



# EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP

CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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Dear Residents and Taxpayers of East Bradford Township:

July, 2020

As we approach the normal height of mid-summer – the Fourth of July, All Star Game, barbecues and pool parties – summer 2020 moves on with anything but normalcy – no fireworks, no baseball, and socially distance summer activities. While East Bradford, along with the rest of Chester County, has moved into the “green” phase of the COVID-19 emergency, we are mindful that “green” does not mean “full speed ahead.” Rather it is the third – and hopefully the last – phase of the emergency. It is only after green, that we can expect a full return to normalcy. The emergency declaration adoption by the Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2020, remains in full force and effect. Our continued wearing of masks, social distancing, working from home where possible, and continued good hygiene practices will be the best way to put the emergency behind us.

Here in East Bradford, we have seen the continued availability of our parks, trails and open spaces, as top issue for our residents. As we transition to green status, the Township reviewed State-approved guidelines for the easing of restrictions on outdoor recreation facilities and we have made the following recommendations concerning Township recreation facilities that have been previously closed or limited during the previous stages:

- Baseball/Softball/Multi-Purpose fields are open for family use and skill building; organized team activities are allowed by permit only
- Basketball Court is open for play with proper social distancing/mask wearing
- Volleyball Court is open for family use and games with proper social distancing/mask wearing
- Tennis/Pickleball Courts are open for singles and doubles play with proper social distancing/mask wearing
- Playgrounds are open for family use with proper social distancing/mask wearing
- Restroom and water fountains remain closed; port-a-potties remain available and are cleaned twice a week
- Picnic Pavilion is open for family use with proper social distancing/mask wearing; groups can be no larger than 25 people

All other facilities are open as normal. In all parks and open spaces, the wearing of masks or observing social distancing is required. Please be mindful that given the nature of our parks and open spaces, the Township will post guidance and monitor park usage, but we cannot enforce social distancing recommendations. In terms of summer events, concerts are canceled due to concerns raised by band participants and the Trail Blazer Run is tentatively postponed until fall 2020.

Public access to the Township building and public meetings are slated to resume in the green phase. However, groups may still opt to use virtual meeting options. Meeting updates are routinely posted on the Township website ([eastbradford.org](http://eastbradford.org)).

Annual road work is on schedule for this year. Paving is planned on the following roads: Wawaset Road, Wencin Way, Wencin Terrace, Blue Rock Road, Allegiance Drive, and Green Countrie Drive.

We remain in the midst of the 2020 Census. Any household who has not yet completed the census is asked to do so immediately ([2020census.gov/en.html](http://2020census.gov/en.html)). Initial data shows that Chester County is still below the 2010 response rate of 75.6%. We are currently at 72.3%. If the Census were to end today, Chester County with a non-response number of 145,421 people, would lose an estimated \$304,366,153 per year for the next ten years.

We do anticipate some budgetary adjustments brought upon by the pandemic. Notably, we estimate a loss of revenue this year of 6-10% (\$300,000-\$400,000) as a result of a reduction in earned income tax, real estate transfer tax, interest earnings and park field permits. More precise numbers will not be known until revenue reports for the third quarter are received later this summer. At this point, we anticipate offsetting drops in revenue with reduced or deferred budgeted expenditures. We will closely monitor the long-term impacts on the economy as we commence the budgeting process for 2021.

Finally, we hope the Township can be a resource as we slowly return to normalcy. Chester County has developed [RestoreChesterCounty.org](http://RestoreChesterCounty.org), a comprehensive online toolkit that offers guidelines specifically designed for Chester County's 15,000+ businesses and 525,000 residents. Please do use this toolkit to help meet your needs and contact our staff with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Vince Pompo, Chair  
John Snook, Vice Chair  
J. Patrick Davis, Member