

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES: WRITE-IN COMMENTS

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Updated: 2-17-05
Issued: 3-8-05

Anselma Mill

- The mill at Anselma as community resource approval pending from the National Park Service to name mill as National Historic Landmark. The mill and Pickering Creek are part of the Schuylkill River National Heritage Area. The mill at Anselma Preservation and Educational Trust has held 2 community retreats as part of its planning to create community-focused programs that explore the mill's history and technology. The mill is here to be a vibrant community resource. Please use it. I'm happy to share the results of our community research and planning. Please call me at the mill at Anselma.

Appreciation

- Appreciate your interest and concerns.
- Thank you for asking for input. As almost 20 yr. Residents, it's nice to be asked!!
- Thanks for asking our opinions on a matter that is very important to us. Next time, please allow for more than a few days to complete an in-depth survey.
- You're doing a great job. Keep up the good work.
- The township does a great job! Pine Creek is a beautiful park!

Community Facilities

- Dog Park (Establishment of -) i.e. Radnor has a successful Park! And in tandem with a tot park & ed. Area!!
- I think a community pool would have the greatest overall positive impact on life in West Whiteland Township.
- Another park or two is key. Small little areas for a game of soccer/football/whatever is key. Definitely would like tennis courts!!!
- My biggest concern is to keep a library in our township. I would like my tax dollars to go to a new location for the library that would become a

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community meeting place, too. The vacant house that is part of Pine Creek Park could be refurbished to house the library.

- Fitness stations at P.C.P., Tennis, Ice skating, Gardening plots. Lets make use of barn at P.C.P.
- There are plenty of opportunities for cultural events in the Township, and swimming pools and organizations providing nature study, so in my opinion there is no need for those at our public parks.
- We would like to see the Palmer House renovated for use for recreational programs- DARC or a senior center. Also the barn could be renovated for use as a gym. There are often not enough gym space for LYA basketball and wrestling.
- Use of existing properties should be greatly considered such as funding an Environmental Center at Binky Lee Preserve, or utilizing the Historic Springs Cultural Center. We do not necessarily need to build new-let's utilize existing structures, etc. Thanks for the questionnaire.
- We are very active in using Exton library but appreciate use of WP library. We would not like to see 113 in township commercialized aggressively. When we moved here-cows were crossing 113- scenery was spectacular-now we will have 4 lanes to Davis Rd.- too much traffic-trees being removed. It is very sad?
- In response to Another Park: Sports –Warm Weather- “ Please - too costly to build and maintain!”

Existing Parks/Trails

- The Existing trails and parks are under-utilized now-we don't need more.
- Primary emphasis should be placed on creating routes along scenic roads and/or linking important destinations that can be used for people walking, jogging, or biking. Where possible, existing road R.O.W. could be used. Where possible, surfaces should be macadam, or screenings or otherwise suitable for all-purpose. EG-Uwchlan trail network linking Struble Trail with township park, Eagleview, Shamona, etc. 2) Plan a pedestrian path that allows circulation throughout Pine Creek. 3) Preserve natural/equestrian

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trails by requiring such features be shown on development plans and using regulations and/or incentives to create continuing easements. 4) Support "arts" in Yellow Springs, Pine Creek- music, theater, art, crafts.

- I believe that the two large current areas that the township currently provides are more than sufficient for our population. I do support the idea of purchasing land and not developing it into parks. I also support requiring developers to set aside areas for ball fields, etc.
- We really like Pine Creek Park but it could be a lot better with additional playground areas including a sand area and bike trail for kids to ride around-similar to Bell Tavern Park.
- It is my belief that we ought to play our strengths in any action we take concerning open space and recreational facilities. No one who has lived in West Pikeland or moved here has had any expectation that the township provides for active recreational activities. With the small exception of the Twin Hills area, our strength is our open space and rural character. That is what makes this area such a desirable place to live. We should do every thing we can to enhance this benefit. If it is desirable that we should support some active recreational facilities, then it should be located in appropriate mini-parks in Area 1 where that kind of growth is taking place, and, preferably paid for by new developers. Any development in other areas should enhance naturalness and open space. As for Pine Creek Park, strong consideration should be given to leasing the remaining fields to farmers whose agricultural methods exhibit our heritage.
- Improve Horseshoe Trail within the Township (washed out- Bodine Rd to Lower Pine Creek Rd)
- Do not stone Roads. (Yellow Springs Rd-can't bike)
- Link Trails.

Indian Springs Camp

- The township should purchase Indian Springs Camp and turn it into a membership facility- a la Pennypacker Pool- for township residents at low cost, all others may apply for membership at appropriate rates. Facilities

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are already in place; neighbors holding facility hostage to their agenda at a minimum. Oh and owning Ker-Feal would be nice too.

Limited Facilities

- One park with limited facilities is not enough! It is unfair for other townships to provide fields for our children's sports. This is very important. Thank you for addressing it.

New Development Requirements

- If a developer builds a dense development he should be required to build a small park to serve subdivision residents. A fee on development is also a good idea to help the people buy open space to offset increased development. I think the grounds/fields/recreation opportunities provided through the school district/YMCA/DARC is appropriate. I don't think it is the town's job to be another YMCA/DARC.
- 1) New developments should not be required to pay a fee in lieu of providing active recreation because it implies that the township will fund the active recreation. 2) New developments providing active recreation should do so as part of the developments homeowners association rather than as part of the township parks and recreation commission. 3) Township open space should remain substantially unimproved so that additional fees are not required for grounds maintenance.
- Since the bulk of the twsp. Is developed with low density housing- most recreational activities can and should occur on the homeowners own property. Medium to high density developments should provide their own recreational amenities (pool, tennis, club house, etc.) This should not be a burden to the other tax payers.

New Parks/Recreation Areas

- It would make good sense to place active recreation areas along highways, not in quiet residential areas. Thank you for your hard work.
- While I understand the concern of some of the residents of West Pikeland to maintain the beauty and rural aspect of our township. I feel strongly that we need to provide recreational facilities in the future. These facilities

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should be a welcome addition, not a threat. They can be built with an eye to maintaining the beauty of our township. As the surrounding townships continue to grow, reliance on the recreation facilities in these areas will be more difficult. We will need to have our own places for recreation. My children are entering there teens. Right now, Pine Creek Park offers very

little for this age group to do. Recreational areas should be considered "open space". There is already enough land in our township dedicated to passive or restricted open space. I strongly oppose any future restrictions on open space that would not provide for recreation. Providing for recreation will strengthen our community in the future.

- Answers to appropriate activities depend on the actual space procured for another park. It would be better to have multiple parks/ recreational facilities available than to argue with our neighbors regarding whether and how to limit use of our only location at Pine creek Park. New parks should have sufficient space for multiple uses. It's hard to see how this could be accomplished at a "mini" 1 acre park.
- Although children's sports are important, to turn more of Pine Creek over to sport fields and court games would be a great loss to nature lovers and open land enthusiasts. The so called "needs" of our children should not be more important than the "needs" of other groups. Not everyone wants to have to dodge soccer balls, tee ball games, and baseballs just to walk in nature. It isn't "ALL ABOUT KIDS!!"
- The design of ANOTHER PARK should be for the sole purpose of W. Pikeland Twp. Residents families and be on a small scale to discourage large group activities. Playing fields with lights should be avoided at all costs to protect the privacy and quietness of the country environment. Nobody in large expensive homes wants a recreational area that attracts a lot of traffic or noise and devalues the properties!
- Obviously we are in support of keeping our open space preserved. If there needs to be recreational opportunities, we should avoid creating more black top artificial areas and incorporate activities into the natural environment as much as possible.
- I think area north of Tom Oate's on 113 would be a great place for Township Park (just south of Horseshoe Trail). Might be too we however with proper excavating and water management, I think a park and an

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improved water runoff could be accomplished. Use this as an opportunity to correct water problems/road closures on Horseshoe Trail.

- I have heard that there is talk of a neighborhood park on 401 behind Fairfield Development. I am in strong agreement with that. I would love to have a soccer field, picnic area and tot lot playground and park there with a walking trail that connects to Fairfield Development and other parts of Chester County. I would love to see the hiking/biking trails linked together throughout Chester County and connect to Philadelphia/Valley Forge.
- I believe the Township should develop and mark trails for walking, hiking, etc. as well as maintain a network of equestrian trails. I also think additional playing fields would be nice but only if it made sense and would not destroy the rural character. Open space is important and should also be a priority.
- In the 18 yrs of living in the Township I recognized the need for soccer/baseball fields for organized sports-LYA. If township residents participate in LYA W. Pikeland should contribute fields, in one location or as developments increased. I find trails may be invasive to rural or private settings.

Noise Ordinance

- I think there should be some sort of noise ordinance in this township. People who live next door's son have an extremely noisy dirt bike. Most of the spring-summer-fall. I would be in favor of DIRT BIKE PATHS ANYWHERE AS long as it wasn't next door to me. 2) I think deer hunting should be outlawed in WPT especially residential areas. 3)I think prior to a FOX HUNT- people should notify their neighbors.
- Any decisions should respect the privacy of existing landowners. Please be sensitive to noise, especially from ball fields and other multi-people activities.

Open Space

- We need open space that is not paved over or "used" for anything other than being open!

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- All the proposed services drive up the costs, our taxes. Proper planning will preserve open space. Open space should not come at the expense of the person who owns the land. The fact that there are no sewers will limit commercial development.
- The open space in West Pikeland township was one of the things that drew us to this area. We moved here from out of state and we are pleased with the way the new developments still have a rural feel.
- The concept of open space within a new development doesn't accomplish the intention. Locating 20 houses on 20 acres and leaving 20 acres of open space gives the same result as 20 houses on 40 acres except the houses are squashed together and the overall appearance is as bad if not worse. Recreation areas is a warm and fuzzy subject but few people really make use of the areas and its not cost justifiable. On a county-wide basis our school taxes are way too high. Schools have huge recreation areas that all taxpayers should have access to.

Park Maintenance

- Keeping parks natural, not commercial is important. With the frenetic society in which we live, the park should first and foremost be a place that offers solace and a chance to be quiet within oneself through nature.
- We feel it is more important to maintain the areas the township is already responsible for. One example would be Hallman's field: remove or repair the fences as they are currently an eyesore!! If this is truly a wetland, then it should be maintained as such not ignored or destroyed by improper
- mowing. Also it is extremely important to provide for our youth. Failing to do so will soon leave them no way to participate thus inactive. We need to develop our own "LYA" or ways to participate within.
- The Township can't even take care of the park they have. No water fountain, decent bathrooms, etc. 2) I do not want to put out any extra money or even have my taxes raised for a second park. 3) Tell the rich b_st__d_ in this township to take a hike and put in place what we want in the park we have.

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Prevention of Development

- Limit the size needed to build 1 house (example-8 acres minimum)
Another way! 1 house per 8 acres.
- We live in a beautiful area which in recent years has become crowded with over development. We would like to see the beauty of the area maintained and enhanced by specific regulatory laws which would retain future open spaces from becoming too developed!
- Why aren't these developers held to a 2.25 acre min. lot size as much of the community is? This would stop them from destroying the appearance of the area. It would look much the same as it does now, if they were held to the same rules which were in place before all the interest in this area.
- Please let's keep more housing developments out of West Pikeland!!! This beautiful rural area is just being destroyed. It breaks my heart. I will be more than willing to help keep the big developers out. (committees, etc.)
- Intrastructure linearly increases growth-empirical fact! 2) Intrastructure raises tax and cost burden for all township residents. 3) Intrastructure reduces property values for all residents. 4) Leave the new township land (@401) alone! Let it be at its best- a field! No buildings, no driveways, no parking lot, no utilities-nothingness!! No development of ANY future township land! 5) No more services! 6) Work your political, financial, & personal agendas somewhere else!

Private Property

- Private property needs to be respected when attempting to acquire open space.
- You should not take people's land for any of these projects. Private property should be respected. You first should take care of existing open spaces before adding new.
- There is talk of more walking trails that would cross private property. Very strongly oppose this as would most people who favor the idea but would oppose crossing private land. Would like to see the existing trails well maintained rather than spend more money on new trails.

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- No more parks-respect residents' privacy. Keep it rural. Walking trails are invasive of people's privacy! What about the wildlife? Where do you expect deer to go when you keep invading their space-they have rights too!

Rural Beauty Protection

- Keep map areas 2&3 Rural Development should be in a neighborhood park near people who have families and going to Pickering School and Lionville which is already developed. Put the development and active park in the neighborhood where it is wanted in Area 1. Chester Springs at Pine Creek Park is still Rural and Bucholic and so is the NE half of the Twp. PLEASE keep it that way. Our children don't know how to be quiet. Activity is great-as all things- IN MODERATION.
- Protect the stream corridors, promote exceptional value designation for Pickering Creek, keep the township open for passive recreation. Neighboring townships are more appropriate areas for active recreation facilities. A playground, tennis court, pool, basketball court, or even ball fields are developments and reduce open space- if that's what someone wants there are plenty of other communities that offer them-few offer real open space.
- I've grown up in this area (township) my entire life and unfortunately seen much development that has continuously soured the natural and rural landscape that was the original appeal of Chester Springs. I hope that we can arrest some of this city-like development and instill in the community some appreciation for NATURE.

Survey Dissatisfaction

- Your questions in Section B were not worded well. Of course all of the things mentioned are wonderful- but what is the cost? Next time you send a questionnaire it should include information about what you already own since many people are unaware of all the property/assets the township has.
- Questionnaire is skewed toward recreation activities. 2) Open Space questions all tied into recreation. 3) Where are questions on environmental

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- resources? 4) Is there any true interest in open space for its own value rather than to be “used”? 5) No questions on new developments being required to provide open space.
- How disappointing that recreation is the MAJOR focus. Welcome to Uwchlan East. Shame on you for producing an incredible document.
 - Open Space map is not correct because deed restrictions need to be differentiated from perpetual conservation easements. These are quite different in terms of legal standing and enforceability. We have for example, had the BOS resend deed restrictions of Pine Creek Park within the past year. This is no longer perpetual protected open space. Don't blur this distinction to give the idea that land is protected in perpetuity when it is not.
 - You fail to mention existing and proposed regional facilities for tennis, basketball, swimming, etc. Where are questions regarding preservation of environmental resources such as water quality, preparation of environmental resource inventory? Where is the question asking whether the township should support the conservation of open space with existing funds and through seeking county and state funding? This should more accurately be labeled a *recreational plan for Pine Creek Park*, not a plan for open space.
 - I found this survey tedious and for the most part not relevant. The important issues are: 1- is the facility or activity being questioned absolutely needed-a proven need? 2-Will people use the new facility? Even if an overwhelming majority “strongly favor” something does not mean it is needed, justified, or would be used. Given the population of WPT, 90% of the surveyed items make absolutely no economic sense. A senior center is a perfect example. Even if a number of people want a center or an ice rink, etc. we should look to real time in facilities outside WPT-not build or create. Why is handicap accessibility to the parks such an issue when we are years late with compliance at the library which has a much greater need and more certain use?
 - This is “supposed” to be a survey about open space, recreational, and environmental, but it is almost totally written to address recreational needs. Why not ask directly if people prefer preservation or open space vs. more recreational facilities at Pine Creek Park and elsewhere.

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- Survey was a little too long!

Taxes

- Please remember, many in twp. Cannot afford higher taxes!
- It seems like all area townships have recreationals (parks, etc) I rarely see anyone using them. Big money -increased taxes, no use. Just preserve the land. Stop looking to spend money on things no one will really use!
- Build recreation facilities without raising taxes. Have the ones using the facilities support and pay for them.

Township Funds

- Pine Creek Park was purchased with the tax revenues paid by long-term residents who were promised that the park would preserve open space and passive recreation (except for the ball field and tot lot, which now exist). To break that promise by adding further recreational facilities would be shameful!! If there is a future need for such facilities, they should be placed on newly acquired township land, financed by taxes paid by all residents, including those who have moved here in the past ten years (such as the Windolph property).
- We don't need any more township funds spent on open space or parks. Use what we have!!
- Why not ask the supervisors who voted to buy the Palmer Tract and the Ostrander property (Pickering Grove??) what their intentions were.
- We have a park that we invested in. What do we need another park for? Pine Creek Park should be utilized for what it was represented to be when we acquired the land.
- I prefer that the Township assets be employed to provide good roads (snow removal, etc), police and open space.
- The Township has so much money "in the bank" and provides nothing. Do something with all the revenue you have or let's have a rebate!!

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Wildlife/Deer

- Developers should provide sanctuaries for wild life they are displacing. Deer awareness signs should be displayed on roads where development is occurring as destruction of their habitat means they are on the move.
- Can we get rid of the deer? They are a health hazard. Lyme disease is rampant here. Parks and outdoor facilities need to be free from the deer.

Zoning Ordinance

- Entire zoning ordinance needs and overhaul.

Other Comments

- There is no need for big government in our small community- more means more headaches.
- The “Street Rd” street sign at intersection of Yellow Springs and street Road has been down > 6 month. We need a sign there for directions/emergency vehicles. We appreciated the Trimming of Trees/growth along roads last summer. Are you coming again this year? Hope so.