



# DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

**"PRESERVING THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE"**

FALL 2022

VOLUME 22

ISSUE 3

## Chairman's Letter

*By: Barbara N. Lyons*

*Chairman Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors*

Most everyone has heard the exciting news that Doylestown Township received a \$1 Million grant from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) secured for us by State Senator Santarsiero to support the construction of the Doylestown Township Recreation and Community Center.

The need for the Center has been a crucial piece of our Comprehensive Plan since 1992. With the completion of the construction of the Township administration facility, planning for the Center got underway in 2020 following an extensive feasibility study.

The study included interviews and meetings with members of the public, residents, organizations, stakeholders, area sports leagues, community participants and anyone else that would have an interest and input into the construction, planning and use of a recreation facility.

Through the process, the Township determined there was a need for a 16,000 square foot

building containing a full gym, multi-purpose space, kitchen, and enclosed patio. As such, the community center will provide for indoor sports, recreation and education programs as well as serve as an emergency community center.

The multi-purpose rooms together with the ability to partition the larger spaces, will provide much needed opportunities for our residents to host family events such as birthday parties, and baby/bridal showers, community meetings and gatherings.

In addition to the Recreation and Community Center, this project also includes the transformation of Field 1 in Central Park into tennis, basketball, and pickleball courts, as well as much needed additional parking.

The design is nearing completion and the plan will go to bid in January with the intent to break ground in Spring 2023. Completion and the Ribbon Cutting is anticipated in the Spring of 2024.

**(Continued on next page)**

## IN THIS ISSUE:

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- 2023 BUDGET PROCESS
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- BCWSA SEWER SALE UPDATE

# Chairman's Letter (continued from page 1)

The projected cost of the facility is estimated to cost \$9 million with an additional \$2.3 million for the additional courts and parking. This cost will be paid for with a mix of additional grants, borrowing, and fundraising.

A Capital Fundraising Campaign with numerous naming opportunities will be

underway later this Fall. Please look for further information to participate in this Capital Campaign coming soon!

Volunteers to serve on the Capital Fundraising Campaign Committee are most welcome. If you are interested, please contact me or Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager.

Renderings of the exterior and site plan can be found below.

Look for more updates on our website as the Township moves through the process.



DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION COMMUNITY CENTER  
VIEW OF PORCH AND ENTRY



DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION COMMUNITY CENTER



WELLS ROAD

# Township's Septic Management Program- Are you up to date with water testing and septic pumping?

In 2001, the Township passed Ordinance No. 299 which requires all residents who currently have on-lot disposal systems (septic systems) to have them inspected by a Doylestown Township approved pumper/hauler/installer every three years.

Residents with septic systems that do not have public water are also required to have their well water tested for coliform bacteria every three years by a certified,



approved water testing facility. The list of approved pumpers/haulers/water testing facilities is located on the Township website.

In July, in an effort to update our records, letters were sent out to property owners regarding this requirement for both septic pumping and water testing. We would like to thank the property owners who have contacted the Township to update our records and make sure they are accurate.

Please note that if you have received a letter from the Township regarding the need to update our records and

have not forwarded copies of the pumper report or water test results to our office, please make sure you comply by the end of 2022.

Failure to comply with this multiple times may result in legal action and you could be fined up to \$1,000.

Thank you for your cooperation on this matter to keep our Township a safe and healthy place to live.



## Why comply with the septic management program?

- Protect your property values.
- Protect our eco-system from malfunctioning septic systems that can send toxins and bacteria into our waterways.
- Protect the health of yourself and your neighbors from groundwater contamination.

## What needs to be sent to the Township?

- Pumper Report that should be filled out by the waste hauler (see photo to the right for example).
- Water Test Results that show results regarding coliform bacteria.

**You can email the results to Stacy Crandell, Assistant Township Manager at [scrandell@doylestownpa.org](mailto:scrandell@doylestownpa.org).**

Township use only		SEPTIC MANAGEMENT PLAN - PUMPER'S REPORT	
Cycle: 1 2 3	Doylestown Township	425 Wells Road, Doylestown, PA 18001	
Date entered:	Initials:	PH# 215-345-9915 - FAX# 215-345-8729	
ICED: Yes No	Please Print All Information		
<b>Section I. PRELIMINARY INFORMATION (To be Completed by Homeowner):</b>			
Owner's Name:	Tax Parcel #:		09-
Mailing Address:	Date of Pumping:		
Site Address (check if same) ( ):	Date of Last Pumping:		
	Telephone:		
	Number of Bedrooms:		
	Number of Occupants:		
<b>Section II. SEPTIC SYSTEM (To be Completed by Pumper/Hauler/Installer/Designer):</b>			
*Pumping MUST occur from the manhole. Pumping CANNOT occur from the inspection port **			
System Type (Please Check):	Tank condition:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sid. Trenches	<input type="checkbox"/> Tank type:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sid. Storage Bed	<input type="checkbox"/> Sludge content:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Elevated Sand Mound	<input type="checkbox"/> Amount of septage removed (gallons):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> Liquid level:		
Tank Size (gallons) (Please check)	<input type="checkbox"/> Depth below surface to septic tank:		
<input type="checkbox"/> 500 <input type="checkbox"/> 750 <input type="checkbox"/> 1000	<input type="checkbox"/> Leaks found inside tank:		
Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/> Condition of baffles:		
Maintenance Performed: (Check any of the following):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Baffle Replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Extensions (new rings)	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Ports	<input type="checkbox"/> Snaked the Line <input type="checkbox"/> Alarm System
Other:			
History of OIDS Repairs:			
<b>Section III. OBSERVED CONDITIONS: (check all that apply):</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> High Water Level in Tank	<input type="checkbox"/> (Observed condition is above the inlet pipe on the septic tank? Y or N)		Depth of Scum Layer on Top of Tank: (in inches)
<input type="checkbox"/> Noticeable Odors	<input type="checkbox"/> "Wet Areas Near System or Site		Weather Conditions:
<input type="checkbox"/> "Sewer Backup Into House	<input type="checkbox"/> "Sewer Backups Near System or Site		<input type="checkbox"/> Drought
<input type="checkbox"/> "Surfacing Sewage	<input type="checkbox"/> "Abundant Grass Growth Near System or Site		<input type="checkbox"/> Dry
	<input type="checkbox"/> "Surfacing Sewage		<input type="checkbox"/> Rain
	<input type="checkbox"/> "Surfacing Sewage		<input type="checkbox"/> Snow
(Please circle location of observed condition: absorption area / pump tank / or septic tank)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Back flow of Water From Absorption Area to Tank			
Other:			
Pumper/Hauler/Installer/Designer Company Name:			
Pumper/Hauler/Installer/Designer Signature:			
NOTICE: Completion of this report is required by Doylestown Township (Ordinance #288) for information purposes only and shall not be deemed to be a certification of conditions by the Pumper/Hauler/Installer/Designer.			
THIS FORM IS NOT TO BE USED FOR REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION PURPOSES			
A copy of this report is to be submitted to the property owner listed above and a copy sent to Doylestown Township within five (5) days of the work being completed.			
(White-Township ) (Canary-Property Owned) (Pink-PAH Company) Revised: 7/27/04			

## Update on BCWSA Potential Sewer Sale

As of September 6, 2022, the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority (BCWSA) will not be selling their sewer system as this time to Aqua, this was action that was requested by the Bucks County Commissioners. The Board of Supervisors along with other communities who are served by BCWSA are strongly opposed to the sale of the sewer system.

We encourage residents to stay up to date with the latest information, by signing up for alerts on the BCWSA Commitment website- <https://www.bcwsacommitment.org/>

## Message from DTMA

The Doylestown Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) was incorporated in 1989 to serve Doylestown Township's growing demand for a safe, economical water supply. DTMA provides public water to approximately ten thousand (10,000) residents in Doylestown Township and portions of Plumstead Township and New Britain Borough. The DTMA is managed by a five-member Board of Directors appointed by the Doylestown Township Supervisors.

DTMA is a public water utility that does not receive Doylestown Township taxpayer revenue. The Authority is solely funded by its customers' water usage and tapping fees. This enables the Authority to focus on maintaining and improving the water infrastructure to provide the highest quality drinking water and service at

a reasonable cost.

One of the many benefits of a locally controlled Authority is the ability to keep water rates low and stable. DTMA's revenue is reinvested back into the water system, as opposed to private water companies that disperse profits to shareholders. DTMA firmly believes the water supply we all rely on should be held in the public trust.

### **Pebble Ridge and Woodridge Main Extensions Update**

The Doylestown Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) recently completed the water main extensions in the Pebble Ridge and Woodridge areas of Doylestown Township.

Approximately two miles of water main were installed, and several property owners have already connected to the system and are enjoying the

benefits of DTMA water. As a reminder for anyone thinking about connecting to public water, a construction cost credit is available until the end of the year.

In addition, DTMA is offering a loan program to help with the cost. Anyone interested in learning more about connecting to DTMA public water please contact Keith Hass, Executive Director of the DTMA at [khass@doylestownpa.org](mailto:khass@doylestownpa.org).



## Let There Be Dark!

Consider turning off your outdoor lights at night. Light pollution is a serious concern, with a negative impact on our local wildlife. The amount of light you shine onto your house from the outside into your windows can also affect your sleep patterns. We are adapted to experiencing darkness at night, as are the insects, birds, bats, and other creatures where you live. Upsetting this natural rhythm with artificial light degrades the health of everything around us, as well as ourselves.

Half the creatures on the planet have evolved to perform all their life functions at night, in the dark. Light, to them, is the moon and the stars. They use that small, faint, distant light to navigate, nest, feed, mate, hide from predators and

cue behaviors. Our artificial light upsets behaviors that are hard wired into their very being. Populations of birds, bats, insects, and other animals are crashing. We can't pretend that our outdoor artificial lighting is not part of the reason.

If there is a concern about security, consider putting your light on a timer, or putting a motion sensor on it, or changing your light to a red light. Red light does not register with most animals.

Please feel free to search out more detailed information and studies on this. Here are some places to start:

<https://www.darksky.org/light-pollution/human-health/>

*By: Erich Neal, EAC Member*

<https://www.audubon.org/lights-out-program>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/bats-appreciation-day-cities-urban-lights>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/light-pollution-contributes-insect-apocalypse-180973642/>

<https://schoolofbugs.com/how-do-we-know-insects-cant-see-red-light/>





# Budget Process

The Doylestown Township Annual Budget reflects the goals developed by the Board of Supervisors and serves as a financial plan, but also as a tool for accountability. The budget process takes about 6 months to complete.

Here is a snapshot of the budget process:

**April**- Township Staff meets with the Board of Supervisors for the first Budget Planning Meeting

- Review prior year preliminary results
- Update five-year forecast using prior year preliminary results with the current year budget and identify conclusions to be drawn
- Discuss budget components for the new budget year that require further study



**June**- Township Staff meets with the Board of Supervisors for second Budget Planning Meeting

- Presentation of Budget component study results
- Agreement on how to budget those components

**July**- Department Heads Meet with Finance Department

- Discussions on budget forecast of the current year
- Initial discussions on five-year capital plan

**August**- Staff meets with Department Heads

- To discuss their budget forecast for the current and following year
- Refine their five-year capital plan

**August and September**- Staff develops the five-year forecast

- Examine assumptions
- Review and refine operations and capital plans
- Disseminate detail



**September and October**- Staff meets with the Board three times

- Present/Discuss/Refine budget Proposals
- Board of Supervisors provides specific direction in the third meeting

**November**- At the Board of Supervisors Public Meeting, Staff presents formal budget. The Board of Supervisors approve the preliminary budget and the budget is then advertised for public view.

**December**- The Board of Supervisors will review and formally adopt the new budget.

# Grants Make a Difference!

Doylestown Township is in good financial shape. The Township helps offset some of the cost of community improvements by actively pursuing grant opportunities. In the past several years, the Township has received almost \$5 million in grants to fund many community projects and initiatives. Here is a list of grants that were awarded in recent years and some that were submitted and are currently pending.

## ***Grant Awards***

### **2022**

- \$1,000,000- RACP Grant for Park & Recreation Community Center
- \$1,400,000- Safe Routes to School Grant- Shady Retreat and Burpee road connect several neighborhoods to Doyle Elementary, Lenape Middle and Central Bucks West High schools (\$985,000 in 2018 for the same project).
- Two PennDOT Green Light-Go Program Grants- \$469,492 for fiber interconnection of traffic signals at seven intersections along Swamp Road (Route 313) and \$100,000 for safety upgrades, including flashing yellow arrow and advance dilemma-zone detection, along Route 611 from Edison Furlong to Kelly Road.



### **2021**

- \$686,000- PA DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund for New Britain Road Multi-Use Trail

### **2020**

- \$400,000- PA DCED H2O Water and Sewer Grant for DTMA partner with Del Val University for emergency interconnection of water source.
- \$175,000- PA Small Water and Sewer System Grant for DTMA South Tank Rehabilitation Project
- \$30,000- Trail Feasibility Study from DVRPC for the 202 Trail (Central Park to Rt. 313)

### **2018**

- \$10,000- PA DCNR Recreation and Conservation Planning Funding for the Park and Recreation Comprehensive Plan

### **2017**

- \$252,000- PA DCED- Pebble Ridge/Woodridge Sewer Project- Pump Station
- \$25,000- PA DCNR Turk Road Trail Feasibility Study
- \$1,400,000- Transportation Alternative Program- Lower State Road Trail, which provided a trail link from downtown Doylestown Borough to the 202 Parkway Trail.

## ***Submitted & Pending Grant Determination***

- Easton Road Trail from 202 Parkway to the trail at Tabor property  
\$1,062,210
- An Additional RACP Grant for the Park & Recreation Community Center-  
\$1,000,000
- PA DCED Local Share Grant for the Park & Recreation Community Center-  
\$1,000,000

# HOW WE SPENT OUR SUMMER IN DOYLESTOWN....

## Summer Concerts

The Park and Recreation Department hosted 15 concerts for the Thompson Performing Arts Series which was held at the C & N Amphitheater in Central Park. There was a mix of all genres as well as local and nationally recognized musical groups. We had various food trucks and a beer garden throughout the summer! The Township also had some record-breaking amounts for our 50/50 raffles! Thank you to everyone who came out to join us and supported us through concession sales and donations!



## Veterans Advisory Committee- Flag Raising Ceremony & Triangle Park Cleanup

The newly formed Veterans Advisory Committee (VAC) organized a Flag Raising Ceremony prior to the Summer Concert on June 29th before Independence Day. Cadets from the Civil Air Patrol served as the honor guard along with young marines, and representatives from the Police, Fire and EMS were in attendance. In addition, local singer Patrick Lundt was on hand to sing the National Anthem.



The VAC also organized a cleanup of Triangle Park on July 26th. The Township would like to extend our appreciation to our Public Works Parks Department, volunteers from the Bucks County Youth Detention Center, and other volunteers who spent a few hours cleaning and mulching Triangle Park. The park looks amazing!



## Chem Fab

Township Staff and Township Supervisors were invited to a visit of Chem-Fab Superfund Site that is located on North Broad Street in Doylestown Borough on July 15th. A groundwater extraction and treatment system are currently under construction to remediate this site. The remediation portion is located in Doylestown Township.



# HOW WE SPENT OUR SUMMER IN DOYLESTOWN....

## ***Hart's Woods Dedication Ceremony in honor of David E. Benner***

On July 22nd, the Township held a dedication ceremony for the new David E. Benner Grove, which is a part of Hart's Woods. The Township has put up a sign to commemorate David Benner's efforts to get PennDOT to alter the course of the 611 Bypass roadway. By moving the Bypass east, the vast majority of Hart's Woods was spared. We are acknowledging his efforts 53 years later. We were very fortunate to have David Benner able to attend the dedication and the reception following, which also happened to be his 93rd birthday! There were over 30 persons in attendance, including Benner's wife, son and his granddaughter as well as Board of Supervisor's Chair Barbara N. Lyons and Supervisor Jen Herring, Shannon Fredebaugh-Siller from the Heritage Conservancy and EAC Chair Jim Baldesarre and Vice-Chair Heidi Shiver. Special thank you to Anne Woodbury for recommending this honor.



## ***2nd Annual National Night Out***

The Doylestown Township Police Department hosted their second annual National Night Out at Central Park on August 2nd. It was a great evening with several agencies from across the County and a K-9 Demonstration. Special thank you to Sgt. Jessica Whiteside who spearheaded and organized this community event! We hope to see you next year!



## ***Golf Outing***

The 29th Annual Township Golf Outing was held on August 22nd at the Doylestown Country Club with 127 golfers in attendance. The weather held out for the majority of the event and it was a great day. This year included a silent auction and raffle of donated baskets organized by the Park and Recreation Board. We would like to thank the many sponsors we had as well as the 19 basket donations from Township Committees, Township Supervisors, Township Staff, Sponsors, and local businesses. This year, the Township raised over \$30,000 which will go to help support the many park projects in the Township including the proposed Recreation and Community Center. We hope you join us next year!



## ***Check Presentation- \$1 million RACP Grant for Recreation and Community Center***

At the August 16th Board of Supervisors meeting, State Senator Steve Santarsiero attended the meeting to present a ceremonial check to Chairman Barbara N. Lyons for the \$1 million grant award for the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The Township would like to thank Senator Santarsiero for his support in helping Doylestown Township secure this grant.



# WINTER IS COMING....

As we gear up for a season of snow, we want to remind residents of the Township's winter weather tips.

## Before the Storm

- Brush up on our snow removal guidelines by viewing the online code book.
- Make sure you are able to receive emergency updates and storm information. This includes alerts from the Township's Google Group, social media pages and Bucks County's Ready Bucks text message alert system.
- Test all smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Create a pre-storm checklist and make sure you have important items like fuel for vehicles, generators and snow blowers.

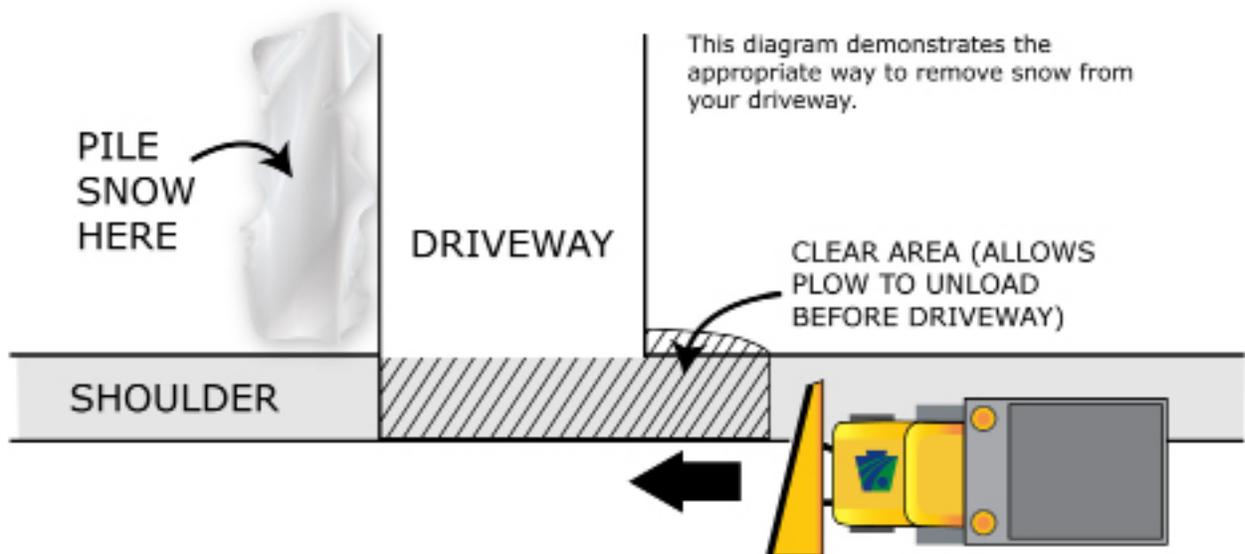
## During the Storm

- Stay off the road if possible. If you must travel, get traffic information from 511pa.com.
- Check the Township's website and social media pages to learn about closures, snow emergency declarations, meeting cancellations, and more.

- Check Central Bucks School District's website for information about school delays, early dismissal, and closures.
- Do not call 9-1-1 to ask about school closings/early dismissals or to report power outages. If you experience an outage, contact PECO at 1-800-841-4141 or [www.peco.com](http://www.peco.com).
- If you have an emergency, please dial 9-1-1.

## After the Storm

- Review the Township's snow removal guidelines. Within 24 hours after each snowfall or sleet it is the duty and obligation of the homeowner to clear and remove ice, snow or sleet from the sidewalk.
- Shovel safely! Take it slow and remember to push snow instead of lifting. If you experience any heart attack symptoms, stop immediately and call 9-1-1.
- Did you capture a nice photo of our township in the snow? Share it with us on social media by tagging @doylestowntpw!



# DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP STAFF & COMMITTEES

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Barbara N. Lyons, Chairman  
Ryan Manion, Vice-Chairman  
Jennifer Herring  
Nancy Santacecilia  
Dan Wood

## **TOWNSHIP STAFF**

Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager  
Stacy E. Crandell, Assistant Township Manager  
Dean Logan, Chief of Police  
Charles Zeigler, Lieutenant/Open Records Officer  
Dave Tomko, Director of Operations  
Ken Wallace, Finance Director  
Karen A. Sweeney, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Sinclair Salisbury, Director of Code Enforcement  
Rick Schea, Fire Marshal  
Lisa Pearsall, P&R Program Manager  
Paul Garr, Roads Superintendent  
Chris Mason, Parks Superintendent  
Margaret Trageser, Open Records Officer  
Keith Hass, Executive Director of DTMA  
Brent Eaton, Water Superintendent

## **BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

- Agriculture Security Advisory Council
- Bike & Hike Committee
- Board of Auditors
- Board of Supervisors
- Dog Park Advisory Board
- Environmental Advisory Council/Shade Tree Commission
- Friends of Kids' Castle
- Historical Architectural Review Board
- Doylestown Municipal Authority
- Local Traffic Advisory Committee
- Park & Recreation Board
- Pension Advisory Committee
- Planning Commission
- Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board
- Telecommunications Advisory Board
- UCC Board of Appeals
- Vacancy Board
- Veterans Advisory Committee
- Ways & Means Committee
- Zoning Hearing Board

**Would you like to volunteer? Please send us an email at [info@doylestownpa.org](mailto:info@doylestownpa.org).**

**PLEASE VISIT US AT  
[DOYLESTOWNPA.ORG](http://DOYLESTOWNPA.ORG)**



**CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

Bucks County Courthouse: 215-348-6000  
Bucks County Free Library: 215-348-9081  
Bucks County Health Department: 215-345-3318  
Bucks County Consumer Protection: 215-348-6060  
Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority: 215 343-2538  
Central Bucks School District: 267-893-2000  
Doylestown Borough: 215-345-4140

Doylestown Fire Co.#1-Non-Emergency: 215-348-2656  
Doylestown Hospital: 215-345-2200  
Doylestown Post Office: 267-880-3918  
Doylestown Township: 215-348-9915  
PA Recycling Hotline: 800-346-4242  
PennDOT: 215-345-6060, 1-800-FIX-ROAD (pothole)  
Police Non-Emergency: 215-348-4200, 215-348-4201

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#### UPCOMING DATES

##### DELVAL PREVIEW DAY AND TAILGATE

▶ September 24

Learn about the admission process, followed by a Q & A with students, a tour of main campus and a football tailgate with tickets to the game.

##### AGGIE VISIT DAY

▶ October 15

Get an inside look at South Campus, and tour our greenhouses, Equine Center and dairy/livestock facilities.

##### OPEN HOUSE

▶ November 6

Meet with faculty and other community members to learn about your major of interest, and tour DelVal's beautiful main campus.

##### SCHEDULE A VISIT

- ▶ Daily Weekday Visits
- ▶ Saturday Visits
- ▶ Transfer Tuesdays
- ▶ Virtual Visits

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O 215.348.4848  
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flosmerconish.com

Clinton Pochlan is a real estate licensee affiliated with Compass RE. Compass RE is a licensed real estate broker and abides by equal housing opportunity laws. 54 W State St, Doylestown, PA 19901

COMPASS RE ————

## Where Beautiful Landscapes Begin.



For the last 26 years, Nickett Landscaping has had the pleasure of helping homeowners get the most out of their yards. Whether you are looking for a new backyard patio lined with lush, seasonal plantings, or you are looking to remove standing water in your lawn or driveway, we can help. Call today at 215-345-1385 to start planning for your next design.

### Design

- 🌿 New & Renovation
- 🌿 Outdoor Landscape Lighting
- 🌿 Lawn & Driveway Drainage

### Construction

- 🌿 Patios, Walls & Walkways
- 🌿 Ponds, Fountains & Waterfalls
- 🌿 Natural Stone Steps

### Maintenance

- 🌿 Lawn Renovation
- 🌿 Spring & Fall Clean-ups
- 🌿 Mulching & Weeding
- 🌿 Lawn Mowing
- 🌿 Lawn Applications
- 🌿 Tree & Shrub Spraying & Fertilizing



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## Experience MERCER MUSEUM & FONTHILL CASTLE



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