



TO: Kennett Township Board of Supervisors
FROM: Eden Ratliff, Township Manager
SUBJECT: August 2021 Department Head Report

1. COVID-19 Precautions

As everyone is aware the Delta variant for COVID-19, and other variants, are beginning to take hold in parts of the U.S. including Chester County who is experiencing high transmission. While vaccines appear to be helpful to those who contract the Delta variant, vaccinated persons can still transmit the variant to both vaccinated and unvaccinated people. The Delta variant appears to be particularly devastating to children who contract this. Vaccines for children under the age of 12 have not yet been released.

Accordingly, Kennett Township is asking all persons who have business at the Township to wear a mask including those who participate in public meetings. In addition, our team is adhering to mask wearing and social distancing to mitigate any potential spread. All of our committee meetings are hybrid and we encourage your participation through Zoom. The Township is still investigating technology upgrades for the meeting room to enhance virtual participation.

2. CCHD Mosquito Surveillance – POSITIVE WNV Results

The Chester County Health Department (CCHD), in partnership with PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP), continues to conduct mosquito surveillance throughout Chester County during the summer of 2021. This update is provided for your awareness of mosquito surveillance and results in your municipality during approximately the past month. Update summaries are planned to be provided on a routine basis for the remainder of the surveillance season.

WNV Surveillance Results (July 2021):

Collection Date	Municipality	WNV Result
07/01/2021	Kennett Township	Negative
07/21/2021	Kennett Township	Positive
07/28/2021	Kennett Township	Negative
07/29/2021	Kennett Township	Positive
07/29/2021	Kennett Township	Negative

CCHD's Mosquito Borne Disease Control Program will continue to conduct mosquito surveillance and larval control for the remainder of the summer season, especially in areas where WNV positive samples occur. No Ultra Low Volume (ULV) adulticide spray applications are scheduled at this time.

Information for Residents:

Residents should inspect their yards and spend time to clean up, reduce yard clutter, and dump out any sources of stagnant water. Residents may also purchase a variety of mosquito control and repellent products from most home and garden centers. Performing a community-wide cleanup helps reduce mosquito populations. Municipalities are encouraged to help promote cleaning up to reduce mosquito concerns and disease risk. Storm water management systems can sometimes contribute to mosquito populations and are also monitored by CCHD's Mosquito Borne Disease Control Program.

Many of the most common mosquito species in residential areas come from artificial containers left behind by people. Artificial containers can be something as small as a bottle cap and as large as a swimming pool. Additional containers such as tires, buckets, and tarps are preferred by mosquitoes because other predators found in nature which would prey on mosquito larvae are not present. During periods of drought, these containers continue to hold water and produce mosquitoes. One bucket or tire in someone's backyard can produce hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes in a year.

Mosquitoes can complete their life cycle within five to seven days during May-October. Residents are encouraged to use mosquito repellents when spending time outside. Individuals who do not like to use repellents can use an electric fan outside while on a porch or patio. Mosquitoes don't like the wind and the fan can help keep them away. As a last resort, residents can also purchase insecticides from garden centers and hardware stores to apply in their own yard, but need to be sure to follow the label instructions.

Chester County residents can visit CCHD's Mosquito Borne Disease website: <https://www.chesco.org/3624/Mosquito-Borne-Diseases>. They can also call CCHD's Mosquito Borne Disease Control Program at 610-344-6225. CCHD attempts to educate residents about the importance of cleaning up and eliminating mosquito habitats. Individuals can also report mosquito issues to CCHD at the following website: <https://www.chesco.org/4236/Housing-Insect-and-Vector-Concerns>.

3. East Marlborough Land Development

East Marlborough Township has received an application for an amendment to a conditional use application for a property located at 802 E. Baltimore Pike, the intersection of Route 1 and Schoolhouse Lane. The property borders Kennett Township residents in Longwood Crossing and Victoria Gardens. The land development plan, expected to begin after the amendment process concludes, includes a Wawa, a medical building, and a restaurant with pick up window at this time. The clearing and development of the lot will impact the neighboring Kennett Township residents; therefore, East Marlborough Township has directed the Applicant to present the plan to the Kennett Township Planning Commission for review, providing recommendations on how to mitigate the impact to our residents. The willingness of the Applicant and coordination with East Marlborough Township is greatly appreciated.

You can view the plan on East Marlborough's website via their Conditional Use Hearing posting from August 2nd: <https://www.eastmarlborough.org/conditional-use-hearings/>.

4. 2021 CFA MTF Application

The 2021 CFA MTF application has been submitted for the Kennett Greenway Connectors Project – Birch Street and Magnolia Underpass, to request the outstanding balance of the original funding request. Award announcements are expected in the fall of 2021.

5. PennDOT MTF 5 Points Roundabout Project

Township staff had a meeting with the project manager and engineer from PennDOT last week to discuss this grant. They received our acceptance letter in May and are working to finalize the formal agreement. We are meeting internally to discuss the best strategy for implementing this agreement as the three-year time frame to complete the grant begins from when we sign that agreement. We have until May 2022 to execute.

To date, this project only has a concept drawing of how the roundabout will improve the intersections of West and East Hillendale Road, Kaolin Road, Old Kennett Road, and South Union Street. The Township will be releasing an RFP for preliminary engineering once we decide on the best timeline.

6. Updates to Township Staff

The Township has several positions open for candidates to submit applications. Open positions can be found at www.kennett.pa.us/258/Job-Openings and include a Planner and an Accounting Assistant.

Respectfully Submitted.

Eden R. Ratliff
Township Manager