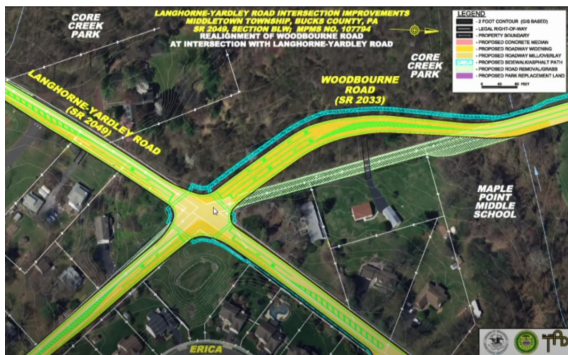


# TOWNSHIP OF —MIDDLETOWN— BUCKS COUNTY

## Update on Langhorne-Yardley Road Improvements



Middletown Township has been working for several years with PennDOT to bring major improvements to Langhorne-Yardley Road. The project will include improvements at the Langhorne-Yardley Road intersections with Bridgetown Pike and Woodbourne Road,

spanning the southern boundary of Core Creek Park.

At the Bridgetown Pike intersection, a traffic circle is proposed in place of the existing "Y" shaped signalized intersection. At the Woodbourne Road intersection, Woodbourne Road will be reoriented to create a wider, realigned approach on the north side of the intersection. The Woodbourne Road and Langhorne-Yardley Road intersection will also have dedicated left-turn lanes on all four sides.

Both intersections include major improvements for pedestrian access and crossing, including connections to existing trails and paths. Traffic Planning & Design, the Township's traffic engineer, is completing the work for the Township.

"This project has been many years in the making. Anyone who drives in this area on a regular basis knows that the traffic jams at these intersections can be frustrating," said Board of Supervisors Chairperson Mike Ksiazek. "The Township has been working hard to make sure PennDOT makes these major roads safe for motorists and pedestrians."

These improvements are made possible with township, county, state, and federal funds. More than a dozen agencies in all levels of

government have been involved to bring this project to fruition. Middletown Township's involvement has accelerated the project timeline by several years. The estimated completion date for these improvements is in 2023.

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## Middletown Lays Foundation for New Human Relations Commission

In response to recent events in the nation, Middletown Township is beginning the process to establish a Human Relations Commission. In Pennsylvania, municipalities are afforded the right to establish a Human Relations Commission under the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (PHRA).



On Monday, July 20, the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors authorized advertisement of an ordinance that would establish a Commission on Human Relations. Under this ordinance amendment, the scope of the Disabled Persons Advisory Board would be expanded to act and function as the Human Relations Commission. The hearing to enact the ordinance is tentatively scheduled for August 24, 2020.

"A Human Relations Commission is a critical step toward making our community equitable and accessible," said Middletown Township Supervisor Anna Payne. "Our vision for the Commission is to serve as a catalyst in our civic duty to combat injustice and advocate for residents who are marginalized and discriminated against. These members of our community now have a voice for change and a seat at the table."

The Human Relations Commission would consist of seven (7) members and has the ability to conduct public trainings, educational sessions, informational seminars, and community activities related to the PHRA. The Commission may also address complaints related to discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations, conversion therapy, and other unlawful practices.

If the Human Relations Commission is enacted, there would be four vacancies available for residents to fill. Residents with a disability and strongly encouraged to apply. To apply, residents can fill out [this application](#).

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# Gritty & the Flyers Visit Middletown!



The Philadelphia Flyers Community Caravan came to Middletown Township on Tuesday, July 14, as they drum up support for the upcoming 2020 NHL Playoffs and 2020-2021 season. Middletown Township hosted the Flyers' only planned stop in Bucks County.

Gritty, the mascot for the Flyers, was joined by DJ Reed Streets, in-arena host Andrew Helfrich, Flyers alumni, and meLVin, the mascot for the Lehigh Valley Phantoms. Several vehicles from Middletown Township, the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Company, and the Pennadel-Middletown Emergency Squad rounded out the procession.

We would like to thank the Philadelphia Flyers for bringing their parade to our community and providing an exciting, safe event for the community to enjoy. We would also like to thank Visit Bucks County, Maple Point Middle School, the Langhorne-Middletown Fire Company, the Pennadel-Middletown Emergency Squad, the Police Department, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Fire & Emergency Management, and Shady Brook Farm for their efforts in making the event happen.

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## Supporting Businesses During a Time of Need

The Middletown Township Economic Reopening Taskforce, comprised of local business leaders and elected officials, has been working to provide assistance for businesses in the Middletown Township community. The Taskforce created a public information campaign, "Middletown Safe," to spread the word that businesses are opening back up again. The Township is providing further support to local businesses by pausing the business



fire inspection program and waiving permit fees to businesses for tents and outdoor dining.

Sign packages including floor decals, yard signs, and fliers are available at no cost to businesses in Middletown Township. Businesses can pick up sign packages at the Middletown Township Municipal Center; Robin Kemmerer Associates, Inc., in Levittown; and Inspire Federal Credit Union in Langhorne. Additional information can be found [on our website](#). We would like to thank Robin Kemmerer and Missy Kitzmiller for their assistance distributing these sign packages.

As the Middletown Township business community recovers from the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Fire & Emergency Management has paused its business fire inspection program for the remainder of the year. Businesses will now be asked to perform and self-report a safety walk-through of their establishment. As part of this temporary change, the Township will not be collecting any fees for the remainder of the year.

We understand the significant economic and emotional impact COVID-19 has had on our community and are committed to doing everything in our power to give our businesses the best chance at survival. While fire safety and preparedness remain a priority to the Township, this temporary change will provide financial relief to businesses during a time when it is needed most.

Businesses will still be required to submit a fire alarm and sprinkler testing certification, an emergency light test certification, proof of fire extinguisher service, among other documents. These steps will keep employees and the community safe, and meet the requirements of most business' insurance carriers.

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## Two New Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Now Available

In Middletown Township's continued pursuit of a sustainable community, the Township partnered with the Bucks County Transportation Management Association (TMA) for a grant opportunity to provide two electric vehicle charging stations to the community.

The Middletown Township Municipal





Center (located at 3 Municipal Way, Langhorne) and Department of Public Works building (700 Veterans Highway, Levittown) now feature ChargePoint electric vehicle charging stations.

Both charging stations are open for public use at the rate of \$0.18/kWh. Most vehicles can be fully charged for less than \$12!

The charging station at the Municipal Center is located in the parking lot outside of the Police Department, and the charging station at the Department of Public Works building is

located outside of the main entrance.

To make charging your battery easier, [set up an account with ChargePoint](#) before plugging in.

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## Real Estate Tax Face-Value Deadline July 30, 2020

The deadline to pay the face value of 2020 Township and County real estate taxes has been extended to July 30, 2020.



The Middletown Township Board of Supervisors and the Bucks County Board of Commissioners extended the face-value deadline by 30 days earlier this year to allow residents more time to pay their taxes amid ongoing economic uncertainty and the COVID-19 emergency. Residents paying during this extension period will not be penalized. Residents paying 2020 real estate taxes on or after July 31 will be subject to a 10% penalty.

Tax deadlines for Neshaminy School District remain the same. If you have questions or would like to pay your real estate taxes, please contact the [Middletown Township Tax Collector, Ray Chapman](#).

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## Township Building Operations Update



The Middletown Township Municipal Center remains open to the public with limited hours, Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 2 PM. Township staff will be available from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM to conduct business with residents by phone or email. So we may best serve you, please email the person or people you are trying to reach, or leave a voicemail when calling.

Members of the public visiting the Municipal Center will be required to wear a facemask to enter. Hand sanitizing stations are available throughout the building. When arriving, please visit the reception booth for assistance of where to go. The Police Department can be accessed by taking the elevator to the second floor and entering through the main entrance. We appreciate your patience with us as we take these extra precautions to keep our staff and community safe during these unprecedented times.

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## 2020-2021 Penndel-Middletown Emergency Squad Subscription Program Now Running!

The Penndel-Middletown Emergency Squad (PMES) is now accepting applications to join their 2020-2021 subscription program. Contributions through this program assure PMES has sufficient staffing and supplies to meet the emergency needs of our community.



PMES subscribers will not incur any unnecessary bills for medically necessary emergency ambulance service to the closest appropriate facility, regardless of insurance coverage. Non-subscribers are responsible for full payment of all applicable charges, which often can exceed \$800 per trip.

During the COVID-19 emergency, PMES has been working harder than ever before to provide residents with essential paramedic and rescue services.

Subscribers joining now will be covered through June 30, 2021. Households can join for \$60.00 per year. Individuals can join for \$30.00 per year. Seniors (over the age of 65) are eligible for lower rates.

For more information, please visit the [PMES website](#), or [fill out their subscription application form](#).

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## Spotted Lanternfly Webpage Now Available

The Middletown Township website now features a [webpage](#) with information available to residents about the spotted lanternfly, and invasive species in our area that poses a threat to trees and agriculture. Spotted lanternflies have been present in Central Bucks County and around the Philadelphia area for the last few years.



In the spring and summer months, spotted lanternflies appear as a black beetle-like bug with white spots, or a burnt orange bug with black and white spots. In late summer into the fall, the bugs mature into adults and look like large moths with grey and red wings with black spots. In the winter and spring, they lay eggs on tree bark and lie dormant.

Local authorities encourage anyone who sees a spotted lanternfly in any stage of its lifecycle to kill it immediately. Residents with large

numbers of spotted lanternflies should consider targeted remediation such as [constructing a trap](#).

Residents are encouraged to report spotted lanternfly sightings to [the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture](#).

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Middletown Township  
3 Municipal Way, Langhorne, PA 19047  
215-750-3800

[www.middletownbucks.org](http://www.middletownbucks.org)

Thank you for reading this edition of the Middletown Township eNews! Feel free to share with friends, family, and neighbors!

We'd like to hear from you! If you have an idea for something that we can cover in the eNews, please let us know by emailing Nick Valla at [nvalla@middletownbucks.org](mailto:nvalla@middletownbucks.org).

Stay Connected!



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#### Middletown Township Board of Supervisors

Mike Ksiazek, Chairperson

Amy Strouse, Vice Chairperson

Tom Tosti, Secretary

Anna Payne

Dawn Quirple

Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Township Manager