



## Department Head Report

---

**Prepared By:** Eden Ratliff, Township Manager

**Date Prepared:** July 15, 2022

**Date Presented:** July 20, 2022

---

### 1. Brandywine Red Clay & the Chandler Mill Trail

I had the pleasure of meeting with Jim Jordan, Brian Winslow, and Abbie Kessler from the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance (BRC) along with the chair of the Trails and Sidewalks Committee, Christina Norland, Jim Favret from Biohabitats, Steve Giampaolo from McMahan, and Aron Clauser from Clauser Environmental on June 27<sup>th</sup> to review the upcoming planned stream work as it relates to the Chandler Mill Trail. This was a transitional meeting to help bring BRC up to speed on work the Township has done with The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County (TLC) as it relates to the development of the Greenway. The stormwater and flood plain expertise BRC brings to the table has helped informed our plans and approach to future restoration.

### 2. Multimodal Transportation Fund - Commonwealth Financing Authority Grant Application

The Board of Supervisors is considering the authorization of a \$1.7 million grant application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority's Multimodal Transportation Fund. If successful, the funding would be allocated to the Kennett Greenway project on Chandler Mill Road. Awards are expected by the end of 2022 and the application is being developed by GMS Funding Solutions. We believe our application is competitive due to the substantial nature of the project, its support from the community and previous master planning, as well previous support for this transformational infrastructure project. Final engineering is expected to be completed in August 2022 with construction expected to commence in spring 2023.

### 3. Stormwater Basin Inspector Certification

Our Interim Public Works Director, PJ Groff, earned his Stormwater Basin Inspector Certification on MS4 Outfall Inspections. This certification was a result of a virtual class where attendees learned a workable, effective framework for establishing a hierarchy for outfall inspections, a protocol for performing inspections in the field, and method for inspecting documenting and addressing potential illicit discharges. We are always excited when our staff continually grow professionally to better serve Kennett Township.

### 4. Troop 24 Eagle Court of Honor

On Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, Boy Scouts Troop 24 held their Eagle Court of Honor where five Township teenagers received their Eagle Scout rank. As an Eagle Scout, I was honored to speak at their ceremony.

## 5. Temporary Executive Assistant Starting August 1<sup>st</sup>

In my June Department Head Report, I explained that we were currently hiring for a temporary Executive Assistant to fill in for my current Executive Assistant, Gretchen Porterfield, while she is out on maternity leave. I am excited to report now that we have hired Cassandra (Kassie) Zinzel for this role and she will begin August 1<sup>st</sup>. While Gretchen will be missed during her time with her new daughter, I am confident Kassie will be able to step in. I hope you will all join me in helping Kassie feel welcomed as she joins our team for this season.

## 6. Chester County Health Department: 2022 Mosquito Season

Every summer, the Chester County Health Department (CCHD), in partnership with PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP), conducts mosquito surveillance throughout Chester County, as you may remember me reporting on last year.

As of July 11<sup>th</sup>, no samples have been determined to be positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) Kennett Township. Attached to my report you will find the full chart provided to us from the County. As we progress through the summer, CCHD will continue to monitor mosquito populations and activity through the use of mosquito traps, larval surveillance, larval treatments using bacterial larvicides, and complaint response.

### **Information for Residents from CCHD:**

Residents should inspect their yards and spend time to clean up, reduce yard clutter, and dump out any sources of stagnant water. Residents may also purchase a variety of mosquito control and repellent products from most home and garden centers. Performing a community-wide cleanup helps reduce mosquito populations. Municipalities are encouraged to help promote cleaning up to reduce mosquito concerns and disease risk. Storm water management systems can sometimes contribute to mosquito populations and are also monitored by CCHD's Mosquito Borne Disease Control Program.

Many of the most common mosquito species in residential areas come from artificial containers left behind by people. Artificial containers can be something as small as a bottle cap and as large as a swimming pool. Additional containers such as tires, buckets, and tarps are preferred by mosquitoes because other predators found in nature which would prey on mosquito larvae are not present. During periods of drought, these containers continue to hold water and produce mosquitoes. One bucket or tire in someone's backyard can produce hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes in a year.

Mosquitoes can complete their life cycle within five to seven days during May - October. Residents are encouraged to use mosquito repellents when spending time outside. Individuals who don't like to use repellents can use an electric fan outside while on a porch or patio. Mosquitoes are very weak fliers and even the slight breeze generated by a fan is enough to deter them. As a last resort, residents can also purchase insecticides from garden centers and hardware stores to apply in their own yard, but need to be sure to follow the label instructions.

How Residents Can Make Their Homes a Bite-Free Zone:

- Cover or empty containers such as trash cans, wading pools, wheelbarrows, and pots.
- Turn containers upside down when not in use so they don't collect water.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Get rid of old tires.
- Change the water in bird baths every three to five days.
- Check storm drains, window wells, and underneath leaky faucets for standing water.
- Clean roof gutters every year.
- Aerate and/or stock ornamental ponds and fountains with fish.

- Keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated. Make sure that water does not gather on swimming pool covers.
- Treat a pool of standing water that cannot be drained with Bti products. Bti is a naturally-occurring bacterial product that kills mosquito larvae and is safe for people, pets, aquatic life, and plants. You can find these products at local lawn and garden supply stores.
- Make sure window and door screens fit tightly to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Run electric fans nearby when spending time outdoors. Mosquitoes have trouble flying in strong winds.
- Replace outdoor lights with yellow "bug" lights, which tend to attract fewer mosquitoes than ordinary lights.

Residents can also protect themselves from Mosquito-borne Disease by:

- Limiting their time outside during dusk/dawn hours during warmer months since most types of mosquitoes bite most frequently during these times.
- Wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants when spending time outdoors during dawn/dusk.
- Using EPA-registered insect repellents containing the active ingredients DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or para-menthane-diol and following the directions for use of such products.

Additional information on Mosquito-borne Disease can be found on the County's website at the following link <https://www.chesco.org/3624/Mosquito-Borne-Diseases>

### **Chester County Health Department: Lyme Disease Survey**

This summer the Health Department has hired an intern who is conducting a community-based survey to understand the knowledge and experience of county residents as it relates to Lyme disease. As you know likely already know, Chester County is a hotbed for ticks and ticks can carry Lyme disease and many other diseases. The results of the survey will inform how the Health Department's retools its community education and how it leverages partnerships around Lyme disease. We encourage everyone to take the survey available here:

[https://hipaa.jotform.com/ChescoHealth/LymeDiseaseSurveyPop2022?utm\\_campaign=ChescoLyme](https://hipaa.jotform.com/ChescoHealth/LymeDiseaseSurveyPop2022?utm_campaign=ChescoLyme) and on our website to help the CCHD collect this helpful information.

Respectfully Submitted.

Eden R. Ratliff  
Township Manager

Collection Date	Site	Trap	Species	Collector	Adult	Tested for WNV?	Results
05/03/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(202A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	202	Yes	Negative
05/03/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(128A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	128	Yes	Negative
05/10/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(28A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	28	No	N/A
05/10/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(33A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	33	No	N/A
05/17/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(6A),Oc Aedes japonicus (1A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	7	No	N/A
05/17/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Ae Aedes vexans(1A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(22A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	23	No	N/A
05/26/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(23A),Oc Aedes japonicus (6A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	29	No	N/A
05/26/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(10A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	10	No	N/A
06/01/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	An Anopheles punctipennis(1A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(38A),Oc Aedes japonicus (5A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	44	No	N/A
06/01/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(18A),Oc Aedes japonicus (3A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	21	No	N/A
06/08/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(13A),Oc Aedes japonicus (6A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	19	No	N/A
06/08/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(27A),Oc Aedes japonicus (3A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	30	No	N/A
06/08/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	BG Sentinel	Cx Culex restuans(1A),Oc Aedes triseriatus(1A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	2	No	N/A
06/14/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	BG Sentinel	Oc Aedes triseriatus(1A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	1	No	N/A
06/14/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(57A),Oc Aedes japonicus (6A),Oc Aedes triseriatus(1A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	64	Yes	Negative
06/16/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Ae Aedes vexans(2A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(57A),Oc Aedes japonicus (15A),Oc Aedes triseriatus(1A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	75	Yes	Negative
06/22/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	BG Sentinel	Ae Aedes albopictus(2A),Ae Aedes vexans(3A),An Anopheles punctipennis(2A),An Anopheles quadrimaculatus s.l.(1A),Cx Culex pipiens(2A),Cx Culex salinarius(1A),Oc Aedes japonicus (1A),Oc Aedes triseriatus(4A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	16	No	N/A
06/22/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	An Anopheles punctipennis(1A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(4A),Oc Aedes japonicus (3A),Oc Aedes triseriatus(1A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	9	No	N/A
06/22/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	Ae Aedes albopictus(2A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(32A),Oc Aedes japonicus (9A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	43	No	N/A
06/28/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	BG Sentinel	An Anopheles punctipennis(2A),An Anopheles quadrimaculatus s.l.(1A),Cx Culex pipiens(17A),Cx Culex salinarius(3A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	23	No	N/A
06/28/2022	15-Anson B. Nixon Park	Gravid Trap	Ae Aedes albopictus(1A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(38A),Oc Aedes japonicus (12A),Oc Aedes triseriatus(2A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	53	No	N/A
06/28/2022	15-Herb Pennock Park	Gravid Trap	An Anopheles punctipennis(1A),Cx Culex pipiens-restuans(23A),Oc Aedes japonicus (4A)	HEYDT, ANDREW	28	No	N/A