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Tangible Personal Property Tax Reimbursement

- Originally on track to be gradually eliminated by 2019, the reimbursement is eliminated effective immediately. The township received its last payment earlier this year.

Total Loss: \$1.7 million

Public Utility Deregulation Replacement Tax -

Originally on track to be gradually eliminated by 2018, the reimbursement is eliminated effective immediately. The township received its last payment earlier this year.

Total Loss: \$480,407

* Based on projected 2013 revenue and 50% reduction.

Cost Savings

Washington Township has looked at every aspect of operations to find cost savings. Key areas include:

Unfilled Full-Time Positions	\$423,500
Reduced Part-Time Hours	\$49,000
Reduction in Supply Costs and Usage	\$17,400
Reduction in Memberships, Subscriptions & Regional Agencies	\$60,300
Reduction in Maintenance Agreements & Operating Fees	\$187,400
Total	\$737,600

Have Your Child's Safety Seat Checked

Is your child traveling safely in your car? Parents can have that question answered at one of ten child safety seat checkpoints to be offered in 2012.

Checkpoints help parents ensure that their child is riding safely. They take place the third Friday of most months from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and are by appointment only. To schedule a time, call the Fire Department at 433-3083.

These upcoming safety seat checkpoints take place at the Public Works Garage, 8190 McEwen Rd.

January 20 March 16
February 17 April 20

The checkpoints are a collaborative effort of the Washington Township Fire Department, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the Centerville Police Department.

Butterfly Playground Takes the Next Step

The surface has been poured for the first two play areas in a new Butterfly Playground at Countryside Park, next to the Washington Township Rec Center.

When the handicapped-accessible playground opens next spring, it will expand creative play opportunities for children throughout the community, said Senior Recreation Supervisor Linda Madden who oversees the project.

A \$36,000 Community Development Block Grant from Montgomery County paid for the playground pads, along with a driveway and sidewalks for improved accessibility to both areas. Play areas planned for next spring include:

Nature Sounds - A music and theater space for creative play. A stage provides the focal point for the area and will be surrounded by four to six outdoor musical pieces, including chimes, drums and xylophones.

Butterfly Meadow - A place to climb and play on a spider-web like structure, sheltered from the sun by giant flower umbrellas. Large bugs provide smaller climbing opportunities and educational display boards offer the chance to learn about the life cycles of meadow insects. The Butterfly Meadow will be near the park's A-frame shelter and adjacent to

a butterfly garden that was established with the help of two local boy scouts.

The butterfly theme was inspired by Yukta Garg, 6, an avid Recreation Center user and butterfly lover who died in a 2006 auto accident near the recreation center. The activity areas were inspired by her interests that also are shared by many children her age.

Yukta's parents, Arti and Hement Garg, have raised \$21,000 for the playground, with another \$38,800 coming from grants and donations.

"The Butterfly Playground will enhance our summer park activities and provide year-round community play space," said Dave Paice, recreation facilities director.

Washington Township Trustees approved a Countryside Park master plan in 2002 that included the playground and later pledged \$50,000 in matching seed money to build it. A playground plan was developed in 2009 by landscape architects from Envision-Works who met with kids participating in summer recreation programs. The final playground plan was influenced and inspired by participants who talked about their ideas and sketched them.



Volunteers interested in helping with the Butterfly Playground, may contact Linda Madden at 432-2820.