music is performed, as well as free admission and ice cream for the community. The West End Open Space Commission held three concerts this past summer, and the Township looks forward to continuing this tradition.



SUMMER CAMP

The West End Park and Open Space Commission hosted their 3rd annual summer camp at the Chestnuthill Park. The camp ran for 6 weeks and was filled with crafts, experiments, and presentations.



WEST END DOG PARK

The West End Regional Dog Park was opened to residents in July of 2020. This park includes a 2 1/2 acre park with 3 areas separated for small, medium, and large size dogs. The park gives dogs an opportunity to play off leash, and interact with other dogs of similar size.

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

REDEVELOPMENT IN BRODHEADSVILLE

Chestnuthill Township continues to work with local business owners and homeowners towards the improvement of the Brodheadsville Commercial Corridor. This year, we saw a new renovation of Wawa and the construction of a new daycare facility, Sunny Day Preschool and Daycare. Moving forward, the Township remains focused on continuing to foster the sustainable development of our community.



CHECKING IN ON SHORT TERM RENTALS

The Chestnuthill Township Zoning Department would like to remind potential owners of short-term rentals of Ordinances 2019-1 and 2019-2, regarding Short-Term Rentals. Currently, Short-Term Rentals are only permitted in the General Commercial (GC) Zoning District with conditional use approval and require a yearly renewable permit. The Township Zoning Department has been actively enforcing and heavily monitoring the Short-Term Rentals that are operating illegally in residential areas. Unfortunately, these ordinances have been ignored by some, causing inevitable disruptions in our residential communities. The Township Supervisors believe it is important to protect our quality of life in residential areas.



CHESTNUTHILL WELCOMES

We would like to formally welcome 13 new businesses and 1 relocated business to the Chestnuthill Township community!



Budget Store & Lock 2nd Location

532 Jenna Dr
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



Car Mart Auto Center

110 Marshall Ln
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



Cascioli Towing

107 Countryside Dr
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



Dependable Medical Equipment & Supplies

2331 Route 209
Sciota PA, 18354



Liz Locks & Loving It, LLC.

2783 Route 115
Effort PA, 18330



Green Leaf Spa

110 Shafer Dr
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



Independent Auto Service

3191 Route 115
Effort PA, 18330



J & B Auto Installation & Detailing

106 New Brodheads ville Blvd
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



Philly Pretzel Factory

2783 Route 115
Effort PA, 18330



Pizza 2

1656 US-209,
Brodheads ville, PA, 18322



Bailey's Candy

110 Shafer Dr
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



West Scale LLC dba Saber South

2164 Route 209
Saylorsburg PA, 18353



Island Vybz Cuisine

1475 Route 209
Brodheads ville PA, 18322



Car Mart 1 Auto Group LLC

106 Camellia Rd
Brodheads ville PA, 18322

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

PLEASANT VALLEY ECUMENICAL NETWORK

Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Network (PVEN) provides clothing, groceries, and social service referrals to residents of Chestnuthill, Eldred, Hamilton, Jackson, Ross, and Polk Township. The pantry works diligently to provide low-income families in crisis with the essentials to maintain a standard of living while also encouraging independence and self-sufficiency. For over 30 years, PVEN has been serving those in need throughout the West End. The PVEN Food Pantry's motto is "Giving with Heart" as they assist over 280 families each year (about 900 people overall) through their food pantry, clothing closet, summer meals, and Christmas toy programs.

Volunteering with PVEN is a great opportunity to engage in the community and provide a helping hand to others who live locally. With many families recovering from the hardships experienced in 2020, PVEN volunteers continued to serve the needs of the West End community in unprecedented numbers. In 2021, the pantry provided summer lunches at the Western Pocono Community Library, returned to the "Choice" style pantry approach, and participated in the Farmers Market Food Drive. PVEN is located at 2334 Route 209, Sciota. For more information, please visit pven.net.

We are thankful to have PVEN in our township and we encourage everyone to get involved in supporting their efforts. There are opportunities to give back to the community through PVEN by donating or volunteering, including helping with summer meals, the food pantry, and clothing programs. If your household needs assistance, please call (570)-992-3136 to sign up for distributions.



CHESTNUTHILL BY THE NUMBERS

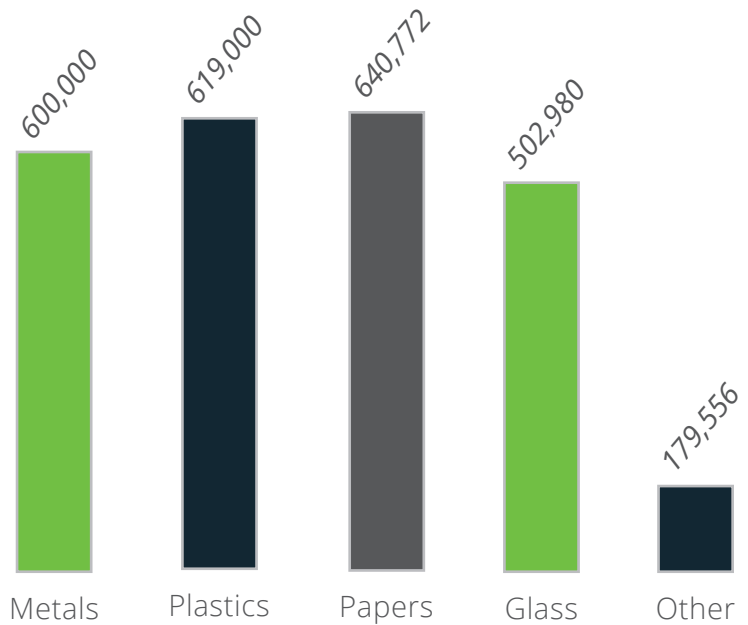
Below you can find interesting statistics related to grant funding, revenues, recycling totals, and more. If you would like further information regarding any of these statistics, you can visit our website www.chestnuthilltwp-pa.gov.



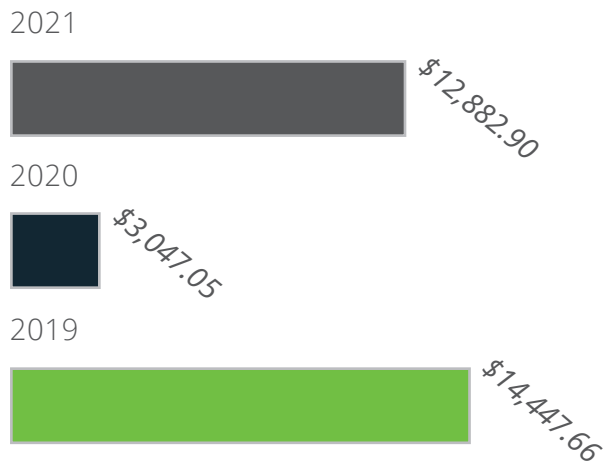
Approved Grants Breakdown

- State Grants (\$2,439,819)
- Private Grants (\$810,000)
- County Grants (\$183,649)

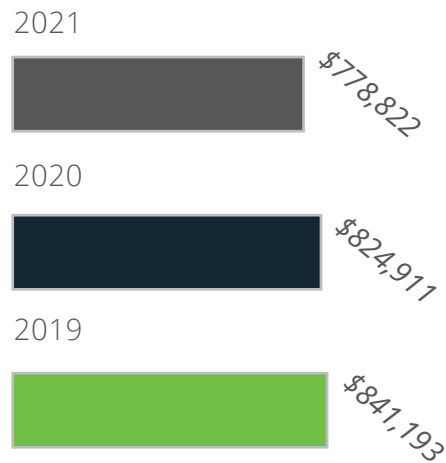
Recycling Totals (Per Pound)



Park Program Revenues



State Liquid Fuels Funding



UPCOMING PROJECTS

Chestnuthill Township has several upcoming projects for this year and beyond, including the construction of the following:



Shared Emergency Services

The Shared Emergency Services Facility has been delayed as the Township pursues additional federal grant funding. Once constructed at the corner of Firehouse Ln and SR715, the facility will house the West End Volunteer Fire Company, West End Community Ambulance Association, and a Regional West End Emergency Operations Center. The Township anticipates construction to begin in 2022.



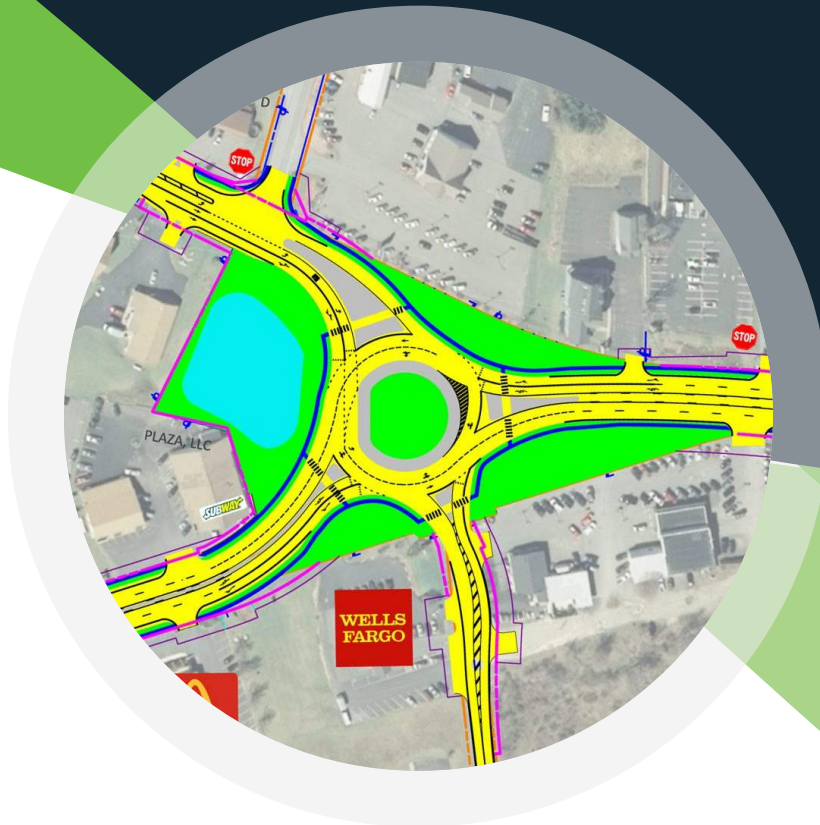
Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements

Chestnuthill Township Supervisors and staff work diligently to maintain quality services while maintaining and improving our community's infrastructure. The 2022 budget includes the replacement of two culverts on Bush Lane and a stormwater management project in the Country Terrace Acres Development.



Mixed Salt & Cinder Storage Sheds

The Township plans to construct two new mixed salt and cinder storage sheds alongside both existing salt sheds in 2022. The existing sheds will now be used to store direct deliveries of salt, while both new sheds will be used to hold mixed salt and cinder materials. This allows mixed materials to be prepped and stored out of the elements and ready to use when a winter storm event occurs.



PENNDOT ROUNDABOUT UPDATE

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) continues to move forward with the construction of two new roundabouts located on State Routes 209 and 115. According to PennDOT, this project will “increase safety, improve traffic operations and provide pedestrian access along the Route 115 and 209 corridors in Brodheadsville”. These improvements will also reduce the issue of congested traffic at the intersection of SR 209 and SR 115. In the early Spring of 2021, PennDOT awarded the contract for the project to Latona Trucking Inc for a little over \$18.4 million. Shortly thereafter, construction began, and the project is now on track to be completed by December of 2024. According to PennDOT, during most of the construction, one lane of traffic will remain open for drivers on both Routes 209 and 115 with most of the construction occurring overnight. For the most up to date information regarding the roundabouts, please visit www.pennDOT.gov or contact PennDOT District 5 by phone at 610-871-4106.

COMPLETED PROJECTS



County Park Culvert Replacement

Chestnuthill Township received grant funding from the Monroe County Conservation District to replace the County Park Road Culvert. The project provided a natural stream corridor through the culvert and reduced erosion through environmentally sensitive practices. This project entailed installing a new culvert with headwalls, stabilizing the bank of the creek, and creating connectivity to wetlands on either side of the road. Trout Unlimited assisted in designing the stream channel. Wayco, Inc. was then contracted to complete the project. The replacement of the County Park Culvert successfully replaced a key piece of infrastructure through environmentally sound practices.



Silver Valley Fishing Pier

The Township is pleased to inform its residents that the ADA accessible fishing pier, located at 152 Silver Valley Road, has been completed. Historically, the sight was a sand and gravel quarry, that now provides fishing opportunities. The Township contracted with E.F. Possinger & Sons Inc. to construct the fishing pier, which was completed in August of this past year. The project included construction of an ADA accessible parking area, trail, and fishing pier. This addition to our community provides opportunity for all residents to have access to fish and observe wildlife. The Township would like to take this opportunity to thank the Gould Family and all those that made a generous donation towards this project, in memory of the late Carl Gould and Elaine Gould.



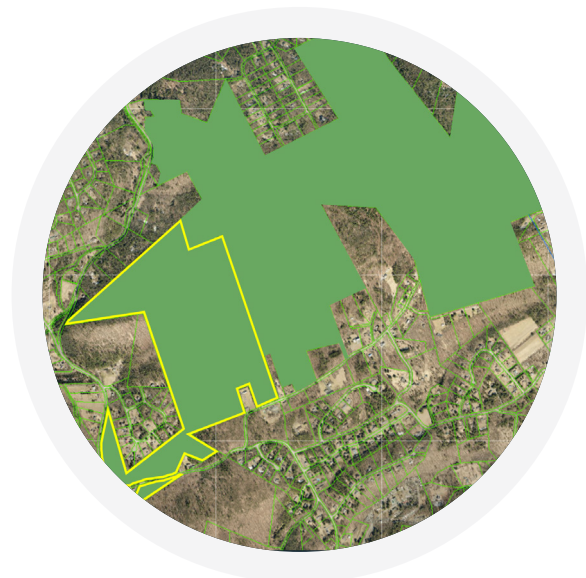


Pheasant Run Culvert Replacement

The Pheasant Run Road Culvert needed to be replaced due to the metal corrugated pipe under Pheasant Run Road failing. Severe waterflow created poor road conditions and could not be paved until a new culvert was installed. The culvert was replaced in 2021 as a part of the Capital Improvements Plan. The completion of the project included a 48 inch culvert pipe with headwalls, as well as the paving on Pheasant Run Road from the culvert to the intersection with Merwinsburg Road. The work was performed by Wayco, Inc. and was completed under budget.

Big Woods Natural Area Expands

On July 26th, 2021, the Township successfully bid on three properties, totaling 196.22 acres from the public auction of the Vianello Estate. These properties have been identified in the West End Park and Open Space and Recreation Plan of 2003 and the Township's Official Map as targeted open space acquisitions. The Township would like to thank the McMichael Creek Conservatory for their generous grant in the amount of \$130,000.00 to assist in this acquisition. The Township will also be applying to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for additional funding this spring. This acreage will become part of the "Big Woods Natural Area," and is permanently protected for all residents to enjoy.



AMERICAN RESCUE FUNDS

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed a \$1.9 trillion federal corona virus relief package known as the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 into law. This package provides \$360 billion for state and local governments, with \$13.72 billion designated for Pennsylvania and \$1,779,376.60 earmarked for Chestnuthill Township. The use of these funds is specified by the federal government for projects including but not limited to responding to COVID-19 and its negative impacts, lost revenues, and to make necessary investments in water, sewer, stormwater, and broadband infrastructure.



American Rescue Fund Breakdown

- Stormwater Projects
- Recycling Improvements
- Conservation



Recycling Improvements:

In 2023, the Township plans on allocating \$580,377.00 towards improving the capacity for social distancing at our Sanitation/Recycling Facility, as well as essential changes due to lost revenue. To accomplish these goals, the Chestnuthill Township Recycling Center is currently working on creating a more efficient way for residents to recycle with a potential redesign that would increase the number of people that can recycle at the same time.



Stormwater Improvements:

The 2022 budget includes the replacement of two culverts on Bush Lane and a stormwater management project in the Country Terrace Acres Development. These projects will be funded through the American Rescue Funds . The Township has allocated \$749,000.00 for Infrastructure Investments (Stormwater) in 2022.

THANK YOU

Chestnuthill Township would like to thank...



Chestnuthill Township would like to thank the volunteers at the West End Fire Company for their continued efforts to keep the West End a safe place to live, work, and play.



The Township greatly appreciates the efforts of Pride in Chestnuthill. Their dedication to keeping Chestnuthill Township clean and green have greatly improved our community. We thank all of their volunteers for their efforts.



The Township is grateful for the dedication of the West End Parks and Open Space Commission. They continue to plan and host recreational events that build a sense of community.



Chestnuthill Township would like to say thank you to the first responders at the West End Community Ambulance. The services they provide to our Township are greatly appreciated.

2022 Chestnuthill Township Directory

To get the latest Chestnuthill Township Updates via text, text "Chestnuthill" to 662-200-4303. This will keep you informed regarding Township emergencies, road closures, and more.

Supervisors:

Carl B. Gould II

E: cgould@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Eric Snyder

E: esnyder@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Rob Baxter

E: rbaxter@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Township Manager:

David R. Albright

E: dalbright@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Secretary/Treasurer:

Cathy A. Martinelli

E: cmartinelli@chestnuthilltpa.gov

IT & Grant Development:

John T. Matthews

E: jmatthews@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Roadmaster:

David Scheller

E: dscheller@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Planning & Zoning Director:

Matthew T. Neeb

E: mneeb@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Planning & Zoning Assistant:

Alexandra Dutt

E: adutt@chestnuthilltpa.gov

Real Estate Tax Collector:

June O'Neill

P: 570-801-7750

F: 570-801-7715

Building Code Inspector:

Blue Mountain Inspection Service

P: 570-943-2577

Sewage Enforcement Officer:

Hellen M. Beers

E: hbeers@chestnuthilltpa.gov