



WINTER 2024

THORNBURY TOWNSHIP

DELAWARE COUNTY INCORPORATED 1687



Thornbury Township has a New Website

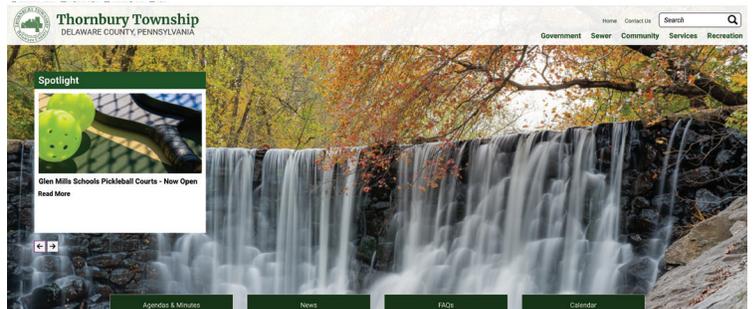
In case you were not aware, our website has a new look! This year we contracted with CivicPlus to design a new website, which was rolled out during the summer months.

One change that will affect residents is the CivicPlus' requirement that all those receiving emails from the Township have an account. Therefore, if you have not yet signed up to receive weekly Township News/Recycle Reminders, please follow the instructions below. This information is also in the "News" Section at www.thornbury.org.

- From the Home Page, hover

over "Government" and click on "Weekly Email Alerts"

- Click on "Sign in to Manage Subscriptions" (red box on right)
- You can either sign up for a new account or sign in with your Apple, Facebook, Google, or Microsoft account
- If you choose to register a new account, click on the "Sign Up" Link
- Fill Out the Contact Information to create an account
- Once your account is created, you will receive a verification email from CivicPlus with a one-time password. Please check your spam if you do not see the email in your inbox.
- Enter the one-time password



- Once logged in, make sure the email subscription is toggled to "on"

If you receive an error, try the following workaround:

- Go back to the Login screen, re-enter your email, put anything in the password and select sign in.
- Click "Continue"

- Click "Forgot your password"
- Re-enter your email and follow the instructions emailed to your email address.

If you have any issues, please email sue@thornbury.org. Thank you for your patience as we all adjust to the latest technology! 



Township Manager Letter

Hello fellow residents.

I would like to thank all of those that attended our fall events. Founder’s Day was a wonderful day, and we hope you enjoyed all the activities that were available for our residents. While the weather was great for that event, Mother Nature was not quite as kind for our Annual Children’s Fishing Derby. Attendance for that event was light, but those that who braved the overcast skies and cooler weather caught a lot of fish.

We have several projects that we are planning for the upcoming year. We have assembled a Park and Recreation Open Space Committee (PROS) to review the township parks and open space. The committee will meet once per month over the next six months and develop recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. This endeavor will act as a comprehensive plan for outdoor recreational opportunities. The PROS committee meetings will be advertised and open to the public. We encourage your input and cooperation.

Our Public Works Department is currently working with Catania Engineers on a new Maintenance Building in Thornbury Park. We intend to replace the Salt Storage Building with a stand-alone structure. Once completed, we will demolish the existing structure and construct a building to store our equipment and supplies. The new building will include restrooms that will be kept open year-round, for those who use the park throughout the winter. In addition to outdoor improvements, we have hired Dever Architects to assist in renovations to our township meeting room. The meeting room sees a wide range of activities; Board and Commission monthly meetings, as a polling site, for HOA meetings, and it is also used during our Summer Arts and Recreation Camp. We are seeking to modernize the room’s overall appearance. Improvements will include updates to finishes and audio-visual equipment. *T*

Jeff Seagraves,
Township Manager

RECENT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTIONS

November 1, 2023

- Authorized the Township Engineer to prepare the PA LSA Gaming Grant paperwork and application for the development and construction of a New Maintenance Garage and Salt Storage Shed.
- Approved the Township Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance Amendment for a Public Hearing, adding parking prohibitions in certain areas, in accordance with the Thornbury Township Code of Ordinance Chapter 15, Article 303.

October 18, 2023

- The Pickleball Courts Agreement with Glen Mills Schools, as detailed in their proposal, was approved.

Continued on page 3



**Congratulations to our October 14, 2023
Fish Derby Winners!**
1st place (left): Joe Betchyk
2nd place (center): Elizabeth Nedeogolo
3rd place (right): Benjamin Cherniko





Board Chairman Letter

RECENT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTIONS CNTD.

October 4, 2023

- The 2023 Contributions to the Concordville Fire Department in the amount of \$73,000, the Edgmont Fire Department in the amount of \$42,000, and the Chester Heights Fire Department in the amount of \$32,000 were all approved.
- The proclamation recognizing October 2023 as World Down Syndrome Awareness Month and authorizing a contribution to Bournelyf Special Camp in the amount of \$3,000 was approved.

September 20, 2023

- Waiving the Rental Occupancy Inspection Fee for the Parsonage at the Thornbury AME Church was approved.
- Approved the proposal from Bore-It Inc., for the Directional Drilling work at the Thornbury Park Comfort Station, at a cost not to exceed \$4,620.
- The annual contribution to the Pennsylvania Veterans Museum in the amount of \$1,000 was approved.
- Robert Ferrara's letter of resignation from the Thornbury Township Planning Commission was accepted.
- The purchase of a DJI Mavic 3 Thermal Drone with a Care Enterprise Basic 2-Year Plan was approved.

August 17, 2023

- Ratification of the Declaration of Weather Disaster Emergency for Thornbury Township, Delaware County, for August 7, 2023 was approved.
- Approved Resolution No. 2023-12, approving and adopting the dedication of a certain roadway known as Walton Lane, together with the Sanitary Sewer Mains, in the Black Bell Subdivision.

Gratitude is defined as readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. As I watch the news every night and learn of the situations going on around the world in places like Ukraine and Israel, my gratitude for Thornbury Township deepens. I am thankful for the physical attributes like the rural setting, the tree lined streets, the winding roads, and sunsets over a cornfield. You cannot argue we live in a beautiful place. The proximity of Philadelphia, and West Chester or the ease of travel to Delaware, New Jersey, and Maryland.

But most importantly the quality of people that I have met, became friends with, and worked with, is incomparable. It has been an honor to serve this township on the Sewer Committee, the Planning Commission and currently the Board of Supervisors and I am thankful for all of you. I think I speak for Mike Mattson and Sheri Perkins when I say the residents of Thornbury Township are what makes us want to serve. It is what makes our hometown so unique. We care about our town and each other.

I am especially thankful for the staff of Thornbury Township. They work tirelessly to keep our roads safe, our parks manicured and our services efficient. The organized events give us all opportunities to gather, have fun and build relationships. On any given day you can go to the township building and be welcomed by a staff member who is happy to help you. I can tell you firsthand that that is not common.



As the holidays approach we look forward to enjoying time with family and friends. We hope that you and your family take advantage of the events that the Park & Recreation Board has planned.

DID YOU KNOW? Rental Permit

Thinking of relocating and hanging on to your house as a rental? That requires a rental permit. All permits are located on our revamped website; www.thornbury.org. Just go to the Government Tab and click on the Code Department. Complete that application form and email it to Susan@thornbury.org. The fee is \$100.00 and an inspection is required. There is a check list of things that the Building Inspector will be looking for during his inspection. The process is very easy. If you have any questions, email Susan and she will be happy to help.

Let's make a New Year's resolution to be grateful and to continue to be there for one another as fellow members of our community. Let's support our friends, family, and neighbors and show them kindness every day. Mike, Sheri and I are grateful for the lessons 2023 has taught us and are looking forward to the opportunities 2024 will present.

Merry Christmas Thornbury Township and Happy New Year! *T*

J.P. Kelly, Chairman
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Annual Fire Company Donations

Every October Thornbury Township presents donations to the three fire companies that serve our township. We are so grateful for the service that these men and women provide to our residents. Thank you Concordville Fire Protection Association (pictured: President Lee Weersing) Thank you Edgmont Township Fire Company (pictured: President, Chip Miller). Thank you Chester Heights Fire Company (pictured: Treasurer, Larry Ward). *TF*



RUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL

On behalf of the staff and students of Rustin High School, I would like to thank you for supporting our various holiday drives, especially our collection of gift cards for Rustin families in need. You are helping us make a difference in our community, which is a core part of our mission. In our diverse school community, we celebrate different holidays, faiths, cultures, and backgrounds, but there are themes and values that we all share across our traditions. The importance of family and friends. Gift giving, Kindness and charity. The celebration of light and hope. I wish you and your families a warm and peaceful holiday season and a restful winter break. —Dr. Marano, Rustin Principal

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATES

251 Glen Mills Road
*D'Antonio, Preliminary/
Final Minor 3 Lot Subdivision Plan*

At the September meeting revised plans were discussed. The following topics were highlighted: Historic Impact Resource Study, stormwater management, driveway access agreement, landscaping, third party approvals, and utilities. At the conclusion of the discussion the members recommended approval of the plan conditioned upon compliance with the Catania Engineering review letter.

Cheyney University:
Deferred Maintenance Project
*Foster Parking Lot Expansion
Preliminary/Final Land
Development Plan*

Revised plans were received and the discussion resumed at the September meeting. Discussion topics included the following: parking for special events, waivers, monuments, lighting, raised crosswalk, 3rd party approvals, and stormwater management. At the conclusion of the discussion the members recommended approval of the plan conditioned upon compliance with the Catania Engineering review letter.

All residents are invited to attend meetings held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm.



Park and Recreation Updates

ABOUT OUR PARKS: LOCATIONS AND FEATURES

Thornbury Township boasts five public parks. We invite you to enjoy!

BARRETT'S MEADOW

30 acres at Creek & Tanguy Roads



Walk the trail and enjoy the naturally occurring wild flowers in the spring and summer.

BONNER PARK

65 acres on Blossom Hill Road



Visit the historic Frazer Ruins and an old, unused quarry. Enjoy plenty of good hiking.

MARTIN PARK

45 acres on Stony Bank Road



Home to our Annual Fishing Derby. Enjoy plenty of walking, picnicking, and fishing.

PALMER ARBORETUM

21 acres on Brinton Lake Road



Climb the giant adirondack chairs, play hopscotch and bocce ball and walk the trails.

THORNBURY PARK

56 acres at Glen Mills & Thornton Roads



Home to many of our Township events. Enjoy scenic walking and running paths, basketball and tennis courts, playground equipment, the pavilion, and much more.

Marinella Jewelry Bracelet Workshop

Thursday, February 22, 2024

Create a one-of-a-kind bracelet with Marinella's expert advice.

Place Grace Winery

Time 6:30-9:30

Cost \$35.00 per person, 20 people max
Food/Beverage sold separately

Register Visit thornbury.org to register

Senior Winter Luncheon

Friday, February 23, 2024

Bring a \$20 gift for the White Elephant Gift Exchange. Enjoy a delicious lunch and a fun game with friends.

Place Duffer's Restaurant on Rt. 352

Time 12:00pm

Register Call 610-399-8383 ext. 101 to
or email: Susan@thornbury.org

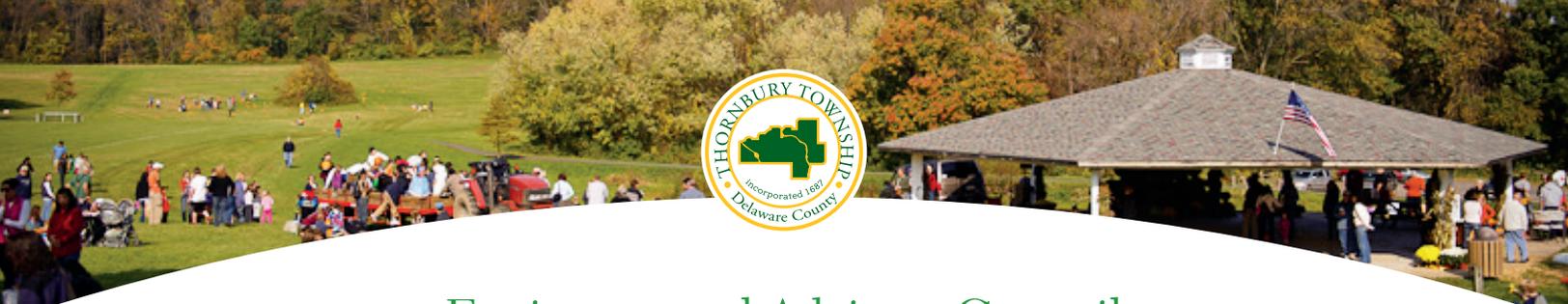


SAVE THE DATE
**Easter Egg Hunt and
Decorated Egg Contest**
March 23, 2024

2023 FALL FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

These Fall Festival attendees did not bale on a good time! Above: Thanks to Geoff Carbutt for driving the hay wagon. Right: Pie Contest Winners. Below: All of the Philly Mascots made an appearance at the Fall Festival.





Environmental Advisory Council

As the temperatures go down, heating bills go up. Here we're giving you seven helpful, low-cost, DIY tips that will save you money — and reduce your greenhouse gas emissions for an added benefit.

Seven Tips to Save You Money on your Winter Heating Bill

1. Programmable thermostats: Affordable and pays itself back with reduced energy costs. They help prevent you using more energy than needed while away or sleeping. Smart thermostats are even better as they learn your heating preferences and apps allow you to control temps while away from home.
2. Door draft covers: Cheap and will

- keep those sneaky drafts from coming in under your door.
3. Window insulation: Purchase a window insulation kit or thermal insulating curtains to keep out the chill and reduce the need to pump in heat.
4. Double check heating vents: Contrary to popular belief, closing vents does not save money. It disrupts pressure and can create air flow issues, leading to overheating or cooling.
5. Replace or clean air filters: These things like to be clean! Keep your heating efficiency up by cleaning or replacing your air filter according to your HVAC specifications (~1-3 months).
6. Add blankets to your bed, get cozy

- around the house: You can get warm and toasty without cranking up the heat. Enjoy your favorite sweater and snuggle under the blankets at night.
7. Reduce ventilator fan use: They can suck up house heat and send it outside. If you leave your bathroom or kitchen fans on for an extended time, they may be pumping hot air out of the house. Remember to turn these off or put timers on them.

**Trees for a \$10 update: This loved community program will be back for 2024! We expect trees to sell out quickly so be sure to order quickly once the form is posted on the township website (Jan/Feb for Mar/Apr pick-up). The notice will come through the township e-newsletter. *



Rachel Kohl Community Library

It is said that public libraries change lives. We are thrilled that your library-related lives will be changing. We are opening a new children's library! We have been working on this initiative for four years and now — because of the Wiley family bequest and a matching grant from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Department of Education — the plan is becoming a reality.

In response to last year's survey, the old children's room will be repurposed as small study rooms and quiet spaces.

This project opens so many possibilities. Naturally, all of them cost money. Although construction costs are covered by the grant and donation, they do not cover any of the other costs associated with a larger space.

Every physical thing you see in the library — every book, every chair, every program and every employee — cost money. Then there are the invisible costs: mortgage, insurance, gas and electricity, telephone etc., some of which increase every year, just as they do at your home.

Tax-generated dollars provide close to 65% of our overall funding. Your donations make up the rest. Our continued success depends on you.

There are many ways you can give. Consider any amount you give to be an investment in the future, and a gift to your children, neighbors and those who are not able to give. Your tax-deductible donation to the library, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, will go a long way towards helping us continue to thrive as a strong community resource. For your convenience,



donations can be made via check, PayPal, Venmo, or credit card. Please visit www.kohllibrary.org/make-a-donation/. As always, we are deeply grateful for your support. 



Historical Commission Letter

“WHEN THE WELL IS DRY, WE WILL KNOW THE WORTH OF WATER” – BEN FRANKLIN

GLEN MILLS PICKLEBALL MEMBERSHIP



We are thrilled to announce our newest partnership, bringing you

a venue to enjoy the popular sport of pickleball. At the Glen Mills School's recreation center, residents now have additional opportunities to stay active and engaged alongside other on-campus rental facilities.

Enrolling now for the first indoor season! Spring Season is to be determined and will feature indoor and outdoor courts.

Registration Fees:

Thornbury Township Membership Fee (6 months): \$100.00 per person
Thornbury Township Membership Fee (Monthly): \$30.00 per person

Non-Thornbury Township Membership Fee (6 months): \$225.00 per person
Non-Thornbury Township Membership Fee (monthly): \$40.00 per person

Walk In Day Pass: \$10.00 per day

Times:

Weekdays: 9:00am - 3:00pm (Indoor, Fall/Winter season)
Weekdays: 7:00am - 3:00pm (Indoor, Spring/Summer season)
Times may be modified during holidays and/or special events. All times are per person (max four per court).

Registration Info:

Contact Jason Alcott at jalcott@glenmillsschools.org

Why There are Two Thornbury Townships and Only One Anniversary

Written for Thornbury Townships' 325th Anniversary Celebration, May 12, 2012 by the Thornbury Township Chester County Historic Preservation Commission. by Chris Lang and Dick Webster

To understand the division of Thornbury Township between two counties, we have to begin in 1766, when citizens in western parts of colonial Chester County petitioned the provincial assembly to move the courthouse to a more central site.

To do legal business required costly and onerous trips from western townships to Chester. Because of the War for Independence and the crises leading to it, the Pennsylvania Assembly did not authorize building a new courthouse and jail until 1780. Commissioners in Chester understandably dragged their feet, doing nothing.

Four years later those favoring moving the county seat (called “Removalists”) gained control of the county’s delegation to the Assembly and got legislative authority to build a new courthouse in Goshen Township within a mile and a half of Turk’s Head Tavern.

Work on the courthouse and jail began immediately, but as the buildings were nearing completion in spring 1785, Chester residents convinced the legislature to end the activity. To ensure that their town would remain the county seat and that the western buildings would not be completed, a

band of Chester citizens, armed with muskets, a field-piece, and a barrel of whiskey, headed to Goshen to tear down the walls. Removalists rallied and turned the incomplete courthouse into a fort. On the brink of battle, cooler heads prevailed. Removalists promised to cease construction, but soon broke their promise, and a year later celebrated when the legislature repealed the 1785 act suspending construction. Western citizens gloated and Chester residents moped and scribes for both sides exchanged taunts in the newspapers. Chester authorities believed the only solution was to form a new county with their town its seat.

Six months later, in September 1786, everyone seemed to get what they wanted. The legislature authorized the opening of the new, more centrally located courthouse and jail, and the next day approved carving a new county, Delaware County, out of Chester County with the line dividing the two counties running through Birmingham and Thornbury townships. Property owners were allowed to select which county they preferred to reside in, accounting for the very irregular boundary between the two Thornbury townships.

Within three years, however, some Delaware County Thornbury residents had second thoughts and petitioned that they be re-annexed to Chester County. Apparently tired of more than twenty years of squabbling within Chester County, the legislature tabled the request and it died a quiet death. Our boundaries, irregular as they are, have remained the same ever since. *T*

STAFF & OFFICIALS

Township Manager

Jeffrey T. Seagraves: 610.399.8383 x104

Municipal Secretary

Geoff Carbutt: 610.399.8383 x107

Township Events

Susan Daudert: 610.399.8383 x101

Public Works

Art Risley: 610.399.8383 x106

Code Enforcement Officer

Keystone Municipal Services

WC Area School District: 484.266.1000

State Senator (9th District)

John Kane: 717.787.4712

kane@pasenate.com

U.S. Representative (5th District):

Mary Gay Scanlon: 610.626.2020

State Representative (168th District):

Craig Williams: 610.358.5925

U.S. Senators

John Fetterman: 215.241.1090

Bob Casey, Jr.: 717.231.7540

District Justice

Honorable Wendy B. Roberts Esquire

District Court 32|2|49: 610.558.3605



Thornbury Township

6 Township Drive

Cheyney, PA 19319

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #129
19464

BOARD MEETINGS

Board of Supervisors

1st & 3rd Wednesdays: 7:00pm

James Kelly, Chairman

Sheri Perkins, Vice Chairman

Michael Mattson, Supervisor

Zoning Hearing Board

1st Monday (if needed): 7:00pm

Board of Health

1st Tuesday: 7:00pm

Park & Recreation Board

2nd Thursday: 7:00pm

Environmental Advisory Council

3rd Thursday: 7:00pm

Historical Commission

3rd Tuesday: 7:00pm

Planning Commission

2nd Wednesday: 7:00pm

Sewer Committee

4th Thursday: 7:00pm

CONTACT

6 Township Drive | Cheyney, PA 19319

TEL 610.399.8383 | FAX 610|399|3162

www.thornbury.org

M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm

Township Calendar

DECEMBER 2023

TRAIN TO WC CHRISTMAS PARADE 12|1|23
Christmas Tree Lighting.....12|2|23
Board of Supervisors Mtg 12|6|23
HOLIDAY EXPRESS2|9|23

Planning Commission Mtg12|13|23
LIGHT UP THE TWP. NIGHT.....12|15|23
HOLIDAY EXPRESS2|16|23
Historical Commission Mtg12|19|23

Board of Supervisors Mtg12|20|23
EAC Mtg.....12|21|23
Township Office Closed2|25|23
Township Office Closed12|26|23

JANUARY 2024

Township Office Closed.....1|1|24
Board of Supervisors Mtg1|2|24
ZHB *if needed*1|8|24

Board of Health1|9|24
Planning Commission Mtg1|10|24
Park & Recreation Board Mtg.....1|11|24

Township Office Closed1|15|24
Historical Commission Mtg1|16|24
EAC Mtg.....1|18|23

FEBRUARY 2024

ZHB (if needed)2|5|24
Board of Health2|6|24
Board of Supervisors Mtg2|7|24

Park & Recreation Board Mtg.....2|8|23
Planning Commission Mtg2|14|24
EAC Mtg.....2|15|24
Township Office Closed.....2|19|24

Historical Commission Mtg2|20|23
Marinella Jewelry Workshop2|22|23
Senior Luncheon at Duffers2|23|23

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You can opt|out of receiving paper copies of our newsletter and have access the newsletter via our website at www.thornbury.org. **Go to Residents and click on Newsletters.**

If you would like to stop the paper copy of our newsletter from being mailed to your house, please email Susan@thornbury.org.