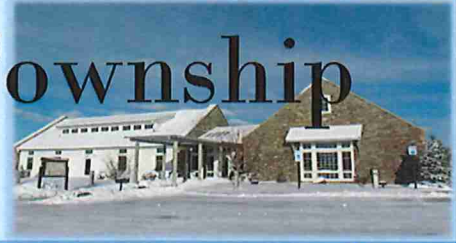




Honey Brook Township

Chester County, PA



Volume 12, Issue 1

Winter 2022

Board of Supervisors

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Please note: The Honey Brook Township Admin. Building lobby is a drop-off point for non-perishable donations to the Honey Brook Food Pantry during the Township's normal business hours or any evening that there is a meeting. Consult the Pantry's website for the most up-to-date list of accepted (and needed) donation items.

Attention:

We strive to deliver this newsletter to the mailboxes of all Honey Brook Township residents and property owners. If you feel you are missing from our list, please contact the Township Administration Office.

Dear Residents and Friends,

The Honey Brook Township Board of Supervisors is pleased to bring you this edition of our Township News, the second since the onset of Covid-19. It has been a long time in coming, and we appreciate your patience.

We suggest you keep this newsletter for future reference, as it contains important information. Up-to-date information is always available on the Township website at www.honeybrooktwp.com.

As has always been the case, please contact our Township staff at 610-273-3970 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the information contained in this publication or about the services the Township provides.

Sincerely,

The Honey Brook Township Board of Supervisors



Tracy Olsen

John McHugh

Laura Burdy

The following mission and vision statements were adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2004:

The mission of the Board of Supervisors of Honey Brook Township shall be to provide municipal services related to land use, police protection, and public works, in order to maintain a community that supports a tranquil and rural way of life.

The vision of the Board of Supervisors for the future of Honey Brook Township is that the Township shall remain a predominantly agricultural community that surrounds a population hub offering various commercial and social activities. The vision includes the establishment of a land preservation program, the concentration of non-agricultural uses along specific portions of major arterials, betterment of current low-income housing areas, upgrading of all governmental and quasi-governmental facilities, reduction of non-local traffic in congested areas, and exploration of Township and Borough interconnection.

Honey Brook Township Administration Office

500 Suplee Road * Honey Brook, PA 19344 * Phone 610 273-3970 * Fax 610.273.3909 * E-mail info@honeybrooktwp.com
Office hours: 9 am-3 pm Monday – Friday * Holiday Closures as announced/posted

General Information

Township Population (2020 census): 8,274
State Roads: 24 miles

Land Area: 25.4 square miles
Township Roads: 52.47 miles

Township Taxes. The Township collects two types of tax each year—a 1.5% Earned Income Tax and a real estate tax based upon a property's assessed valuation.

Earned Income Tax. Keystone Collections Group collects this tax on behalf of the Township and the Twin Valley School District (TVSD). The school district receives one-half of one percent from this tax. The remaining one percent goes to the Township (0.5% for general funding and 0.5% for land preservation purchases). Like your state and federal income taxes, you must file with Keystone by April 15th each year. Forms are available by contacting Keystone Collections Group 610-269-4402. Failure-to-File Notices for the previous year are sent after October 15. Call 1-866-539-1100 or visit Keystone's website at <https://www.keystonecollects.com/> to file electronically.

Real Estate Tax.* Residents in Honey Brook Township pay real estate taxes to three agencies:

1. **Twin Valley School District.** The School District collects its own real estate tax. The 2022-2023 tax rate is 31.6173 mills for Chester County. Contact the district's tax office at 610-286-8632 for more information.
2. **Chester County.** Chester County collects its own real estate tax (Chester County Treasurer: 610-344-6370). The 2023 tax rate will remain the same as in 2022--4.551 mills. Contact the County Assessment office at 610-344-6105 for more information.
3. **Honey Brook Township.** The Chester County Treasurer collects the Township's real estate tax. The 2023 tax rate will remain the same as in 2022--1.35 mills, allocated as follows: 0.7 mills to Township General Services, 0.5 to Fire Services, and 0.15 mills to Emergency Medical Services.

*County and Township tax rates take effect January 1; School District tax rates take effect July 1.



Twin Valley School District (TVSD)

Serving Elverson and Honey Brook Boroughs and Honey Brook and West Nantmeal Townships in Chester County; and New Morgan Borough and Caernarvon and Robeson Townships in Berks County

4851 North Twin Valley Road, Elverson, PA 19520-9310 * Phone 610-286-8600 * Fax 610.286.8608 * www.tvsd.org
Superintendent: Dr. Patrick Winters

Twin Valley High School * 610-286-8600 * 4987 North Twin Valley Road, Elverson, PA 19520

Twin Valley Middle School * 610-286-8660 * 770 Clymer Hill Road, Elverson, PA 19520

Honey Brook Elementary Center * 610-273-3615 * 1530 West Walnut Street, Honey Brook, PA 19344

Robeson Elementary Center * 610-582-9580 * 801 White Bear Road, Birdsboro, PA 19508

Twin Valley Elementary Center * 610-286-8670 * 50 Mast Drive, Elverson, PA 19520

Appointed Officials and Staff

Township Manager/Secretary, Warren Obenski: oversees the day-to-day administration of Township business, including budgeting, staff, and services.

Public Works Director, Don Johnson: oversees the maintenance of Township roads and signs, storm sewers, and Township buildings and grounds.

Treasurer, Peter Barsz: handles all receipts and expenses and provides detailed accounting thereof.

Building Code Official/Zoning Officer, Technicon Enterprises, Inc.: enforces zoning, building, and maintenance codes.

Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Robert Esposito, Jr.: prepares plans to protect the community from a natural or manmade disaster.

Engineer, Michael Reinert, Technicon Enterprises, Inc.: prepares designs for stormwater systems, roads, and bridges, reviews SALDO plans, and works closely with the Planning Commission.

Solicitor, Christopher Hartman, Esq.: provides legal opinions & guidance; represents the Township in court.

Solicitor to Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB), Charles Haws, Esq.: provides the ZHB with guidance.

Administrative Office staff: Miranda Acosta, Kris Bry, and Kristy Deischer-Eddy

Public Works Staff: Carl Brown, Kevin Kennedy, and Jeffrey Paulson

Township Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Recreation and Park Board: advisory body that makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding Township park areas and facilities. It also organizes and conducts a variety of recreation programs & activities.

Planning Commission: advisory body that reviews all proposed subdivision and land development (SALDO) plans and public hearing applications and recommends action to the Board of Supervisors. It also reviews proposed amendments to the Township's zoning and SALDO regulations and prepares the draft of the Township's Comprehensive Plan which is updated every 10 years.

Land Preservation Committee: advisory body that reviews applications for agricultural conservation easements and recommends farms for preservation to the Board of Supervisors.

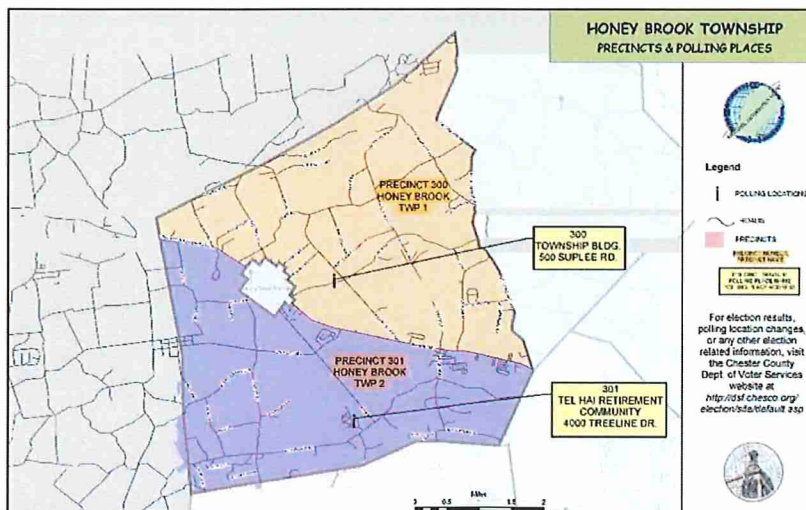
Zoning Hearing Board: quasi-judicial body that hears appeals from landowners seeking relief from zoning regulations and then renders a decision. See page 6 for more information about Zoning Hearings.

All meetings are open to the public and are held in the Township Administration Building's meeting room. See meeting schedule on page 4. Each Board, Committee, and Commission reorganizes at its first meeting of the year. Check the website for updated information.

If you are interested in serving on a Board, Committee, or Commission, please submit a letter of interest and brief resume to the Township Manager during normal business hours at 500 Suplee Road or by e-mail at manager@honeybrooktwp.org.

Precinct 301 - Honey Brook Twp 2 (those living south of Route 322): polling place is in the Tel Hai Stonecroft Community Center for the Arts, 4000 Treeline Drive

Precinct 300 - Honey Brook Twp 1 (those living north of Route 322): polling place is the Honey Brook Township Administration Building, 500 Suplee Road



2023 Municipal Primary: Apr. 24

2023 General Election: Nov. 7

For all voting questions, contact Chester County Voter Services at 610-344-6410 or <https://www.chesco.org/156/Voter-Services>

All meetings held at the Township Administration Building, 500 Suplee Rd.
All meetings at 7:00 pm except Jan. 17 (8 am mtg; 9 am Farmers' Breakfast, which requires RSVP by January 10).

2023

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Board Workshop
Board Regular Meeting
Town Hall

Land Preservation
Planning Commission (PC) Wksp
PC Regular Meeting

Recreation & Park Board
Office closed
No Walk-up traffic

Please note: the Zoning Hearing Board meets on an as-needed basis, either the 3rd Monday of the month or on a mutually agreed-upon Monday, at 7:30 pm.

iCompass: the New Meeting Portal

The Township Administrative Office has implemented iCompass software for easier access to Township meeting agendas and minutes. Visit <https://honeybrooktp.civicweb.net/Portal/> or click on the button from the Township website's home page at www.honeybrooktp.com. Click on "subscribe" to be notified automatically when agendas are posted.

Land Preservation Update

The Land Preservation program is an important tool used to maintain the Township's agricultural heritage and rural landscape. To date, over 4,900 acres of land have been preserved in perpetuity through agricultural easements.

The Land Preservation Committee (LPC) meets quarterly to review applications, provide the Board of Supervisors with an update of the account (monies to be paid out and balance available), and inform farmers of the steps to apply for preservation easements. Meeting dates for 2023 are January 17, April 18, July 18, and October 17. The April, July, and October meetings will be at 7:00 pm.

The January meeting in 2023 will be held at 8:00 am, followed by the Farmers' Breakfast at 9:00 am, making a return after a three-year hiatus due to Covid. Representatives from the Brandywine Conservancy will be on hand to discuss the process of applying for Agricultural Easements. Anyone is welcome to the Breakfast and Presentation afterwards; simply RSVP to the Township Administration Office no later than 3:00 pm on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, to 610-273-3970 or info@honeybrooktwp.com.



Above: Horses and buggies outside the Township Building during a snowy Farmers' Breakfast.



Planning Commission (PC) Update

The current list of plans under review by the PC, approved by the Board of Supervisors, and those projects which have commenced construction are listed on the Township website on the Boards and Commissions page under the Planning Commission section. It is updated monthly. PC meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month, January through October, and the 2nd Thursday of the month in November and December at 7pm in the Township Administration Building's meeting room. As of press time, the current projects include the following:

Construction in progress:

- 496 Mount Pleasant Road one-lot subdivision
- 1373 Beaver Dam Road one-lot subdivision
- Penn Wynne Chestnut, LP, a.k.a. Chestnut Ridge (northwest corner of Grieson and Chestnut Tree Roads)
- Honey Brook Estates, a.k.a. Sweetwater Farm, 3531 Horseshoe Pike
- 560 Cupola Road one-lot subdivision
- Village Greene, 2000 block of Horseshoe Pk
- Tel Hai Cherry Drive
- Tel Hai Phases I, II, and IV East

Plans granted conditional final plan approval:

- Maple Inn Estates Development, 3125 Horseshoe Pike
- 421 S. Twin Valley Road minor subdivision
- 805/830 Talbotville Road minor subdivision
- 411 Brandamore Road lot add-on plan
- Sweetwater Woodworks land development plan, 6430 Emery Rd
- Tri County Investments land development plan, 2120 Twin County Road
- 155 Mount Pleasant Road land development plan
- Mobile 3 Realty, LLC, 2222 Horseshoe Pike
- Pleasant View Welding land development plan, northeast corner of Reservoir Rd & Horseshoe Pk

Plans granted conditional preliminary plan approval:

- Home Courts Advantage (Keystone Court) Mobile Home Park expansion, 2140 Horseshoe Pk

Plans under review:

- Westbrook IP, LLC Subdivision and Land Development Plan
- Arbor's Glen (a.k.a. D.R. Horton), 2077 Horseshoe Pike / 2351 Chestnut Tree Rd

Anticipated plan submissions:

- 283 Mount Pleasant Road sketch plan
- Dollar General land development plan, 3073 Horseshoe Pike
- Tel Hai Phase V

Full details on these projects may be found on the Township website.

A Citizen's Guide to Zoning Hearings – Part 1

This handout in its entirety is available on the Township website and in the Township Administration Office. Due to its length, this article will be published in two parts.

1. **What role does the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) play?** The ZHB acts as a quasi-judicial body that is independent of the Board of Supervisors, that hears applications for variances, special exceptions, appeals to determinations of a ruling by the Zoning Officer, and substantive validity challenges to a land use ordinance (listed in the order of most frequently heard type to the rarely heard type).

Think of the ZHB as the judges of a case. The ZHB hears testimony and receives evidence. Based on that information, the ZHB renders a decision, known as a zoning order. The ZHB can impose reasonable conditions if it grants a request.

2. **What is a variance?** A variance is a request to use a property in a manner that does not conform to the Zoning Ordinance. This can range from an actual use (use variance), such as creating a convenience store in the Agriculture zoning district, to asking to encroach on a setback (dimensional variance). Under state law, the ZHB can only grant a variance when certain conditions exist on the lot. These conditions would create a hardship, which the property owner must prove to the satisfaction of the ZHB. All the following must apply*:
 - a. There are unique physical circumstances or conditions of the property which result in the hardship,
 - b. Because of such conditions, the applicant cannot conform with the Zoning Ordinance,
 - c. The hardship has not been created by the applicant,
 - d. The variance will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located or be detrimental to the public welfare, and
 - e. The variance is the minimum variance affording relief.

*under Section 910.2 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (PA-MPC). See the example below.

Example: if an applicant's property is a corner lot, and they wish to place an accessory structure on the property, the hardship is that the property technically has two front yards and two side yards, and no back yard in which to place such a structure. The roads created the hardship, not the applicant.

The following statements are never hardships under the law: "I want to," "I can't afford it," or "my neighbor has no problem with it."

3. **What is a special exception?** A special exception is a misnomer. It's neither special nor an exception. A special exception is an *allowed* use of a property in the zoning district in which the property is located at the time of application, as outlined in the Zoning Ordinance, provided that advance authorization is granted by the ZHB. The ZHB may not grant *any* use as a special exception. Rather, it may only consider as a special exception a use that is specifically permitted by the zoning ordinance as a special exception.

The applicant for a special exception must first show that the proposed use is a use allowed under the zoning ordinance as a special exception. The applicant must next show that the specific standards and criteria contained in the zoning ordinance for that use are met by the proposed development. For example, if the performance standard says that a particular use must provide two off-street parking spaces, the property owner has to demonstrate they can provide the two spaces.

A property owner has the right to receive a special exception once they prove they can meet the performance standards of the ordinance. An applicant for special exception is *not* required to carry the burden of proof of general (or non-specific) criteria, such as provisions that the use not be more detrimental to the neighborhood or that the use be in harmony with the spirit and purposes of the district. Once the applicant proves they can meet the Zoning Ordinance's performance standard(s), the ZHB is obligated to grant the special exception.

An *opponent* to the special exception bears the burden of proving non-specific requirements, that is, sufficient evidence that the use would be detrimental to public health, safety, or general welfare. The mere possibility of an adverse impact or speculation or belief of harm is not enough; the objector must show that there is a high probability that the proposed use will generate a harm greater than normally generated by *that type of use*. An opponent must prove harm by offer of credible and particularized – often expert – evidence.

Recreation and Parks Update

The Recreation and Parks Board, although unable to offer many programs during Covid, was busy meeting and discussing the Recreation, Parks, Open Space and Trails Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in December 2020, and renovation plans for the Township Park. YSM architects was engaged to propose a renovation plan for the James A. Umble Memorial Park (JUMP), which was delivered to the Board of Supervisors in December 2021 and a Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant was procured in the amount of \$225,000 for Phase I renovations. With the change in Manager at the end of 2021, and new Rec & Park Board members in 2022, the renovation plan was revisited and a scaled-down version of the Phase I renovations was recommended to the Board of Supervisors. Another recent project was Icedale Trail Feasibility study, paid for using a Vision Partnership Program grant. The proposed site would be along the abandoned Wilmington & Reading Railroad bed running roughly parallel to Icedale Road in West Brandywine and Honey Brook Townships. The various considerations for the Rec & Park Board to consider next are yet to be determined.

One activity that was easy to maintain during Covid was Pickleball, which naturally is "socially distanced". Look for this program to return in spring 2023.

The Half Day Summer Camp could not be held during 2020 or 2021 due to Covid restrictions and could not be held in 2022 due to the lack of a Camp Director. If you or someone you know has a ready-made half-day camp program for elementary-age children to offer for 2023, please contact the Township Administration Office with your proposal.

The Recreation and Park Board meets on the third Thursday of each month, January through June and August through October at 7:00 pm in the Township Administration Building's meeting room.



Pickleball enthusiasts at James A. Umble Memorial Park



One of two tot lots at James A. Umble Memorial Park

James A. Umble Memorial Park

Located at 173 Suplee Road, the park is open from dawn to dusk each day. A walking trail encircles the park and features a Born Learning Trail installed in November 2014 courtesy of a United Way grant. The park is actively used by the Twin Valley Little League. Other park amenities include portable toilets, two tot lots, tennis courts, and a sand volleyball court. A complete listing of the park rules is posted near the entrance to the park.

A picnic pavilion is available for residents to reserve free of charge on a first-come, first-served reservation basis. The pavilion includes outdoor grills and picnic table seating as well as a hitching post. The pavilion can be reserved by filling out a Facilities Use Application and returning it to the Township Administration Office. A security deposit is required to secure the reservation, and it will be returned provided that no damage is sustained to the pavilion or the surrounding park area.

Bases for the baseball/softball field and pickleball equipment are available at the Township Administration Office for Township residents to borrow for use at the Park.

Lost an Item?

The Township Administration Building has a "Lost and Found" collection of items, mostly left behind at the James A. Umble Memorial Park. If you have lost an item, check with the office during normal business hours.

PERMITS REQUIRED

The Township requires that property owners obtain permits **before** starting most construction projects, demolishing a structure, removing trees or timber harvesting, opening a business, or moving a mobile home, just to name a few. Listed below are common permits that are required:

- **Building permits** are required to erect, construct, reconstruct, enlarge, alter, move, change the use of, or demolish any structure which involves adding or removing structural square footage on the property. Permits are also required for sheds; decks, patios, and porches; signs; swimming pools and hot tubs; electrical/mechanical/plumbing; retaining walls; and new driveways and expansions.

Please note: Permits are not required for re-shingling of roofs; painting, flooring, or siding; exact replacement of windows or doors; sealcoating a driveway; or other cosmetic repairs, **unless** any structural changes or changes in footprint are proposed.

- **Zoning permits** are generally reserved for smaller projects that are not subject to the Uniform Construction Code; projects that are subject to the UCC require building permits.
- **Other permits** are also required including those for any new business including home occupations and businesses; change in use of any building; removing trees or timber harvesting; moving a mobile home, and yard sales to name a few.

Permit applications can be found on the Township website under the Permits & Forms tab, picked up from the Township Administration Office, or mailed, faxed, or e-mailed upon request made to the staff.

When in doubt, please contact the Township with any permit questions!

Please note that as of January 1, 2023, the normally-assessed permit fees will be doubled for work commenced without a permit per the 2023 Fee Schedule adopted by the Board of Supervisors at their December 14, 2022 meeting. This is to help stem the high number of permits that are retroactively applied for after it is discovered that work took place.

Pennsylvania's Dog Laws:

- If your dog (3 months of age or older) is not licensed, you may be fined up to \$300 per dog. Get a license at the Chester County Treasurer's office at 313 West Market St., Suite 3202 in West Chester, or online at www.padoglicense.com. An annual license is \$8.50 and a lifetime license is \$51.50. If your dog is spayed or neutered, the annual fee is \$6.50 and lifetime is \$31.50. Discounts are available to older adults and people with disabilities.
- Dogs and cats three months or older must have a current rabies vaccination. Owners of non-vaccinated pets may be fined up to \$300, plus court costs. Have your dog or cat vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian, who can provide a vaccination certificate.
- Your dog must be under control and supervised at all times. You are responsible for any damages caused by your dog on someone else's property.
- It is illegal to mistreat or abuse animals. Report suspected abuse to the Brandywine Valley SPCA at 610-692-6113 or to the State Police.
- Purposely poisoning a dog, whether it is yours or someone else's, is illegal.
- You may not abandon or attempt to abandon any dog. You could be fined \$1,000, plus court costs.
- Puppies under eight weeks old cannot be bartered, traded, sold, or transferred.
- You must have a **state** kennel license if you keep, sell, transfer, adopt or foster 26 or more dogs in a calendar year. *
- If your dog attacks or kills a human or domestic animal without provocation, it may be considered dangerous. You may face extensive fines and restrictions.



*You must have a Township kennel license if you keep, sell, transfer, adopt, or foster 5 or more dogs six months of age or older in Honey Brook Township. See Chapter 27, Section 1305 of the Honey Brook Township Code of Ordinances at www.honeybrooktwp.com.

Remember, if your dog gets lost, a current license is the fastest way to get your dog back home. Licensing fees help protect the millions of dogs in Pennsylvania by funding the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

Roadmaster Reminders

During 2022, the Roadmaster has noticed a significant increase in the number of driveways being constructed without a permit. Accordingly, this is a reminder that ***new driveways, driveway expansions, or resurfacing of driveways at the point where the driveway meets the road requires a driveway permit.*** The permit should be applied for and issued ***prior to*** the start of any work. If any portion of the work touches a Township road, an escrow must be posted to ensure that the work is completed in the manner required by the permit (see Section 21-106 of the Township Code of Ordinances for details). The escrow will be returned by check upon satisfactory inspection by the Roadmaster and approval by the Board of Supervisors. ***Please note that as of January 1, 2023, double the normally-assessed permit fees will be charged to anyone performing work without a permit.***

If the driveway is along a State Road (see list below), a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) must be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT).

If the area of a new driveway is more than 1,000 square feet, stormwater controls will need to be installed according to Chapter 20. This requires a separate application process with its own fees.

The driveway requirements may be found in the Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 22, Section 615. Call the Township Administration Office at 610-273-3970 if you require a copy to be mailed to you.

Residents are also reminded about the following winter road tips:

- Please remove vehicles from Township roads during ***any*** winter weather event. The Roads Crew needs to be able to navigate the roads in order to treat and/or plow the roads for safe passage.
- Please bear in mind that during large snow events, the Roads Crew will need to make more than one pass along all roads. As you clear your driveway, save the clearing of the end of your driveway for last.
- Please note that Township ordinance ***prohibits the depositing of snow from one's property (including driveways) onto Township Roadways*** (see Section 15-912 of the Township Code).

Watershed-Smart Winter De-icing

Winter de-icing materials, most commonly road salts, are often applied liberally to sidewalks, roads, and parking areas each year to improve safety conditions. These materials often end up in our streams and groundwater after the snow and ice melt, which causes large spikes in salt concentrations in streams and groundwater after winter storms. Although the current chloride levels are well below drinking water standards Chloride concentrations have steadily increased across Chester County's watersheds and are expected to continue to increase, according to the Chester County Water Resources Authority. The types of de-icers are:

- **Rock salt** (sodium chloride) is the most commonly used ***but contains cyanide*** as an anti-caking agent that can be toxic to underwater life and plants alike.
- **Calcium chloride** is cyanide-free; however, it can also harm plants. It costs about three times more than rock salt, but you only need to use about one-third as much.
- **Magnesium chloride** is considered the least toxic deicing salt because it contains less chloride than either rock salt or calcium chloride, making it safer for plants and animals.
- **Calcium magnesium acetate (CMA)** is considered the best overall choice for safely melting ice. It is less toxic than deicers containing chloride, but can cost considerably more than rock salt.

Tips for deicing:

- Spread deicer before precipitation accumulates.
- Remove as much snow and ice as possible before applying deicer.
- Follow the label directions. If only a handful of rock salt per square yard is needed, using more isn't more effective, just more expensive.
- Don't use rock salt within 5-10 feet of salt-sensitive plants.



State Roads – The following roads are maintained by PennDOT:

Route 10 (Compass Road south of the Borough/Twin Valley Road north of the Borough), **Route 322** (Horseshoe Pike), Cambridge Road, Chestnut Tree Road, Isabella Road, Maple Street (from Borough line to the intersection with White School and Pleasant View Roads), Morgantown Road (between Chestnut Tree and White School Roads), South Birdell Road, and White School Road.

To report concerns on state roads, contact PennDOT at 1-800-FIX-ROAD (349-7623) or submit a report at the PA Department of Transportation Customer Care Center, <https://customercare.penndot.gov/>. To check conditions on state roads, visit www.511PA.com.

Trash Collection

Residents are required to contract with their own trash hauler who will also provide recycling services. Residential developments managed by a Home Owners' Associations (HoA) may contract with a hauler for the entire neighborhood, so please check with your HoA manager for this information. Mobile Home Communities have their services contracted by the management company of the community. **PLEASE NOTE: *Burning of household trash is prohibited.***

Yard Waste Recycling

All haulers collecting trash in Honey Brook Township *must* offer yard waste collection at least three times per year; twice in the fall and once in the spring. Please check with your hauler for their scheduled pickup date(s).

For more information about trash, recycling, and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), call 610-273-3771 or visit the Chester County Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA) website at www.chestercountyswa.org.

Recycling is Mandatory

Pennsylvania and Honey Brook Township regulations require all residential, commercial, institutional, and municipal properties to separate recyclable materials from their waste and have it properly collected and processed.



Residential collection of recyclable materials shall be provided at least once each week by your contracted trash collector. Items to be recycled by all residential units including mobile home parks and apartments include: Glass containers, Cans, Plastics: No. 1 to No. 5 and No. 7, and Paper (newspaper, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, paper, envelopes, and cardboard boxes and containers). Check with your hauler to learn whether additional items may be recycled.

Residents shall also separate leaf waste from other recyclable materials and trash. Your hauler is required to collect leaf waste at least once in the Spring and twice during the months of September through December. Check with your hauler for their schedule. You also have the option of disposing of leaf waste by taking it to the Chester County Lanchester Landfill Composting Site. Contact the Chester County Solid Waste Authority at 610-273-3771 for details.

Commercial, industrial, institutional, and municipal property owners/operators plus the sponsor of any community special event or other activity shall at a minimum separate all of the items required of residents listed above plus high-grade office paper and corrugated cardboard.

These materials may be stored until collected. The property owner/operator shall annually provide written documentation to the Township of the types of materials and the total tons of materials that were recycled. This documentation is due no later than the end of January for the prior calendar year.



Open Burning

Outdoor burning of municipal waste, leaf waste, yard waste, or recyclable materials that are required to be separated and collected (newspaper, cardboard, clear glass, and plastics) is **PROHIBITED**. Small controlled fires, such as campfires, are permissible, but ***toxic materials of any kind (including trash or construction waste) cannot be burned at any time.*** Any and all fires shall be monitored at all times and one should keep a source of water nearby in case of emergency.

The Right-to-Farm Act allows farmers on farms of over 5 acres to carry out ***normal and customary*** activities of farming operations, which ***occasionally includes*** open burning. However, a farmer may ***NOT*** burn municipal waste, leaves, or recyclables generated from a residential unit on the farm or from any other residential property. The Right-to-Farm Act also permits the use of newspaper for bedding for farm animals, and the composting and spreading of manure or other farm-produced agricultural wastes, provided that such activities are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.



Honey Brook Community Partnership News

The Honey Brook Community Partnership's mission is to bring together Borough and Township partners to facilitate communication, share resources, and work together to enhance our community. The Partnership is comprised of businesses, interested residents, and local government officials and is open to the community. To receive information about the meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm, please visit www.honeybrookpartnership.com.

Scholarships for High School Seniors

Each spring, the Partnership awards scholarships to two Twin Valley High School seniors who plan to further their education by attending a college, business, trade, or technical school. To qualify for this scholarship, the student must be a resident of Honey Brook Borough or Township. The students receiving \$750 Partnership Scholarships in 2022 were Ryan Baylis and Demi Scott.

Harmony Day

Held each year on the third Saturday of September in locations throughout the Township and Borough of Honey Brook, this event would not be possible without the generous contributions of sponsors. The Partnership thanks those who sponsored the 2022 event: A.J. Blosenski, Inc., Benco Technology, Blue Marsh Insurance, Chester County Hospital, Chester County Solid Waste Authority, Comcast Xfinity, Faddis Concrete, Honey Brook Borough Police, Honeybrook Golf Club, Hoover Building Specialists, J-S All Things Plumbing, Marsha M. Kirschner DMD, Knies Insurance Group, Living God Lutheran Church, M&T Bank, R-V Industries, Tel Hai, The Board Used Furniture Shop, The Golf Zone, and Zook Molasses Company. Sponsorship opportunities for Harmony Day 2023 (September 16) will be announced on the Partnership's website.

Make a Difference Day

The last Saturday in October is national Make a Difference Day, an opportunity for people to engage in local projects in their community. Honey Brook is no exception, as the Partnership places collection boxes throughout the community. Past projects have included coat drives, toiletries and paper products collections, and food collections. Watch the Partnership website for the 2023 project, to be announced in early fall.

Deck the Brook

The "Deck the Brook" decorating contest is held in early December each year. Honey Brook residents and businesses are invited to decorate their front doors and yards for the holidays and enter a competition to win prizes.

TOWNSHIP POLICE COVERAGE

Honey Brook Township is covered by the Pennsylvania State Police. Call 9-1-1 for emergencies or you can contact the State Police Embreeville Barracks at 610-486-6280 for non-emergencies.



FREE CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKS

The State Police at the Embreeville Barracks, 997 Lieds Road, Coatesville, holds free safety checks for car seats on the second Friday of each month. For more information, call 484-340-3248.

Honey Brook Community Library
687 Compass Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-3303

Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 11 am - 6 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11 am - 8 pm
Fridays, 11 am - 5 pm
Saturdays, 10 am - 5 pm
Sundays: Closed

For information on programs, visit ccls.org.



The Honey Brook Food Pantry is located at Door #8 of the Good Food Distribution Center, 5064 Horseshoe Pike (across from Wimpy & Dee's Diner). Distributions are on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month except where noted due to holidays. One visit per month per household, please. In the event of inclement weather, the Pantry follows the Twin Valley School District schedule.

P.O. Box 1281 * 500 Suplee Rd.
Honey Brook, PA 19341



ReadyChesCo is used to notify you during a crisis or emergency and delivers important alerts such as inclement weather events or community alerts, *including Honey Brook Township meetings.*

Register at www.readychesco.org

You can receive notifications and updates on all or some of your devices:

- E-mail (work and/or home)
- Cell phone via voice and/or text
- Smartphone/PDA
- Pager

It is free to sign up. You choose the type of alerts you will receive. Be advised that these messages may incur charges from your wireless carrier depending upon the type of plan you have. You may choose to stop receiving the messages you sign up for at any time.

More information is available from:

Chester County Department of Emergency Services * 601 Westtown Road, Suite 012, West Chester PA
610-344-5000 * [Facebook.com/ccdes](https://www.facebook.com/ccdes) * twitter.com/ccdes * [Instagram.com/chescodes](https://www.instagram.com/chescodes) * chesco.org/des