



February 2024

The Newsletter for the Residents of West Deer Township

# Brief



## Dog Law Information

State Law prohibits dogs running at large throughout the Township. Dogs must be: confined within the owner's residence/property; firmly secured by means of a collar and chain – or other device – so that it cannot stray beyond the premises on which it is secured; under reasonable control of some other person; or engaged in lawful hunting, exhibition, or field training.

Failure to obey this law may subject the dog owner to a fine of up to \$500. All dogs at large within the Township are currently handled by the West Deer Township Police Department. Anyone who sees a dog running at large throughout the Township may contact the West Deer Police Department at (724) 265-1100 from 7:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. Anyone who sees a dog running at large outside of those normal hours may contact Allegheny County Dispatch at (412) 473-3056, and a police officer will be dispatched.

All dogs in the State of Pennsylvania must also have a current rabies vaccination. Certification of vaccination must be in the form of a statement signed by a license veterinarian attesting to the vaccination of the dog and recording: the identification; breed; sex; age; color of the animal; the vaccination tag number; the name; lot number; duration of immunity; date of manufacture of the vaccine; and date of vaccination. The rabies tag alone does not constitute proof of vaccination.

### Donate to the Shelter

The West Deer Dog Shelter accepts monetary donations via Venmo @ westdeerdogshelter; when asked for phone number verification enter 5519. All donations go toward vet care of the dogs.

If you wish to donate in another way the shelter's preferred dog food is Purina One Lamb and Rice. As a reminder, donations are also accepted in person or by mail to the Township office at 109 East Union Road Cheswick, PA 15024.

For more information about donating to the dog shelter, or for general shelter questions, call (724) 265-2680 extension 224.

### Add to your Fur Family

Dogs at the West Deer shelter that are currently available for adoption can be found online by going to [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

Under the Shelters and Rescue tab click on Find an Animal Shelter or Rescue Group. Type West Deer under group name then click on the magnifying glass under Pet List.

To visit the shelter or to ask for more information, please call (724) 265-3680 extension 224 to make an appointment.

# When Do You Need To Apply For A Building Permit?

Below is a list of projects that require obtaining a building permit from the Township before beginning the work:

- 1) Construction of a new house
- 2) Addition to an existing house
- 3) Adding a deck or porch to a current house
- 4) Interior structural renovation
- 5) Adding a fence to a house
- 6) New or relocation of a driveway
- 7) Adding a shed, gazebo, or other yard structure
- 8) Grading (Example: a retaining wall)
- 9) Adding an emergency generator
- 10) Either roof or ground mounted solar upgrade
- 11) Adding either an inground or above ground pool
- 12) Construction of a commercial building
- 13) Interior commercial fit-outs
- 14) Interior multi-family fit-outs (Example: an apartment)
- 15) Change of use of an existing building

For questions, please call the Township's Planning and Zoning Department at (724) 265-2780.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE NOW AVAILABLE

The Township currently has openings on two of our volunteer boards; the Parks & Recreation Board as well as the Zoning Hearing Board. There are currently two openings for full members to the Parks & Recreation Board, and the Zoning Hearing Board is currently seeking one alternate member.

Anyone interested can submit a letter of interest and resume (optional) to the West Deer Township Board of Supervisors, 109 East Union Road Cheswick, PA 15024. Letters of interest may also be submitted electronically to [dmator@westdeertownship.com](mailto:dmator@westdeertownship.com).

For questions, call the Township office at (724) 265-3680 option #4.

## Your Newsletter... Spread the Word!

This newsletter is an effort to inform everyone in West Deer Township. Other sources — such as social media — may reach a portion of our residents, but a great deal of folks would be overlooked.

The Township produces an electronic newsletter that is available on our website and Facebook page. We also have a small amount of printed copies available at the municipal building, 109 East Union Road. ◆

Warning: Though social media has its value, receiving Township information from sources like Facebook can be misleading. They are great to keep up-to-date with community events, etc., but not Township FACTS. Make it easy on yourself... check out our website, email us, or simply give us a call. We're here for YOU!



### Township Supervisors

Beverly S. Jordan, Chairperson

Vernon Frey, Vice Chairperson

John Hollibaugh

James Smullin

Josh Wiegand

### West Deer Township

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