



Radnor Township



Going The Extra Mile . . . For You



Annual Report 2002



LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Resident:

Another year has passed, and once again Radnor Township has proved itself as the best place to live and work in the Philadelphia region... or anywhere, for that matter.

Township staff, members of our various boards and commissions, and the Board of Commissioners all stand ready, willing, and able to go the extra mile for our residents.



Once again, the Township held the line on taxes, offering and subsequently passing a budget with no tax increase for Fiscal Year 2003. This is particularly noteworthy when you consider the state of the nation's economy and the fact that some neighboring communities have had to significantly increase taxes or propose new levies in order to balance their budgets.

In this report, you will find departmental reports from each of the Township's administrative departments, detailing the major accomplishments during calendar year 2002. You will see countless examples of how your Township consistently goes the extra mile to provide top-notch services that continue to improve your quality of life.

As I have said many times, your Township commissioners and staff can work best when we hear from you. Please feel free to contact your Commissioner or key Township staff so that together we can make Radnor Township an even better place to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

James M. Pierce, Esq., President
Board of Commissioners

Pictured left to right are: 4th Ward Commissioner Enrique Hervada, Township Secretary Concetta Clayton, Township Solicitor David G. Blake, 2nd Ward Commissioner Ann-Michele Higgins, Township Treasurer William J. Gleason Jr., 7th Ward Commissioner Dave Cannan, 3rd Ward Commissioner Bill Spingler, 5th Ward Commissioner Lisa Adams, Township Manager Dave Bashore, Vice President and 1st Ward Commissioner Hank Mahoney, and President and 6th Ward Commissioner Jim Pierce.



In 2002, 28 Township employees, several of whom are pictured here, celebrated service anniversaries. A few of those employees - James W. Dungee, Robert V. Filipone, Edward Johnson Jr., Ellen J. McDevitt, and Andrew Hudson Jr. - marked 30 or more years of going the extra mile as Township employees.



MEET YOUR COMMISSIONERS

■ **President** James M. Pierce is the Ward 6 representative on the Board of Commissioners. He has been President of the Board since January 2000 and lives in West Wayne. Jim is a partner with the Wayne law firm of Pierce, Caniglia and Taylor. On the Board, he chairs the Personnel and Administration Committee and also sits on the Finance & Audit and Public Safety Committees.

■ **Vice President** Harry G. Mahoney represents Ward 1 and has served as Vice President of the Board since 2001. He is a partner at the Philadelphia law firm of Deasey Mahoney & Bender. Chair of the Public Works & Sewer Committee and Open Space Committee, Hank also serves on the Community Development, Public Health, Parks & Recreation, and Personnel & Administration Committees. He and his wife, Jean, have four children and live in North Wayne.

■ Ann-Michele G. Higgins, elected in November 2001 as the Ward 2 commissioner, is an attorney with the Philadelphia firm of Rawle & Henderson LLP. She and her husband, Kevin, live in Radnor with their two daughters. Ann-Michele is chair of the Community Development Committee and a member of the Personnel & Administration, Public Works & Sewer, and Public Safety Committees.

■ Since 1992, Ward 3 has been represented by William A. Spingler, who also served on the Board of Commissioners in 1970-1971. Bill lives in South Wayne with his wife, Phyllis; they have two children. He is chair of the Public Safety Committee and also serves on the Public Works & Sewer, Open Space, and Finance & Audit Committees. Bill is a realtor with the Spingler Agency in Strafford.

■ Enrique R. Hervada, the Ward 4 Commissioner, was elected in 2000. He is chair of the Finance & Audit and

Library Committees. Enrique lives in Bryn Mawr with his wife, Jennifer, and their two sons. He is Vice President of Strategic Alliances for ATX Telecommunications Services in Bala Cynwyd.

■ In 1999, Lisa Paolino-Adams was the first woman in Radnor history to be elected to a full four-year term when she became the Ward 5 Commissioner. She serves as chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee and as a member of the Finance & Audit, Open Space, and Library Committees. She and her husband, Scott, live in Bryn Mawr with her two children. She is a former Vice President of Operations for Mace Securities and currently serves as an entertainment and internet consultant.

■ David Cannan has served as Ward 7 Commissioner since 1999. He is chair of the Public Health Committee and is also a member of the Finance & Audit and Library Committees. Dave lives in Rosemont and is a painter.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1st Monday PLANNING COMMISSION 7 P.M.				
2nd Monday BOARD OF HEALTH 5 P.M. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 7 P.M. (October through April)		2nd Wednesday DESIGN REVIEW BOARD 6:30 P.M.	2nd Thursday PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD 7:30 P.M.	
3rd Monday BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 7 P.M. (May through September)		3rd Wednesday CABLE COUNCIL 7:30 P.M.	3rd Thursday ZONING HEARING BOARD 7:30 P.M.	
4th Monday BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 7 P.M. (October through April)		4th Wednesday SHADE TREE COMMISSION 7:30 P.M.	Last Thursday ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 6:30 P.M.	

All public meetings of Township boards and commissions are telecast live and rebroadcast on cable channel 10.

Boards that meet quarterly:

Open Space Committee
Community Awareness Committee

Boards that meet as necessary:

Civil Service Commission
Code Appeals Board
Ethics Board
Radnor-Haverford-Marple Sewer Authority
Rental Housing Board of Appeals

During 2002, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee also met monthly.

Q&A With Township Manager Dave Bashore



Overall, how was 2002 in Radnor Township? Last year was a time of great accomplishment for the Board of

Commissioners and the Township staff and of solid progress in our community.

What were the major accomplishments during 2002? There are literally too many to list here, although many of them are mentioned throughout this annual report. Among the most noteworthy achievements were:

- (1) the completion of the draft of the Township's new Comprehensive Land Use Plan, which will guide our community's growth and development over the next 10-15 years. We owe a debt of gratitude to the members of the blue-ribbon steering committee established by the Board in 2001, who oversaw the development of the plan, which will be adopted by the Board this summer;
- (2) the Board enacted a rare, and significant, 8% decrease in the real estate tax rate in 2002, giving back to taxpayers the increase resulting from countywide reassessment in 2000, and held the line on that rate in the 2003 budget;
- (3) the Board approved PennDoT's final concept design of the long-awaited multi-purpose trail along the old P&W railway, which is now slated to open in the Spring of 2004;
- (4) the Board purchased additional open space and officially opened three new parks; and
- (5) we concluded our wonderful, inclusive year-long celebration of the Township's 100th anniversary as an incorporated First-Class Township.

Did Radnor overcome any obstacles during the year? There are always barriers and deterrents to any towns and

organizations that have big plans and grand ideas. In our case, two of these obstacles grabbed our attention last year: the continuing sagging global, national and regional economies and new unfunded mandates from the federal and state governments and other regulatory agencies.

We've dealt with the stagnant economy by continuing to rely on alternative revenue sources – such as business tax audits and by increasing user fees – to fund our major operations and by diversifying our pension portfolios to reduce Township contributions required to keep our two plans actuarially sound.

Two new mandates will significantly impact our organization and community in the coming years. One of those is Phase II of the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System regulations that require smaller communities, such as Radnor Township, to improve water quality by implementing six different control measures.

The other big mandate is a new accounting rule, known as GASB 34, which requires governmental entities our size to implement new procedures beginning this year to account for our physical assets. We'll deal with these two new mandates like we always do – by doing the best we can with the resources we have.

How has Radnor Township changed over the past few years? This is truly a great place to live, work, do business, and learn! We've made great strides in the new millennium; we've acquired more open space and have opened new parks and playing fields; we're home to a rejuvenated, vibrant business district; our families continue to reap great benefits from our great schools – both public and private. We've also begun to tune in more clearly to the interrelationship between our lifestyles and the environment; and we're upgrading our public infrastructure like never before; and we do all this in one

of the most, if not the most, public participatory forums around! I'm continually impressed with the number of residents who care about this community, serve on our boards, and just come to meetings to express their opinions.

With so many changes and updates in technology, how has Radnor kept pace? Three main reasons: First, the vision and financial commitment of the Board of Commissioners. For the past five years, we have been engaged in an organization-wide upgrade of our computer systems; all employees now have a personal computer at their workstation and most have access to the Internet for quickly communicating with the public.

In addition, a majority of our police patrol cars now have laptop computers, which vastly improves the efficiency, response, and safety in the field. Our website was one of the first municipal home pages created in Pennsylvania and now receives over 1,200 hits every month. Citizens can download important Township information off of our site and can print several types of permit applications from their home or office.

Second, we've been fortunate, actually blessed, to have highly qualified staff overseeing these data processing and communication enhancements and the day-to-day operations of our computer networks. Steve Giancristoforo and Melissa Conn, for example, have done a superb job in implementing these upgrades and keeping us on the cusp of quickly changing technologies.

And third, we're seeing a climate evolve in our organization whereby our employees are becoming more accepting of change. When all is said and done, it's important to remember that we are driven not by a desire to keep up with technology for the sake of it, but by a strong commitment to continually improve service to our residents and the general public.

What are the major goals and objectives for the current year? The Board of Commissioners' 2003 strategic plan contains 66 goals and objectives for this year; they can be viewed at www.radnor.com. Board President Jim Pierce articulated the Board's major goals earlier this year: preservation of our dwindling open space through continued strategic purchases of land for passive and, where necessary, active recreation and through the use of conservation easements; storm water management improvements, especially along the Ithan Creek watershed leading to the Radnor Middle School; and continued control of growth and development, primarily through the implementation of the goals and objectives of our new Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

In addition, we expect to begin an extensive renovation or the construction of a new Township municipal building to add badly needed space, and we will hear the report of our nationally-known consultant on the Township-wide needs assessment of a new indoor recreation/community center.

What challenges lie ahead? Aside from the ones on everybody's minds – like addressing traffic, preserving our safe neighborhoods, protecting open space, and educating our kids, there are a few broader challenges:

High expectations for one – the community needs to remember that the Township government, while going the extra mile day in and day out, we can't always be everything to everybody. The uncertainty in the economy compels us to plan farther ahead and to be prepared for a possible temporary paring down of some of our goals, if necessary.

Last but not least, there's a growing lack of civility in the public discourse of policy issues in our town; more people ought to be more respectful of those whose opinions differ from theirs. Personal attacks and lawsuits are threatening to undermine the stability of our community and may make it difficult to attract a new generation of leaders for our boards and commissions.

How will Radnor Township face those challenges? As an organization, we'll try our best to face these challenges like you've come to expect – with high standards of conduct; by keeping our eyes on the big picture; through continued collaboration with our advisory boards, civic associations and residents; through continuing education and professional development; and, hopefully, with lots of enthusiasm, energy, and good old-fashioned smiles!

What are the main opportunities in 2003 and beyond, as you see them? Two major ones come to mind. On the financial end, it's essential for us to be good stewards of the taxpayers' collective pocketbook. We are fortunate in Radnor Township to have weathered the downturn in the economy as well as we have the past few years. While the times are still relatively good here, we must continue to sock away money each year into our reserve fund to have cash on hand for unknown contingencies in the future or to fund basic operations should our local economy take a downturn.

In addition, like any community, our greatest assets are the men and women and boys and girls who call themselves Radnor Township residents and Radnor Township employees. The challenges facing us can only be met by the continued commitment of scores of people who serve on our advisory boards and commissions, who participate on our schools' PTOs, and who volunteer with church, civic, and other nonprofit, charitable organizations.

To that end, I believe that the single most important opportunity is for our town's leaders to tap the talent and unique perspectives of particularly young people to groom them to become effective, caring leaders of the future. I'm reminded of the theme of our new comprehensive land use plan – Making a Great Community Even Better. This worthy vision will only happen with a sustained collective, whole-hearted effort of all of us.



PUBLIC SAFETY

Once again in 2002, the Radnor Township Police Department, under the direction of Superintendent Jerry G. Gregory, worked diligently to ensure the safety of all residents, business owners, employees, and visitors in the Township. From reviewing requests for speed humps on residential streets to training officers in specialized weapons, the Radnor Police continued to live up to their credo to serve and protect.

Some of the highlights include:

- Speed humps or speed tables were installed on Garrett Avenue, Lowry's Lane, Meadowood Road, Morris Road, and S. Valley Forge Road. The Police Department has received positive feedback from many residents of these streets, who report a noticeable reduction in speed in their neighborhoods since the traffic calming devices were installed.
- The Traffic Safety Unit received the Governor's Highway Safety Award for the third consecutive year for its work in speed enforcement, seatbelt checkpoints, and "Operation Safe Stop." In 2002 alone, the Traffic Safety Unit – consisting of one sergeant and two officers – spent 75 hours conducting speed checks at 59 Township locations, resulting in the issuance of 421 traffic citations.
- As a result of its continuing efforts to combat DUI violations, the Department was presented with an outstanding achievement award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving. In 2002, Radnor was first in Delaware County for the number of DUI arrests.
- To keep pace with the changing landscape of police work, the Department made several technology upgrades in 2002:
 - The records management system was upgraded to the Windows-based "Visual Alert" system, which uses 12 new PCs and a new server to allow for more comprehensive information search and retrieval and to improve the preparation and printing of official court documents;
 - Four mobile data terminals (MDTs) were added to the patrol fleet as part of a state grant administered through Delaware County, bringing the total to 15 MDTs that are currently in use;
 - The Department's criminal data connection with the Pennsylvania State Police was upgraded to a new system, allowing faster and more reliable access to local, state, and national police databases;
 - The digital mug shot system was improved to allow higher resolution photographs, which are now attached to the police department's electronic database;
 - Thanks in part to an annual grant from Wyeth/Ayerst, new computer equipment was purchased, including a wireless networking point for the mobile data terminals that enables officers to compile and print reports directly into the internal database from the police vehicles and allows staff to update the laptops without having to remove them from the vehicles.
- There are now 28 officers trained in specialized weaponry as part of the Rapid Deployment Program. This training enables each on-duty platoon to respond quickly to incidents of school or workplace violence. Two off-site simulated training sessions were held in 2002, in addition to similar exercises in previous years.
- Last summer, the Township and neighboring communities were plagued with several residential burglaries. The Investigations Unit developed a suspect and worked with the Patrol Division to conduct stakeouts and track the suspect into Philadelphia. Many long hours later, the serial burglar was arrested. What's more, much of the stolen property was recovered.
- The Department leased a Harley Davidson police motorcycle and trained two officers for traffic enforcement, marking the first time in more than 30 years that the Radnor Police Department has included a motorcycle in its fleet.

Fast Facts About the Radnor Police Department

- *There are currently 49 officers in the Radnor Police Department, working in the Administration, Patrol, Traffic Safety, and Criminal Investigations units.*
- *Officers in the Patrol unit are divided into four platoons, each of which works 12-hour shifts. Each platoon has 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal, and an average of seven officers assigned to it.*
- *Each member of the Radnor Police Department receives nearly 67.5 hours of training annually, as mandated by the State's Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission.*



Superintendent Jerry Gregory, standing beside BOC President Jim Pierce, reflects during a Patriot Day ceremony on September 11, 2002



Speed humps were installed on several Township streets, including Morris Road.



Officers Chris Daly, Chris Flanagan, & Jamie Campbell pose with a new proximity alcohol testing device, a gift from MADD for Radnor's efforts to curtail drunk driving.

Each year, the Traffic Safety Unit conducts checks to ensure that children are properly secured in approved safety seats, both in private cars and schoolbuses.



A Harley Davidson police motorcycle has been added to the fleet and is used primarily for traffic enforcement.



Codes Official Larry Taltoan (right), one of the Township's inspectors, conducts one of the required inspections for a new home. New construction in Radnor Township is subject to five inspections: footing, foundation, backfill, framing, and final.



Downtown Wayne was enhanced in 2002 with the addition of new decorative mast arms and streetlights.



Margaret Kuo opened an eponymous restaurant at the former site of China Buddha.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The major accomplishment in Community Development in 2002 – and the one that Township commissioners, staff, residents, and others are most likely to talk about well into the future – was assisting in the completion of the draft Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Last updated in 1988, the Comprehensive Plan is the primary tool to guide growth and development in Radnor over the next few decades. The plan addresses Township-wide issues such as land use, the environment, housing, open space and recreation, public and private institutions, historical and archaeological resources, and the business sector. Completion of this draft follows nearly two years of extensive public meetings, workshops, research, discussions, and working sessions between the appointed Steering Committee, planning consultant, public, and Township staff.

While recognizing the Township's many strengths – diverse residential neighborhoods, nationally acclaimed public and private educational institutions, and wonderful system of community parks, recreational areas, and open space – the Plan also acknowledges challenges such as traffic congestion, loss of open space, impacts to water resources, and lack of affordable housing.

After adoption of the Comprehensive Plan by the Board of Commissioners later this spring, a shorter Citizens Guide to the plan will be mailed to all residents.

Other 2002 news from the Community Development Department:

■ In cooperation with the Wayne Business Association and the Radnor Enhancement Community Trust, the Township installed new pedestrian streetlights along N. Wayne Avenue and purchased new decorative mast arms for the intersections of N. Wayne and West Avenues, and E. Lancaster Avenue and Louella Court.

■ A new fire alarm ordinance was drafted for review by representatives of the three fire companies that serve Radnor Township (Radnor, Bryn Mawr, and Broomall) in an effort to address the growing problem of false alarms. Adoption of this ordinance is expected in 2003.

■ The new rental property ordinance – adopted in 2001 – was effectively enforced through interaction with the Radnor Police Department, residents, landlords, students, and institutions. These efforts resulted in a total of 997 housing inspections being conducted during 2002, with a significant decrease in the number of complaints compared to past years.

■ Even though construction activity in the Township has not slowed (1,816 permits issued), the Department maintained a processing time of 7-10 days for permits, while at the same time ensuring quality inspections in a timely matter.

■ Eight new restaurants were inspected prior to their opening; a total of 232 food establishment inspections were conducted by the Township's Health Officer.

■ 584 Certificates of Occupancy were issued, 408 of which were for a transfer of real estate.

Fast Facts About Community Development

■ *There are seven full-time employees in Community Development under the leadership of Director Michael D. Fleig.*

■ *Codes Administrator Bob Loeper gained certification as an ICC Accessibility Inspector/Plans Examiner and also served on the Pennsylvania Association of Code Officials Board of Directors, Certified Building Officials Committee and Manufactured Housing Construction Standards Committee.*

■ *The Township's Health Officer, Ginger Heim, was appointed to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Retail Food Safety Task Force.*

■ *Codes Official Larry Taltoan passed the examination for 1-A Residential Building Inspector. Larry and Codes Official Bill Miller are currently pursuing additional certification as Building Plans Examiner.*

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department performs many of the functions that make Radnor Township such a special place to live and work – tree planting, streetlight maintenance, leaf pickup, and snow removal. These functions often go unnoticed – and sometimes even are taken for granted – but they are crucial to the high quality of life that Radnor Township residents enjoy.

The following is a partial list of the many tasks of the Public Works Department: replacing storm and sanitary sewer lines, planting trees, maintaining the Township's and School District's parks and playing fields, installing streetlights and ensuring that they and traffic signals are in good working order, repaving roadways, collecting all trash and recycling, picking up leaves in the fall, plowing, and salting streets

during winter storms, providing free leaf mulch, sweeping Township streets four times per year, and maintaining all Township-owned infrastructure – including buildings, land, equipment, and vehicles.

Specific highlights for 2002 include:

- The installation of beautiful new streetlights on N. Wayne Avenue;
- A new audible pedestrian crossing signal at the intersection of N. Aberdeen Avenue and Lancaster Avenue;
- New energy-efficient LED lightbulbs in all of the Township's traffic signals, with an estimated savings of \$75,000 in the first year alone from this one change;
- The planting of 100 new trees throughout the Township, including 18 small trees which will grow under utility wires in Garrett Hill and which were funded through a grant from PECO;
- The repaving of 24 Township roadways;
- A new sanitary sewer line on Beatrice Avenue;
- The most successful organic fertilizer program in the area that helps our athletic playing fields hold up better during periods of heavy use and drought conditions – such as the drought that plagued the region during the summer of 2002 – than fields that are sprayed with chemicals;

■ A highly popular and successful leaf mulch program, free to all residents and available last year at six Township parks – Fenimore Woods, Skunk Hollow, The Willows, Harford Park, Emlen Tunnell Park, and Ithan Valley Park; and

■ One of the most comprehensive municipal recycling programs in Pennsylvania, requiring residents and businesses to recycle all clean paper products, aluminum cans, steel and metallic cans, glass bottles, and two types of plastic containers.

Fast Facts About Public Works

- *With 82 full-time employees, plus additional seasonal help in summer and fall, Public Works is the largest Township department.*
- *John Stauffer is the Director of Public Works. William Hagan is Superintendent of Maintenance.*
- *Public Works consists of six divisions: Fleet Maintenance, Building Maintenance, Highway Maintenance, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance, Refuse and Recycling, and Parks Maintenance.*
- *In 2002, the Refuse and Recycling Division collected 10,184 tons of trash and 3,485 tons of recyclable materials; collectors walked an average of 6 miles each workday.*

Public Works crews planted more than 100 new trees in 2002.



Refuse and recycling collectors walk an average of six miles per workday.

Members of a public works crew install and test a sanitary sewer line.



Public Works employees install new decorative streetlights on N. Wayne Avenue.



During winter storms, public works crews are out early to plow and salt Township roads.

ENGINEERING

The Engineering Department, in conjunction with the Community Development Department, evaluates subdivision and land development plans and approves all public improvements - such as curbs, sewers, sidewalks, and streets - installed by developers. During 2002, 12 subdivision and land development applications were submitted for review, far fewer than in previous years. This is due primarily to a decrease in available parcels and also to a concerted effort by the Township to preserve open space and prevent overdevelopment.

Despite the decrease in new construction, the Department received 244 grading permit applications, 75 of which were granted. Grading permits are required not only for new construction, but also for additions and swimming pools in order to manage stormwater runoff. Additionally, 22 applications were received for on-site sewage disposal systems.

During 2002, the sanitary sewer on School Lane was replaced, and design work was initiated on three additional sanitary sewer projects - Quaker Lane, Hillside Circle, and Radnor Avenue. In addition, three stormwater management projects were under design in 2002: Strafford Office Building, Rosemont Business Campus, and the Levin Tract at S. Devon Avenue and Conestoga Road.



FAST FACTS ABOUT THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- *The Township Engineer is Daniel E. Malloy, P.E. Supporting him are Assistant Engineer Doug Meder and two administrative assistants.*
- *The Engineer and Assistant Engineer conducted 170 inspections of improvements on residential, educational, and commercial properties during 2002.*
- *Revenues collected by the Engineering Department in 2002 totaled more than \$76,000.*

FINANCE

Under the direction of the Board of Commissioners and Township Manager, the Finance Department presented a budget with an almost unheard-of tax decrease for fiscal year 2002, and no tax increase for fiscal year 2003 – thanks to revenues that exceeded expectations, creative cost-cutting measures, and fund balances that continued to grow.

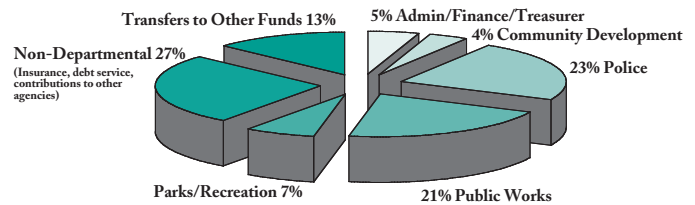
The \$18.4 million general fund budget for fiscal year 2002 funded such major services as police protection for all citizens and businesses, refuse and recycling pickup, and parks and recreation programs. In addition, the fiscal year 2002 budget included \$4.5 million for sanitary sewer maintenance, \$2.45 million for park improvements and land acquisitions, and \$5.5 million for capital improvement and special assessment projects.

There were several reasons the Township was able to offer a tax decrease of nearly 8% to its residents. First, most expenditure line items in the 2002 budget were frozen at or, in some cases, reduced from 2001 levels. Second, the Township's fund balance continued to increase, due in large part to realty transfer and business privilege taxes and building permit fees. In addition, interest earnings were higher than projected.

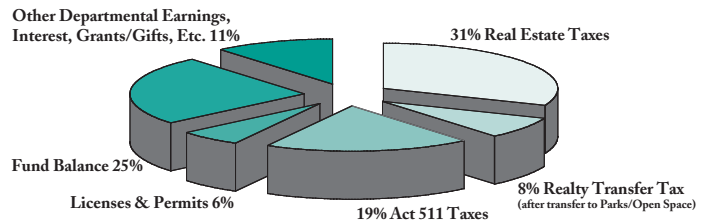
The Finance Department continued to look for creative ways to maintain cost effectiveness, including selling some equipment and vehicles to recoup capital costs, searching for best prices for office supplies and equipment, conducting utility audits, and fully utilizing the RFP (Request For Proposal) process for services.

Also in 2002, the Township refinanced debt – to the tune of nearly \$1 million in savings! The debt refinancing is predicted to save approximately \$950,000 over the 2003-2004 period.

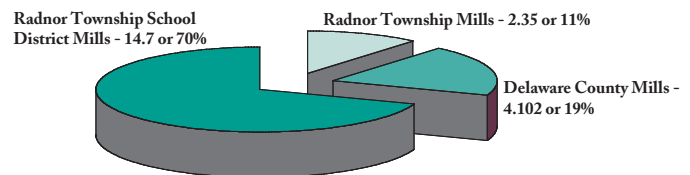
2002 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



2002 GENERAL FUND REVENUES



2002 RADNOR TOWNSHIP MILLAGE RATES





The bridges at the Willows were renovated, along with the pond and courtyard. Decorative tiles adorn the posts on the bridges.



Two decorative fountains were added to the pond at The Willows.



Former parks director Jim Dittmar cuts the ribbon at Dittmar Park, accompanied by Parks and Recreation Board Chair John Fischer, Township Manager Dave Bashore, 4th Ward Commissioner Enrique Hervada, and Parks and Recreation Director Tom Blomstrom.

Township officials gathered on a summer evening to officially open Radnor Memorial Park.



PARKS AND RECREATION

Good news abounded in 2002 in the Parks and Recreation Department. Two new parks were opened, a third was dedicated to former Parks and Recreation Director Jim Dittmar, signage was upgraded at five additional parks, the Willows pond was fully restored and enhanced, recreational programming was expanded, and the summer concert series took its show on the road – literally.

2002 also brought Radnor the news that it was once again named a Tree City USA – for the 9th consecutive year! This status has been conveyed on Radnor Township for the past nine years for its effective community forestry program and commitment to ongoing improvement and renewal. In 2002 alone, Parks crews from the Public Works Department planted approximately 100 trees throughout the Township as part of an aggressive forestry program.

Other highlights include:

- Additional open space was purchased. Three tracts – on Garrett Avenue, Conestoga and Sproul Roads, and Liberty Lane- will be preserved as open space or for active and passive recreational use.
- The pond, courtyard and bridges at the Township’s signature park, the Willows, were renovated. In addition, two new fountains were added to the pond, and a reed bed system was constructed to improve water quality.
- The Willows, even before the improvements, was named “Best Picnic Spot” in Main Line Today’s annual Best of the Main Line issue.
- Other parks saw improvements, too. New tot-lot equipment was added at Encke Park, a wildflower garden was planted at Saw Mill Park, and open space at Dittmar Park (the former Forbes tract on Maplewood Road) was graded, seeded, and landscaped.
- Radnor Memorial Park and Radnor Nature Park were completed and opened to the public. These two adjoining parks, near the new Radnor Elementary School, are already very popular and widely used parks in the Township.
- The new park signs were installed at Harford, Ithan Valley, Odorisio, Warren Filippone, and Cowan Parks. Phase III of the sign installation will occur in 2003.
- The Parks and Recreation Department focused on environmental issues during much of 2002. Working with a consultant, staff addressed and corrected concerns in passive park areas and expanded park clean-up days with the Environmental Advisory Committee. A full schedule of environmental events for 2002 was created, including park clean-up days, Earth Day ceremonies, and an observance of Arbor Day.
- The annual Summer Concert Series was expanded in 2002 to include performances in neighborhood parks as well as at the Willows. The 2002 series included a special Children’s Concert with clowns, ice cream, and balloons at St. Davids Community Park.
- Excursions planned by the Department were diversified to include first-time trips to New Hope and other regional attractions. Both cultural and sports-oriented excursions were part of the yearlong schedule.
- Recreational opportunities also were expanded to include new offerings in 2002, including science workshops, piano lessons, jazz dance, arts & crafts in-service days, and dance workout.

Fast Facts About Parks & Recreation

- *The programs listed above are coordinated by a diligent team of three full-time employees and one intern.*
- *The Director of Parks and Recreation is Thomas Blomstrom. His administrative assistant is Leah McVeigh.*
- *Program coordinator Tammy Wolford recently completed a masters program at Temple University. Her masters project was a Radnor Township Parks and Recreation Welcome Guide and Services Directory, a comprehensive 12-page brochure that lists all of Parks and Recreation’s many programs, services, and parks in a user-friendly, easy to read format.*
- *There are 23 parks in Radnor Township, totaling approximately 331 acres of land.*

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Published By

Radnor Township Board of Commissioners

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