



SUMMER 2009

NEW STATE LAW

Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act 132 of 2008

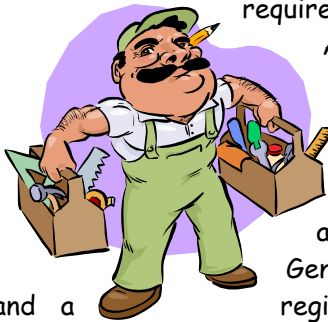
Effective July 1, 2009, contractors who perform home improvements for which the total cash value is \$5,000.00 or more per year are required to register with the Office of the

Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Home improvement contractors will pay a non-refundable application fee which is renewable every two (2) years. Upon approval of the application by the Office of the Attorney

General, a contractor will receive a certificate registration number that must be displayed in

and a all advertisements, contracts, estimates and proposals with consumers in Pennsylvania.



- The law affords protections for consumers who hire contractors to perform home improvements on their residential properties.
- The law requires written contracts between the contractor and consumer when the total cash price of all work agreed upon exceeds \$500.00.
- The law provides criminal penalties for home improvement fraud and civil penalties for violations of the Act.

Under the Act, home improvement includes all of the following activities when they are done in connection with land or a portion of the land adjacent to a private residence or a building or a portion of the building which is used or designed to be used as a private residence for which the total cash price of all work agreed upon between the contractor and owner is more than \$500:

- (i) Repair, replacement, remodeling, demolition, removal, renovation, installation, alteration, conversion, modernization, improvement, rehabilitation or sandblasting;
- (ii) Construction, replacement, installation or improvement of driveways, swimming pools, pool houses, porches, garages,

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Employee Spotlight



When visiting any of the three Township parks, have you ever wondered who is behind the work that goes into maintaining them? One of those employees is Troy Bresch.

Troy has been an employee for the Township for five years. Though he does help with the road department when needed to salt and plow roads, his main responsibilities are clean-up and maintenance of the parks.

Troy is a graduate of Penn Manor High School. He is married to Karen and they have two children - Ethan, 11 and Alyssa, 9.

In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, coaching his son's baseball team, kayaking, and hiking.

If you see Troy in the park working say "Hi" and a big thank you for making our parks look so wonderful.

NEW STATE LAW (continued from front cover)

roofs, siding, insulation, solar energy systems, security systems, flooring, patios, fences, gazebos, sheds, cabanas, landscaping work (other than work performed under the Plant Pest Act), painting, doors and windows, and waterproofing;

(iii) Without regard to affixation, the installation of central heating, air conditioning, storm windows or awnings.

Under the Act, employees of a business that is registered as a home improvement contractor do not need to separately register. However the businesses' subcontractors or independent contractors must register. Also, if an employee does home improvement work on the side, outside the scope of their employment with a registered contractor, and that works totals \$5,000 or more in a calendar year, then the employee must register as a contractor.

The law does not grandfather existing businesses.

Retail businesses are not required to register unless the retailer offers or performs home improvements, which includes performing installations themselves or subcontracting installation work to others who will perform the services.

The individual consumer is responsible for verifying that a home improvement contractor has registered and has a valid registration number. In the event of a claim against a contractor, the consumer must contact the Attorney General's office directly. East Lampeter Township does not keep a record of registered home improvement contractors and is not empowered by the Commonwealth to take action against a contractor who violates the Act.

The Act was adopted to give the Pennsylvania consumer added protection against fraudulent contractors but the individual consumer must verify for themselves that the contractor they are hiring is indeed registered with the Commonwealth.

To view more information on the Act, visit the Attorney General's website at www.attorneygeneral.gov.



A BIG Thank You

The East Lampeter Parks and Recreation Board and the East Lampeter Township Board of Supervisors would like to thank the following businesses for their beautiful flower donations for the parks for 2009:



- * Greenfield Growers
- * Ken's Garden
- * Muddy Creek Perennials
- * Shady Willow Greenhouse
- * Shenk's Greenhouse
- * Yoder Brothers
- * Zook's Greenhouse

We also would like to extend an invitation to the public to come out and see the parks and the wonderful landscaping done by the Township's Public Works Department.

Lancaster County Prescription Drug Discount Card Program

Beginning in June 2009, the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will offer residents of Lancaster County a FREE prescription drug discount card. East Lampeter Township is pleased to partner with the Commissioners by making the Lancaster County Prescription Drug Discount Card available for you to pick up in our office.



The Lancaster County Prescription Discount Card will provide a discount on prescriptions not covered by another health plan at any of the 91 participating pharmacies in Lancaster County or 59,000 participating pharmacies Nationwide.

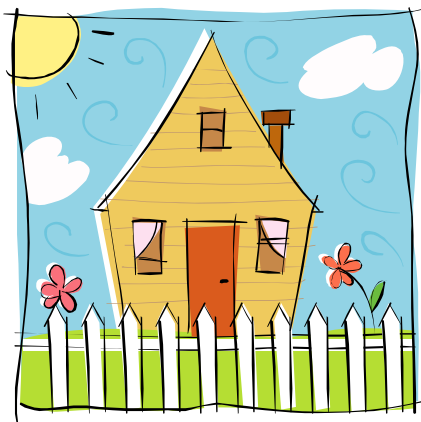
Any county resident without prescription coverage can use this program. However, even if you have insurance for prescription drugs, you may still benefit from the card by receiving a discount on prescription drugs your existing plan does not cover.

There are no eligibility requirements, enrollment forms, or membership fees to use the Lancaster County Prescription Drug Discount Card. Simply pick up a card and take it to a participating pharmacy to receive a discount. One card can be used for the whole family!

For additional information about the program or to find a participating pharmacy near you, please visit www.caremark.com/naco, www.co.lancaster.pa.us, or call toll free 1-877-321-2652.

This discount card is available through the Commissioners' partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) and is administered by Caremark.

Please stop by the East Lampeter Township Municipal Office at 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA between the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. to pick up a discount card and begin saving.



Home Repair Program

The Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority offers 0% interest loans to low to moderate income homeowners who reside in Lancaster County outside the Lancaster City limits. **Loans are for addressing hazardous situations within the home. Loans are not for cosmetic work.** Applicants can receive up to \$24,999 in home repairs made by a qualified contractor. A lien is placed on the homeowner's property and no monthly payments are required. Loans are not due until the home is sold or the deed is transferred. Eligibility is based on income, credit, and available equity.

Grants are also available for lead based paint abatement and historic preservation for homeowners who go through the Home Repair Program.

Interested homeowners may call the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Lancaster at (717) 394-0793, extension 226.

Police Department News



On Tuesday, August 4, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. the East Lampeter Township Police Department will be hosting a National Night Out event at the East Lampeter Township Park located at 2330 Hobson Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for local anticrime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Please join us on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 and meet Police Officers from the East Lampeter Township Police Department who will be handing out Child Identification Kits and speaking on various safety topics.

Township Park News

A new walking path and parking lot is being constructed at Lafayette Tower Park. The parking lot entrance will be off of Krystle Drive. The walking path will surround the entire park property from Crest Avenue to Krystle Drive.



Safety Training

Over the past two months, a total of 21 staff members between Public Works, Administration, and Police Administration have been certified in CPR and AED Training. There was also training for proper use of a fire extinguisher. The training of both classes consisted of classroom and hands on.



Recycle Polystyrene Foam

Dart Container Corporation is accepting post-consumer polystyrene foam from the public at both its Leola and Lancaster (Pitney Road) facilities. Dart's drop off sites accept foam food service containers, including foam cups, foam plates, foam clamshells, and shape or molded foam packaging which is often used to package electronics and other consumer goods. All foam should bear the "6" symbol with chasing arrows, though some food containers do not.

Instructions for drop-off include:

- All cups and containers must be rinsed to rid them of food
- No straws or lids
- Your foam containers should bear the "6" symbol with chasing arrows
- To schedule large deliveries, call (717) 656-2236 ext. 6299
- Questions? Go to www.dart.biz or call 1-800-288- CARE.



Please note: Foam packaging peanuts and polystyrene foam treated with a fire retardant are not accepted. Many retail shipping companies accept clean foam packaging peanuts for reuse.

Road Work

During the month of July, various Township roads were oiled and chipped to help prevent major repair in the near future. After completion of these roads, the yearly line painting on all Township roads will take place. Please have patience and be aware of this operation so you can avoid driving through the wet paint.



WET PAINT

Drive Carefully: Schools Open in August

The children will be returning to school at the end of August. Please use extra caution when driving. Reduce speed in residential areas. There are more hidden dangers in these areas such as parked cars, playgrounds, and children walking to and from bus stops. Kids make careless mistakes, so expect the unexpected.

Parents with teenage drivers should also remind them to watch out for children going to and from schools.

Also obey the reduced speed limit in school zones and the school bus signals.

The use of yellow signal lights on a school bus alerts drivers to be prepared to come to a stop 300 feet of the school bus receiving or discharging students. Any vehicle meeting a stopped school bus with flashing red signals is warned to stop at least 10 feet before reaching the school bus and not proceed until the flashing red signals have stopped and the students have reached a safe location.



Failure to adhere to the "School Bus Stopping Law" will result in 5 points on your operator's license, a 60-day suspension, and a \$100 fine plus court costs.

Let's make this a safe 2009/2010 school year for all our kids and motorists. Thank you!



Preparing Your Materials for the Recycle Bin

DO NOT PUT PLASTIC BAGS IN THE RECYCLE BIN - Recycle your plastic bags at your local grocery store.

- **Glass:** Clear, green and brown glass food and beverage bottles and jars should be thoroughly rinsed and lids should be removed. Throw the lids in the trash. It is not necessary to remove labels.
 - **Do Not Put in the Bin** - Light bulbs, window and auto glass, drinking glasses and cookware are not recyclable and should be put in the trash.
- **Metals:** All food and beverage cans which are made from aluminum, steel, tin or a combination of metals should be rinsed prior to placing in the recycling bin. **Do Not Crush the Cans.**
 - **Do Not Put in the Bin** - Other aluminum and metal products like foil, pie plates, and hangers are not recyclable and should be put in the trash.
- **Plastic Bottles:** Plastic household bottles with a #1 (PETE) such as water, soft drink and juice bottles or #2 (HDPE) like milk and detergent bottles. Throw the lid in the trash. Rinse, smash and put the plastic bottle in the recycling bin.
 - **Do Not Put in the Bin** - plastic tubs such as yogurt and butter containers, toys and other plastic packaging.
- **Newspapers:** All newspapers, including the inserts, should be tied into bundles with biodegradable string or placed in strong paper bags (not exceeding 30 pounds). Put the bag or bundle next to or on top of the recycling bin. **Do Not put newspapers out for collection when it is raining.**
 - **Do Not Put your Newspapers in Plastic Bags** - Recycle your plastic bags at your local grocery store.



East Lampeter Township

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Website: www.eastlampetertownship.org

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Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Held to Celebrate Flory Park New Entrance



(l to r): Richard Springer, resident; Charlie Thomas, Public Works Director; Ralph (Hutch) Hutchison, Township Manager; Pete Hegeman, Park Board Chairman; Eric Brinser, Rettew Associates; John Shertzer, Supervisor; Dave Buckwalter, Supervisor Chairman; Diane Tyson, Park Board; and Jim Gustafson, Park Board.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on June 24, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. to celebrate the completion of a new entrance, parking area and walkway system in Flory Park. The new entrance is located on the east side of Strasburg Pike just south of Millport Road.

The community was invited to help us recognize everyone who helped to make these park improvements a reality.

If you have not stopped in to check out the new entrance, please take time to do so and enjoy the beauty of the park.

