

A MESSAGE FROM

THE WHITEHALL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



While May was Lyme Disease Awareness Month, the blacklegged tick is with us throughout the year. Squirrels, chipmunks, mice, birds as well as deer are hosts to ticks in the pre-adult and adult stages. Ticks also reside in moist, shady and grassy areas. Keeping your yards free of debris, especially fallen leaves, will deny ticks as well as vermin of a habitat.

When raking leaves and preparing your yard and garden for autumn, winter and early spring, please use a suitable repellent on exposed skin and your clothing including your shoes.

Deer will be visiting our yards searching for food more frequently in the next few months. Do not attract deer by feeding them. It is prohibited by Whitehall Ordinance 71.6.5. If you see anyone feeding deer or any other wild or feral animals, please contact the Whitehall Code Enforcement Office at (412) 884-1368.

Autumn is a favorable time for planting trees, shrubs, bulbs and some perennials. When selecting new items for your yard, consider choosing shrubs and spring flowering plants that deer usually avoid. A suggested source for ideas is: <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance/>. For more advice, visit one of our local nurseries, where staff will be happy to show you the many deer resistant planting options.

Be sure to protect your shrubs and young trees throughout the year by using deer and rabbit repellent products regularly. Alternate with different repellents since deer may become accustomed to a single brand. Deer especially like roses, rhododendrons (buds), azaleas, hydrangeas and yews. Be especially vigilant in spring when new growth appears. Deer are especially attracted to tulips and hostas when the plants first appear.

Deer and other wildlife are a fact of life in Southwestern PA, but starting with these steps, we can work together as a community to not attract them into our yards and gardens.



Since 1948,

the Borough of Whitehall has upheld its responsibility

to promote the maintenance of essential local government services like providing for law enforcement, highway and sewer maintenance, fire protection and municipal administration and support services such as maintaining the community library, parks, playgrounds and adoption and enforcement of essential municipal ordinances and codes.

Ordinances are local laws approved through formal adoption by the borough's elected officials and serve to prescribe recognized standards for maintaining public safety, health, morality and general welfare. The Code Enforcement Office of the Borough of Whitehall is available to advise residents and businesses of the requirements pertaining to building construction and/or remodeling permits. In addition, the Code Enforcement Office monitors and, where necessary, enforces vehicles, neglect of property maintenance responsibilities by property owners and/or their tenants, including harborage for disease-carrying mosquitoes by allowing stagnant water to collect in open containers, discarded automobile tires, and neglected pools.

It must be noted that there are many situations that may be

unattractive or annoying, but fall outside the scope of the Borough's authority to intervene. "I'm just tired of looking at it..." Is not necessarily a justification for citing a neighbor for his ugly selection of landscaping and lawn furniture and challenging his constitutional right to have poor taste.

The best advice when concerned or in doubt about anything that you feel may warrant the involvement of the Whitehall Code Enforcement Office is to call (412) 884-1368 and explain your concerns; be sure to report the location so that the complaint may be further investigated to determine if, in fact, a violation of municipal ordinances exists.

