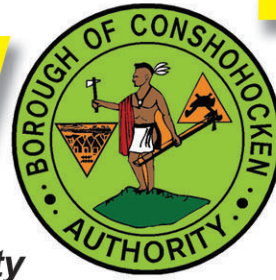


Authority Times

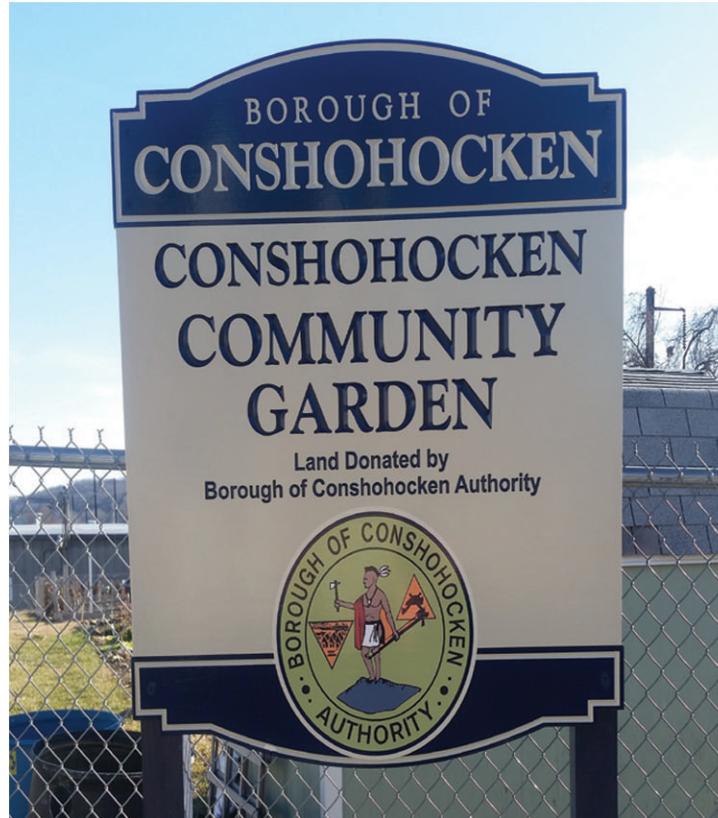
News and Information for Customers
of the Borough of Conshohocken Authority



Volume I Number 4
Spring 2015

Garden Sign Instills Pride

As the Conshohocken Community Garden enters the spring season of its fifth year, we'd like to thank the Conshohocken Sewer Authority for the beautiful new sign they have donated, which was installed this January. The sign matches the new signs around the Borough and will be a source of great pride for the garden. Five years ago the land on which the garden sits was donated to the Borough by the Sewer Authority in support of a community garden. The ground was prepared, tilled, and naturally amended by the garden membership. With a slow start in the Fall of 2011, we have grown from approximately eight gardeners managing each a 10' by 10' plot to a thriving membership of 56 and a nearly full garden of 70 plots. With the support of the community and many volunteer gardener hours, CCG has developed relationships with Conshohocken Elementary School, Colonial Neighborhood Council, and vari-



ous businesses in the community. We hope to develop more of these mutually beneficial relationships in 2015.

Currently the garden

has an average 75% return rate of gardeners year to year and is hoping to fill to capacity this year.

In an effort to maintain
(Continued on Back)

BOARD MEMBERS

FELIX RAIMONDO
Chair
CAROL SMITH
Vice Chair
ANITA BARTON
Secretary
KYLE ELLIOTT
Treasurer
JANENE REILLY
Board Member

MEETINGS

April 16
May 21
June 18
July 16
August 20
September 17

**Meetings are held in the Authority Office:
601 East Elm St.
Conshohocken**

Meeting time 6:30 PM

Water Conservation: Beneficial For Everyone

Many people in today's world are looking for ways to save money. One way to save is to be aware of how much water is wasted on a daily basis. Here are some tips on lowering your water and sewer bill.

The water we use today is actually

the same water that was used thousands of years ago. Can you imagine the water you are drinking may be the same water that Albert Einstein drank! As a Sewer Authority, our number one goal is to treat wastewater with high standards while protecting the earth's

most precious resource-WATER.

The following are tips on how to conserve water. Remember, less water usage means lower water and sewer bills, so- Use Your Water Wisely!

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New Garden Sign is a Source of Pride

(Continued From Front)

soil integrity and support environmental stewardship, CCG does not permit chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The garden membership educates members on natural pest management, soil enhancement, and composting organic waste to protect the ecosystem surrounding the garden.

Other activities at the garden include guest speakers, seed sharing/saving, bee population support, and collecting surplus

vegetables for donation. Last year, Conshohocken Elementary School donated a recycled art installation that hangs on the rear fence. Gardeners meet monthly and participate in work weekends during summer to maintain common areas and complete projects.

Annual dues for a 10' by 10' plot are \$45 and include both the summer and fall season. Water is provided on site and garden groundskeeping is maintained by the membership. We hope to see you at the garden!



Conserve Water to Build a Reserve

(Continued From Front)

Toilets

Leaky toilets waste a lot of water. Your toilet may have a leak that you may not even know about. One way to test for invisible leaks is to place a few drops of food coloring into the toilet's tank. Wait about 10 to 15 minutes (do not flush) and if the coloring appears in the bowl, you have a leaky toilet. The fix is simple. Replace the flush valve aka "flapper," or the valve seat may need to be cleaned or replaced. These parts are an inexpensive fix that will save you money.

Your toilet is the biggest water user in your home. Older toilets use 5 to 7 gallons per flush, which accounts for approximately 38% of your water used each day. If you can replace your existing toilet with a new low-flow toilet, you will permanently reduce water consumption by 25%. New low-flow toilets use only 1.5 gallons per flush.

If replacing your toilet is out of the question, consider reducing the volume of each flush by placing a toilet dam or water-filled plastic bottle weighted with sand in the tank making sure not to interfere with the flushing mechanism. Bricks are never a good idea because they disintegrate over time.

Faucets/Showerheads

Drips coming from your faucets and showerheads can waste up to 15 gallons per day with a two tablespoon drip per minute, which is 105 gallons per week or 1260 gallons per quarter. The main culprit for leaky faucets and showerheads are worn-out washers, which are inexpensive and easy to install.

Faucet aerators that mix air with tap-water can reduce flow to 1.5 to 2.5 gallons per minute, without aerators, normal faucets use 3 to 7 gallons per minute.

The showerhead in your home may



still use 3 to 7 gallons or more per minute. If you have not installed a showerhead which uses 1.5 gallons or less, your money is literally going down the drain.

One misconception some people have is they are not clean when using less water. But by installing the new showerheads, you simply save water and energy without sacrificing the benefits of a satisfying shower.

Dishwashers and Washing Machines

Make sure to only operate your dishwasher and washing machines at full load-capacity. If you are in the market for a new washing machine or dishwasher, always look for the Energy Star label. The manufacturer will give you an idea as to how much you will save on water and electric use.

Personal Habits that Conserve Water

- Always shut the water off when brushing your teeth, shaving or while doing the dishes
- Take shorter showers and don't fill the bathtub completely when bathing
- When dining out, be aware that if you plan on not drinking the water they provide simply tell the wait staff.

If you are really looking to save money on your utility bills, these are good ideas on how to start.

In our next Newsletter, we will discuss outdoor water tips that customers may consider to reduce water and sewer bills.

Borough Authority Will Offer Paid Internship Summer 2015

The Borough of Conshohocken Authority (BCA) is offering a paid internship to those looking for a career in wastewater treatment, who are currently enrolled in the following areas of study: Environmental Engineering, Chemistry or Biology. This program will provide a meaningful work experience that will complement academic training and career aspirations.

Participants will gain experience in:

- Operation/Maintenance of a Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Collection Conveyance System
- Laboratory Analysis
- Daily and Weekly Reports Preparation
- Interpreting and Evaluating Engineering Problems
- Repair Projects
- Wastewater Processing and Discharge
- Administrative and Clerical Work
- Professional Development

Requirements:

• BCA internships are open to undergraduate or graduate students who attend an accredited college or university. Eligible students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA, which is 2.5 for undergraduate and 3.0 for graduate students, based on a 4.0 scale.

• Applicants must submit an application, along with current sealed official college transcript. The transcript may be mailed from the school separate from the application.

• Applicants must write an essay based on career aspirations and, if selected, what they would like to gain from this internship. The essay must be typed (double spaced) and should not exceed two pages in length.

• Applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from an academic advisor

- Applicants must be 18 yrs of age by June 1, 2015
- Applicant must be available June 1 to August 14

Special Requirements:

All applicants must be able to successfully pass a Pennsylvania State Police background check process which will include reference checks and criminal history checks.

Applicants must also be able to pass or have: Driving Record Check

The BCA is committed to supporting the educational goals of college students interested in careers in the public sector. This internship at the BCA will take you into the heart of the wastewater treatment industry.

Send applications to sclark@conshohockensa.com and must be submitted no later than April 17, 2015.