

# EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP NEWS RELEASE



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### COVID-19 – EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP RESPONSE

After careful consideration, East Goshen Township has followed the lead of the State as well as that of Chester County and activated an essential employee only operation for the next two weeks due to COVID-19 (coronavirus). Effective immediately, the Township and its operations will close to the public and all Township meetings have been cancelled until at least Monday, March 30. The Township will be operating at minimal staffing levels during the next two weeks and non-essential personnel will work remotely when feasible. The Township will continue to monitor the situation and make changes to this policy as needed. Please see below for more information on Township operations during this time.

**Real Estate Taxes** – Real Estate Tax Payments may be mailed to East Goshen Township at 1580 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380 or dropped off in the drop box located at the entrance of the Township building. The drop box will be checked daily. If you would like a receipt for your tax payment, please leave a note in your envelope as well as a self-addressed envelope and we will mail you a receipt when we process your payment. Note that the Township does not accept cash payments. Please understand that while payment processing will be delayed over the next several weeks, we will do the best we can to process promptly. Should the building closure need to be extended until April, the Township may need to extend the 2% discount period.

**Sewer and Trash Utility Bills** – Unpaid Quarter 1 2020 sewer and trash bills (which were due on February 28) can be paid on-line at <https://ipn2.paymentus.com/cp/egt>, sent to the Township's utility lockbox (East Goshen Township; PO Box 62648; Baltimore, MD 21264), or dropped off in the drop box located at the entrance of the Township building. The drop box will be checked daily. If you would like a receipt for your utility payment, please leave a note in your envelope as well as a self-addressed envelope and we will mail you a receipt when we process your payment. Note that the Township does not accept cash payments. Please understand that while payment processing will be delayed over the next several weeks, we will do the best we can to process promptly.

**Building Permits & Inspections** – Residential and commercial permit applications are encouraged to be submitted via email to [codes@eastgoshen.org](mailto:codes@eastgoshen.org). Applications may be submitted

via US Mail or dropped in the Dropbox at the Township building. We are limiting the number of inspections through March 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Change of Use and Occupancy Inspection Program** - The Township Change of use and Occupancy Inspection program is suspended until the Township re-opens for business. This includes all apartment re-occupancy inspections and all re-sale inspections. However, the Township will continue to issue real estate tax, sewer and trash certs during the shutdown. Please contact [cboylan@eastgoshen.org](mailto:cboylan@eastgoshen.org) for more information about requesting a cert.

**Planning & Zoning** – The Township will not be accepting any Land Development, Sub-Division, Conditional Use, or Zoning Hearing Board Applications through March 29<sup>th</sup>. The April 1, 2020 meeting of the Planning Commission is TBD at this time.

Please see the Township website for up to the date information and guidance for specific Code Department questions and concerns.

**Public Works** – Our Public Works Department will be performing limited work during this time, focusing on essential maintenance activities and road and sewer emergencies. We will respond to emergencies as needed. Residents reporting emergencies should contact 911.

**Parks & Recreation**: The Township Parks will be open for public use, but all comfort stations and playgrounds will be closed. All park and recreation programming during this time has been canceled, and most events planned for later in the spring have either been canceled or postponed. Please visit our website for a complete list of canceled/postponed events.

**Police** – The Westtown East Goshen Police Department will continue to respond to calls as normal while taking necessary steps to protect the health and safety of our officers and the public.

**Fire/EMS Services** – Our fire companies, and their EMS teams, will continue to respond to calls as normal, taking necessary steps to protect the health and safety of emergency personnel and the public.

**We understand these are very challenging times. This will require cooperation and flexibility and everyone has a role to play. The Township operations will function but in a much more limited capability. Emergency services and vital public services will NOT be affected.**

**It is important that you follow the recommendations of appropriate health agencies.**

**For up-to-date information on the Coronavirus and COVID-19 in Chester County, please visit the County Health Department website at: <https://www.chesco.org/4376/Coronavirus-COVID-19>**