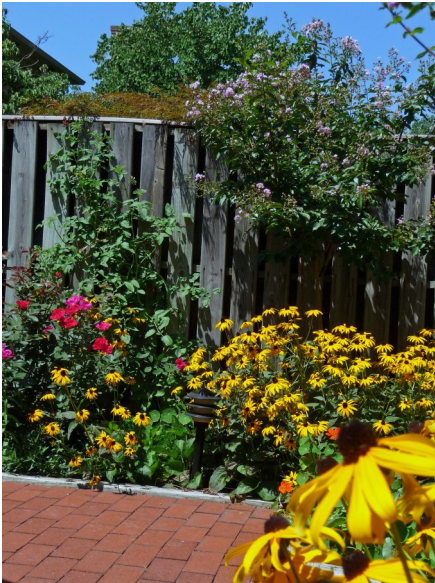




Growing Your Garden in Hot Summer Days



In June, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection issued a statewide drought watch. The drought experienced in May/June is generally not seen until August and can get worse. Though we have had more rain recently, we are not back to normal rainfall levels and the heat is upon us. August, a typical dry period, is fast approaching. Nell Nickolas, a master gardener who lives in Westover and is a Civic Association Board Member, recommends watering established shrubbery in yards to keep them alive this year. The grass will grow back, but other shrubs or plants and gardens may not make it without watering.

Here are some helpful tips for watering from the Penn State Extension, a great local resource. [Read more of their tips here.](#)

- Guide the water as close as possible to the ground so most of the water sinks in and is available to the roots. Water on plant leaves evaporates and can cause burn on the leaves when the sun hits the water droplets.
- During periods when there is no rain, monitor perennials, younger trees, and shrubs for signs of stress. Water slowly to allow moisture to go deeper into the ground. This gives the plant more time to absorb the moisture. Mulch can also help retain moisture in the soil.
- Vegetable plants may need more water at some stages in their development, for example, when they are flowering, or seeds are growing larger.
- Look for creative ways to use water! If you run your shower or bathwater until it gets warm, you can capture that water in buckets and use it on your vegetables. Some dehumidifiers have removable containers that you could use that collected water. Water from a kiddie pool can be used on plants. Finally, you can capture the water you use to rinse vegetables and fruit when you are preparing them for eating. Water with detergents or soaps should not be used on your plants.

Here's to wishing you happy and hydrated growing this season!

Civic Association Board 2023

President: Ken Lee

Vice President:

Amy Waugh

Secretary: Elizabeth Potter

Treasurer: David Krall

Zone Directors:

Linda Lippert

Dan Gross

Jason Petronis

Steve Gilligan

Steve Crosby

Laura Witte

Joe Washburn

Richard Sopko

Jim Nace

Lee Williamson

Dean Converse

Nell Nickolas

Scott Cawthern

There are current vacancies for Zone Directors. Please contact us if you are interested.

Important Dates

Aug 23

First Day of School for Cumberland Valley students

Sept 4

Labor Day

More Ideas... Ways to Conserve Water

During a drought, residents and businesses are encouraged to reduce their nonessential water use by 5–10%. The following list of ways to reduce water use at home are from the [Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection](#).



- Run the dishwasher and washing machine less often, and only with full loads.
- Don't let the faucet run while brushing your teeth or shaving. Take shorter showers. For example, consider not washing your hair daily.
- Water your lawn only if necessary. Avoid watering on windy and hot days. Watering grass lightly and efficiently will encourage healthier, deeper grass roots. Overwatering is wasteful, encourages fungal growth and disease, and results in shallow, compacted root systems that are more susceptible to drought.
- When mowing your lawn, set the blades 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil, improving moisture retention.
- If necessary, water gardens only in the cooler evening or morning hours.
- Skip the car washing. If you have to wash your car, it's better environmentally to go to a drive-through car wash that recycles the water.
- Sweep your sidewalk, deck, or driveway, instead of hosing it off.
- Check for and repair household leaks. For example, a leaking toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water daily.
- Set up a rain barrel to be ready to repurpose rain when it does fall.

We LOVED seeing everyone at the Spring Picnic!

Many thanks Steve Crosby and all who helped with the Spring Picnic. We heard great feedback this year about changes with the food truck set up and the weather was perfect! Over 230 people attended the picnic! Wow!

Haven't paid dues for 2023 yet? [Please visit the Store on the website to pay your dues](#) if you have not already paid for 2023. Dues provide for shared maintenance of the Commons areas, holiday decorations, the Spring Picnic, support of Westover Women's Club holiday events for children and families, the directory, and Westover communications through email and the website. A second round of dues letters will be coming in the next 2 weeks for those who have yet paid for 2023. We appreciate your support!

What's Happening in Westover

Calling Again: A Message from Westover Women's Club

For decades, the Westover Women's Club has been a neighborhood organization that worked together to bring fun activities to the families of Westover. The highlights of the year are: the annual Easter Egg Hunt, our Pumpkin Carving event, and Breakfast with Santa. The women who are currently organizing these events have children who have since outgrown these neighborhood classics! We are looking for a handful of neighbors with little ones who are willing to take over leadership roles. Are you willing to fill some open positions? We need your help. We would hate to see our beloved Village of Westover family events and traditions fade away. If you haven't participated in any of the events, [please check them out on the Westover website](#). If you'd like to talk to a Westover Women's Club member who can tell you more, please email us at westover@villageofwestover.org and we will connect you to one of the women who can pass the torch and share tips and suggestions from past events. Budgeted funds are available for costs of events. There are also resources such as event signs and neighborhood emails to spread the word.



REMINDER: Obey Traffic Signs

The **SPEED LIMIT ON SKYPORT is 35 MPH**. In **WESTOVER, SPEED LIMITS are 20 and 25 MPH**. Neighbors continue to voice concern about vehicles speeding through Westover. Dogs, kids, runners, walkers, contractors, and unexpected objects can appear quickly. **Turning in from Skyport Road can be a cue to slow your speed**. Be mindful of stopping at **ALL STOP SIGNS** within Westover. Pedestrians have responsibilities as well and should do their part to stay visible, use established sidewalks, or stay as close to the curb on the road as possible.



Cumberland County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Events

Saturday, August 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, October 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

County Recycling Center, 1001 Claremont Rd, Carlisle

Time slots are available for residents who want to dispose of household hazardous waste. Pre-registration is required. All waste will be weighed and there is a fee per pound for disposal. Acceptable items include pool chemicals, fire extinguishers, oil based paints, and many more.

[More information and a link to register for a time slot can be found here.](#)

Neighborhood Dog Reminders

We **always** receive verbal requests or emails from neighbors to put reminders about responsible dog ownership in the newsletter. The two most frequent requests? You guessed it!

1. Please Clean Up after your Dog.
2. Please respect other people and pets' space. You are always welcome to ask before approaching another dog or person.

[Township Codes guide control of pets via voice or leash and you can find the codes here.](#)



Westover Willie



Dear Westover Willie,

Q: I don't seem to hear as many birds in the middle of summer as I did earlier in the season. What's up with that? I don't need them to wake me at the 5:30am sunrise but I still like to know they are there.

A: That's an interesting observation! Birds usually sing to attract a mate or defend a territory. By mid to late summer, the breeding season is generally over and birds start to molt their feathers. Once a year, many birds have to grow new feathers because they wear out from physical abrasion and sun bleaching. Maybe you could watch for changes in feathers instead of changes in bird-songs! I can tell you many species are still right here in Westover and love your backyard feeders.

Q: How can I see lightning bugs? My mom let me stay up late one night to try but we only saw a couple. I learned at summer camp that they are the official insect of Pennsylvania.

A: What kind of summer camp are you at that you learned that?! Elementary students are actually the ones who lobbied to make it the state insect in 1974! I'd say I see them most when the lights are turned down or off, in yards with native plants and trees, and in grass that isn't over-mowed. Fireflies remain on the ground during the day so a lot of mowing disturbs them. The lady that does this newsletter says you can [read more here from DCNR](#). McCord Commons is a great place to see fireflies after nightfall. It looks like a sky of twinkling stars!

the Village of
Westover

Village Of Westover Contact List	
Name	Phone number
EMERGENCY – Fire, Police, Ambulance	911
Westover Civic Association	Villageofwestover.org
Comcast Cable	1-800-934-6489
Cumberland County Offices	717-240-6100
Cumberland Valley School District	717-697-8261
District Justice	717-697-2201
Fredricksen Library	717-761-3900
Hampden Township	717-761-0119
Hampden Pool	717-737-4219
Hampden Recreation Department	717-761-4951
Hampden Township Utility Department	717-909-7145
Humane Society	717-564-3320
PA American Water Co	1-800-565-7292
P A Dept. of Transportation	1-800-932-4600
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
PPL Electric Utilities	1-800-342-5775
Waste Management	1-800-869-5566
Township Tax Collector	717-737-4822
UGI Gas Utilities Inc	1-800-276-2722
United Water PA	717-564-3662
Verizon Communications	1-800-837-4966

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