

## Trails

**Greenway Trail** - The Greenway Trail is a proposed off-road trail system in the southwesterly corner of East Norriton Township. The primary goal is to create an off-road trail system connecting the Ballard-Wolffe Park with the Norristown Area High School. The trail would primarily be used by East Norriton Township residents. The trail alignment would follow the existing stream valley through the Valley Forge Medical Center, thence along Germantown Pike, with a trail spur serving the Paul Fly Elementary School, thence along Burnside Avenue to Eagle Drive with a second trail spur to serve the VanLandeghem Park which was a joint acquisition between East and West Norriton Townships consisting of approximately 35 acres.

**Liberty Bell Trail** - The Liberty Bell Trail is a proposed regional trail for bicyclists and walkers, which would run a length of 25 miles between the Norristown Farm Park in East Norriton Township and the Memorial Park in Richland Township, Bucks County. Throughout its length the trail is expected to link together residential communities, employment centers, office parks, shopping districts, historic sites, schools and other municipal and County parks along the way. The name of the trail has two historic sources: First, the trail is envisioned to follow as closely as practicable the alignment of the Liberty Bell route which was an inter-urban trolley that the Lehigh Valley Transit Company operated from 1900 to 1951. Secondly, the trail like the former trolley line is named because a branch of the trolley trackage followed the route which was used to transport the Liberty Bell to safety in Allentown in 1777 during the British occupation of Philadelphia. In Montgomery and Bucks Counties, sixteen municipalities through which the trail will traverse, and the North Penn Regional Improvement Association are collaborating to make the Liberty Bell Trail a reality. East Norriton Township has begun the process to prepare construction plans for the segment of the trail from the Norristown Farm Park along Norris City Avenue, crossing Swede Road and then along the PECO power lines to Germantown Pike.

## Public Parks & Monuments

**Stanbridge Street Park Complex** - Located at 2501 Stanbridge Street directly behind the East Norriton Township municipal building. This is considered the Township's flagship park due to its central location, excellent parking and overall size. Many community events, including the annual Community Day and summer playground activities are staged at this park. This park of 21 acres includes 1 lighted softball field, picnic pavilion with grills, play apparatus, one mile walking trail, tennis courts, basketball court, exercise equipment, 9 soccer fields and a sand volleyball court.

**Calvert Hurdle Park** - Located on North Wales Road. This park of 15.3 acres includes hard surface hockey/basketball court, picnic area with tables, grills and play equipment.

**Ballard-Wolffe Park** - Located at Trooper Road and Woodland Avenues. This park of 35.5 acres is a unique woodland preserve with trails and benches. A circular trail has been developed with additional trails planned and will be the start of the Greenway Trail which will ultimately connect this park to the Norristown High School and eventually Germantown Pike near Route 202 via the future Liberty Bell trails.

**Old Arch Road Park** - Located on Old Arch Road. This park of 2.8 acres includes play equipment and picnic area. This provides service to the neighborhoods in the easterly edge of East Norriton.

**Louis K. "Mack" Watson, Sr. Memorial Park** - This park of 2 acres includes play equipment, basketball court and picnic area. This provides service to the Rahway Avenue neighborhood.

**DeSage Park** - This park of 9.8 acres is to be developed as an ecological park with trails and benches located throughout the wooded area. A historic house was preserved for professional office use via a partnership with an historic preservationist. This provides service to the residential neighborhoods between Whitehall Road and Burnside Avenue.

**VanLandeghem Tract** - 19.5 acres is to be developed as a passive recreation area and joins 15.1 acres also preserved in West Norriton Township. Joint plan opportunity which connects to Norristown Area High School campus at Eagle Drive.

**Norris City Cemetery** - 9.0 acres of land is permanently preserved and cared for as a cemetery. The Township has taken over the care of the facility in an attempt to provide the cemetery with the proper maintenance and care this area deserves. This cemetery is considered an historic resource and includes a beautiful vista over the Farm Park from the westerly ridge on the property.

**The Veteran's Memorial Monument** - This memorial was established in 2004 on the grassy triangle along Germantown Pike across from Briarwood townhouses on land owned by East Norriton Township.



The Veteran's Memorial Monument

**Norristown Farm Park** - The Norristown Farm Park/and the Norristown State Hospital form a total of 690 acres, of which approximately 410 acres are situated within East Norriton Township. These are lands of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which are currently managed by Montgomery County. The Norristown Farm Park has significant visual presence and is bounded by Germantown Pike and Whitehall Road in East Norriton. Long stretches of the lands form an attractive backdrop to the East Norriton Township complex, including the Stanbridge Street Park. The Park consists of woodland, broad acres of farm fields leased for agriculture, a large dairy barn with associated buildings, a separate hay barn and a number of historic farm houses. Two branches of the Stony Creek converge through the Farm Park property. A visitors center, a long paved loop trail with trail heads at the Park headquarters and along Whitehall Road across from the Norristown Area High School, picnicking pavilions, nature study paths and a trout nursery maintained by Stony Creek Anglers are some of the recreational opportunities provided at the Park. Fishing ponds and wetlands are interspersed among agricultural fields, which together form a large green reservoir of open space in one of the most populated areas of Montgomery County. A stewardship organization, the Farm Park Preservation Association, has begun to sponsor events, raise funds and awareness of the Park's significance and generally advocate for permanent protection of the landscape in its current form. The Farm Park has been ranked high in the Open Space, Natural Features and Cultural Resources Plan Shaping Our Future – A Comprehensive Plan for Montgomery County, dated September 2004. The County's Parks Department in concert with the Farm Park Advisory Committee has prepared a Proposed Park Master Plan which encompasses sufficient area to accommodate public use without undue pressure on its natural resources. Broad natural preservation areas such as riparian buffers along Stony Creek watercourses and heavy woodlands comprise approximately 40% of the land area. Farm fields which are also traversed by park roads and nature trails comprise an additional 40% of the Park. Numerous historic farm buildings such as the Shannon Mansion, Getty Cottage, Sheetz House and Doctor's House dot the landscape, and period wooden bridges accommodate the various walking trails existing and proposed throughout the Park. A visitors center consisting of the milk house and dairy barn is situated in the center portion of the Farm Park in that portion situate in East Norriton Township.



Norristown Farm Park

## Schools

East Norriton Township is a member of the Norristown Area School District along with West Norriton Township and the municipality of Norristown. The Township is dotted with numerous public school facilities including:

**Paul Fly Elementary School** (16.5 Acres), which services the westerly residential communities.

**Cole Manor Elementary School** (9.0 Acres +), which services communities situate in the easterly sector of the Township.

**East Norriton Middle School** situate on approximately 37 acres along Roland Drive and Township Line Road. The Norristown Area School District has recently completed a 70,000 square foot addition as well as renovations to the existing facility, which has increased the capacity to 850 middle school aged students for grades 5 through 8. The school grounds also include numerous sports fields which are utilized by students and neighborhood children.

There are also private schools at **St. Titus Church, Our Lady of Victory** and the **Penn Christian Academy**.

There are no new school facilities contemplated at this time within East Norriton Township.

# Community Facilities, Parks & Recreation



East Norriton Middle School

## Sanitary Sewer and Wastewater Treatment System

The East Norriton Township sewage system includes approximately 58 miles of pipes, three major pumping stations, four minor pumping stations and two limited service area pump stations. The Germantown Pumping Station serves the western area of the Township and discharges to the Timberlake Pumping Station. The central area of the Township discharges to the Timberlake Pumping Station which conveys sewage to the Norris City Avenue Pumping Station. The Norris City Avenue Pumping Station serves the eastern area of the Township and receives the sewage discharge from the Timberlake Pumping Station.

A part of the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Planning Report update (January 2006) included an investigation of the sanitary sewer collection system to identify and prioritize drainage areas which exhibit extraneous inflow and/or infiltration. The infiltration/inflow investigation indicated areas tributary to the Sandra Lane and Germantown Pump Stations experience surcharge conditions. East Norriton Township has developed a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address the infiltration/inflow situation.

East Norriton Township has wastewater treatment capacity at the ENPWJSA Wastewater Treatment Facility, which is located in the southwestern corner of Plymouth Township adjacent to the Schuylkill River. A treatment process upgrade is being investigated to improve treatment efficiency to address more stringent stream discharge limits. The Act 537 Plan Update anticipates 170 on-lot systems being connected to the public sewer system leaving 39 on-lot systems. These remaining on-lot systems are located in the western section of the Township primarily in the Trooper Road and Township Line Road areas.

The growth areas proposed for East Norriton Township include all tracts of land not currently served by public sewers in all zoning districts. It is estimated that East Norriton Township's future sewage needs will require an average annual capacity of 2.7 mgd and a maximum monthly capacity of 3.3 mgd. East Norriton Township has sufficient annual average capacity at the ENPWJSA Wastewater Treatment Facility for the ultimate build out of the remaining land in the growth areas. However, additional maximum monthly capacity is needed.

## Emergency Management

### Police Department

The Township Police Department is one of only a handful of agencies statewide that has had its entire management-level staff attend and graduate from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. The East Norriton Township Police Department has also become one of the few police agencies statewide to receive accreditation from the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association. The Police Department is based in the lower level of the Township administration complex at 2501 Stanbridge Street. The Police Department is comprised of 28 full time officers. The District Court for the Township is District Court 38-1-01, District Justice Ester Casillo, and is located at 317 West Germantown Pike.

### Fire Department

The Norriton Fire Engine Company consists of all volunteers who are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The main station is situated along Swede Road and the satellite station is situated at the intersection of Germantown Pike and Whitehall Road.

### Ambulance Squad

The Plymouth Ambulance has assumed coverage for East Norriton Township. Stations that serve the Township emanate from Germantown Pike in Plymouth Meeting with the goal of providing the highest level of pre-hospital care available. A 4,000 square foot facility is proposed at the southwest corner of Germantown Pike and Potshop Lane on a property leased from the Gambone Organization.



East Norriton/Plymouth/Whitpain Joint Sewer Authority (ENPWJSA)

## Roadway Sufficiency Analysis Report

The Township has completed a Roadway Sufficiency Analysis Report in compliance with the Impact Fee Law as provided by the Municipalities Planning Code. East Norriton has appointed a Township Traffic Advisory Committee which meets as needed to administer the traffic impact fee which has already been enacted.

## Office of the Fire Marshal

The East Norriton Township Fire Marshal provides emergency management as follows: Conducts fire safety inspections of all types of occupied buildings and buildings under construction. Inspected buildings include schools, hospitals, nursing homes, day care centers, restaurants, businesses, stores and hotels. The Fire Marshal works closely with the Police Department, the Code Enforcement Department and various County and State agencies. The Fire Marshal also provides education and public awareness to help reduce fire-related deaths, injuries and property damage.

## Emergency Management Coordinator

The office of Emergency Management provides plans and coordinates with all departments of East Norriton Township in order to enhance the response to the needs of citizens in a serious emergency or major disaster affecting the community. The Emergency Management Coordinator regularly reviews and updates the Township's Emergency Management Plan. In addition, the Office of Emergency Management provides service to residents or persons who require special attention in an emergency pursuant to providing an emergency response forum.

