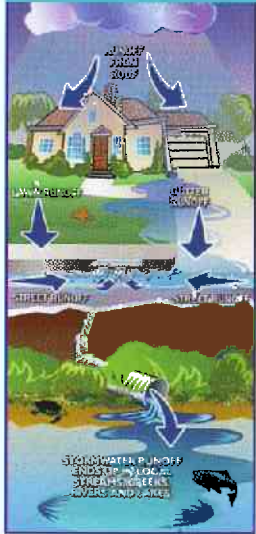


What is Storm Water Runoff?



One of the most significant, yet unrecognized groups of water contaminants is storm water pollutants. When it rains, storm water runs over yards, streets, roads, highways, parking lots, parks, and playgrounds, carrying with it everything in its path, including debris and pollutants. Eventually, the water will travel to a stream, either over land or via a storm drain. Storm drains are frequently located alongside streets and parking lots. Unlike sanitary sewers that divert water to a treatment plant directly from your home, storm drains lead directly to surrounding lakes and rivers without any type of treatment. All the debris and pollutants that were picked up by storm water runoff end up in your lakes and streams!

TIPS TO KEEP YOUR RIVERS, LAKES AND STREAMS CLEAN

- Never dump anything down a storm drain!
- Use an oil pan when changing oil to keep fluids off the pavement. Check local body shops and quick lubes to find a place to appropriately dispose of used oil.
- Bag pet waste and dispose of it in a trash can.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn as an alternate nutrient to fertilizer. If a fertilizer is necessary, choose a slow-release product and test your soil to find out how much fertilizer your lawn actually needs.
- Wash your car on your lawn so excess water, chemicals, and dirt is filtered through the lawn.
- Keep household hazardous wastes, such as harsh cleaners, paint, car fluids, and batteries from entering lakes and streams by disposing at a household hazardous waste center. Try using environmentally-safe alternatives or recipes with non-hazardous ingredients.
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean up grass clippings and dirt.
- Keep a trash bag in your car... and use it!

Where Does the Pollution Come From?

Most contaminants are made up of common items used by residents, businesses and visitors, such as fertilizers, car oils and greases, yard clippings, soil, and pet wastes. Here are some tips you can follow to help keep pollution from entering lakes and streams via storm water runoff.

For more information about Northampton Township Storm Water Management Plan, check out <https://www.northamptontownship.com/departments/building-codes/stormwater-management.aspx>.

Deployed Service Member Flag Program

The Board of Supervisors established a flag recognition program for all service members of a military service who are current or previous residents of Northampton Township when entering the military service and have deployed, or are scheduled to deploy, to a combat area as part of the Global War on Terror since September 11, 2001. Visit the Documents section of the Township's website under the Veterans Advisory Commission for details, request for recognition form and a list of eligible Combat Areas.



Tax Collector



Bob Borkowski

County/Township Real Estate Tax Bills

April 30 is the last day to pay your County/Township real estate tax within the discount period. To assist the tax payers to take advantage of this discount, the Northampton Township Tax Office will be open the final week:

Mon 4/24	8:30-4:30	Thurs 4/27	8:30-4:30
Tues 4/25	8:30-4:30	Fri 4/28	8:30-4:30 (**)
Wed 4/26	8:30-7:00 (**)		(** additional office hours)

For added convenience, there is a drop box outside the Township Administration Building to accept payments 24/7. Attach a stamp self-addressed envelope if you want a receipt.

Contact Information: Bob Borkowski

Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Phone: (215) 357-1343

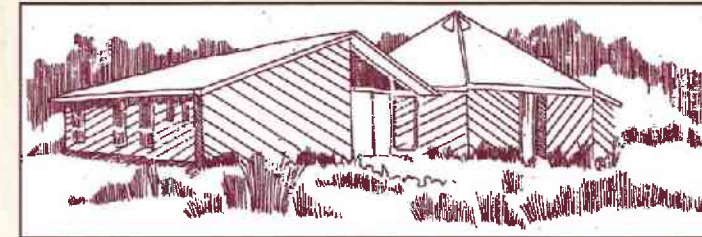
Email: bobborkowski167@gmail.com

Website: <http://northamptontaxcollector.wordpress.com/>

If you would like to receive email reminders about when real estate tax bills are mailed out or due dates, simply email the tax office at bobborkowski167@gmail.com.

Historical Commission

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE CHURCHVILLE NATURE CENTER



1976 rendering of the new Nature Center building designed by architect Paul d'Entremont. Source: *The Advance of Bucks County*, October 7, 1976.



Circa 1942 photograph of workmen during the construction of the Churchville Reservoir Dam. Source: *Courtesy of the Churchville Nature Center*.



Circa 1942 photograph of Churchville Reservoir Dam under construction. Source: *Courtesy of the Churchville Nature Center*.

The resulting reservoir, historically known as Springfield Lake, was designed to hold a reserve water supply for use under drought conditions. A regulated flow of water was transported along the Iron Works and Mill Creeks and then into the Neshaminy Creek, where the water could be drawn through a pumping station at Neshaminy Falls, and piped to Philadelphia suburb communities. Soon after its creation, the reservoir and its adjacent natural areas became havens for many bird species and other wildlife enjoyed by local birders and nature enthusiasts. It was this area that a group of local residents petitioned the County to preserve as a nature park. A citizens' group to promote the park's interest was formed and its existence was assured by the signing of a bond issued by the Bucks County Commissioners in 1960. Acquisition of the lands began in 1961 and by 1964 the County opened its first nature center, known as Churchville Park and Outdoor Nature Center.

Originally the old farmhouse, which still stands on the property, served as the park's headquarters and nature center. By 1971, the building housed a museum, meeting rooms, and the Lester S. Thomas Nature Library. Dave Williams was the park's first naturalist, followed by Harry Volker, and Julian Boryszewski, Jr. The 40 acre-park boasted a mile of nature trails including the Dr. Edwin Kroeker Trail and the Florence W. Grintz Bittersweet Trail, which was at an early date adapted for use as a trail for the blind and physically handicapped. The park was so well-visited that a new Nature Center building was erected in 1976 designed by architect Paul d'Entremont of Haag & d'Entremont, a mid-twentieth-century American architecture firm based in Bucks County and well known for school design and architecture of this period. A feature of the building was its large octagonal program room. During the 1970s, the County entertained several proposals to expand Churchville Park. One plan recommended that the County assume control over the Water Company property and that the area be equipped with places for picnicking, additional roadways and parking facilities, and installation of a boat ramp to make the reservoir lake accessible for rowing and sailing. However, because of overwhelming negative responses from local naturalists' groups and lack of funds, these plans never came to fruition.

Over the past 40 years, attendance at the park has continued to grow, so much that the Nature Center recently completed its latest expansion project nearly doubling the size of the Nature Center building. The new green nature center was designed to complement the aesthetics of d'Entremont building.



1971 photograph of Naturalist Harry Volker showing students a Cooper's hawk in front of the farmhouse, which served as the headquarters of the Nature Center from the early 1960s to 1976. Source: *Delaware Valley Advance*, May 6, 1971.

The mission of the Churchville Nature Center is to instill an awareness and appreciation of the natural world in all people through education, and to encourage responsible environmental stewardship with a commitment to the preservation of resources and wildlife habitat.

To learn more about Northampton's natural history and the many educational programs that the Churchville Nature Center has to offer, we encourage you to visit the Center's website at www.churchvillenaturecenter.org.