

# WEST WYOMING BOROUGH NEWSLETTER



## Important Dates

### November 2012

**November 1 Yard Waste** - Atherton Park section up to but NOT including 8th St

**November 3 -** Trees will be planted in the tree laws

**November 8 Yard Waste** - 8th Street up to the Exeter Line

**November 12 @ 7:30pm Council Meeting**

**November 15 Yard Waste** - Atherton Park section up to but NOT including 8th St

Visit the West Wyoming Website at [www.westwyoming.org](http://www.westwyoming.org)

Follow us on FaceBook

## Sanitation Stickers

Sanitation stickers will be on sale beginning in November at the Town Hall, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. All residences in West Wyoming must purchase a sticker. The cost remains the same as last year, \$200. If purchased before January 31, 2013, senior citizens (65 and older) will receive a \$25 rebate (\$175), all others receive a \$15 rebate (\$185). If purchased from February 1-28, 2013, the full price will be charged, \$200. After February 28, 2013, the cost will be \$300 for the year and citations will be filed with the District Magistrate for noncompliance with the Ordinance. Stickers are also available through the mail: West Wyoming Borough Building, 464 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 4035, 464 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, West Wyoming PA 18644. For the added convenience of residents, Visa, MasterCard and Mac are accepted

Payments for the borough sanitation stickers and sewer user fees can now be made through the website [www.westwyoming.org](http://www.westwyoming.org). A convenience fee will be added to the sanitation sticker fee.



## Shade Tree's

The Shade Tree Commission will be planting the trees requested on November 3rd. The commission will decide the best possible spot for the trees. If you are home and would like it in a certain spot we will try our best but the arborist will make the final decision based on her expertise and the most suitable location.

## Yard Waste

The last yard waste pickup will be November 15 and the Saturday hours for the compost yard will end on November 12.

\*\*The West Side Trail project is currently under way replacing sidewalks on W. Eighth St, traffic delays are possible.\*\*

## Caring for Your New Tree - West Wyoming Shade Tree Commission

**Watering:** Your new tree will be thirsty! At planting time, please give your tree 10 gallons of water (5 gallon buckets work well). Continue giving it 10 gallons once weekly until the ground is frozen. Resume watering next season with the same amount on a weekly schedule. If you want our tree to grow quickly, keep it well watered. Fertilizer is not necessary and can even do it harm at planting time. Fertilizer is salt and can damage young roots that are trying to grow.

**Mulch;** Wood chip mulch will greatly benefit your tree in several ways;

- It will keep the roots cool and moist
- It will regulate soil temperatures
- It reduces weed competition for nutrients and water
- Protects the tree from string trimmer damage (one of the leading causes of tree death).

***Do Not*** allow mulch to come in contact with the bark of your tree! Make the ring as wide as possible. It should begin about 3 inches away from the trunk and mulch should be no more than 3.4" deep because roots need to exchange gases above the ground. Mulch 'volcanoes' cause many tree deaths. Allowing mulch to touch the bark keeps the wood moist, giving an entry way to decay and other diseases.

Tree rings made of rubber or other non-organic material are not recommended. They can leach toxins into the soil that can harm your tree in addition to 'girdling' the trunk as it expands.

**Pruning;** The only pruning that should be done in the first three years would be to remove broken branches, crossed or rubbing branches, or to remove a competing (more than one central trunk) leader. All pruning cuts need to be made just outside of 'branch collar' (the fatter area where one branch meets another). This is the area that the tree can close up (compartmentalization) to protect itself from disease or insects entering. Pruning by an ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) certified arborist is recommended. If you don't have a certified arborist, make sure whoever prunes your tree is familiar with ANSI (American National Standards Institute) standards for pruning or tree care. Pruning permits are required in West Wyoming.

### **Do Not Top Your Trees!**

- Topping allows decay organisms to enter your tree. This causes hazard trees that are prone to failure. A tree can deceptively 'green-up' for years while it is being hollowed out from decay.
- Topping doesn't work to keep a tree small! Many branches called water sprouts will emerge from the cuts and grow quickly. This is the trees effort to produce more leaves to make food (photosynthesis) because it is starving to death. An arborist (who understands tree biology) can reduce a trees size without topping. It is called reduction pruning.
- **A topped tree no longer has monetary value. Did you know that if a car hits your tree, or lightning strikes your tree, that a properly cared for tree can be worth thousands of dollars? Certified arborists can do tree appraisals.**

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