



Conewago Township Police Department

Adams County

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All Things are Connected

Conewago Township has enacted a new ordinance addressing vegetation management. You might be asking yourself, what is vegetation management, and why do we need an ordinance regulating it? Vegetation management is the maintenance of trees and shrubs on one's property that extend onto or over a public right of way (Eg: public sidewalks), and the depositing or expelling of grass clippings, leaf waste, and other yard debris onto the following: A public highway, street, road or alley, and or a swale, ditch or roadway shoulder that could obstruct the proper flow of water runoff from such right of ways.

All things are connected in one way or the other. Low hanging limbs and branches are potential hazards to our friends and neighbors walking or running our streets and neighborhoods. Creating safe, inviting areas for foot traffic around our homes and communities increases individual involvement in those areas, lessens crime, and increases property values. "All things are connected."

Keeping grass, leaves, and other yard debris off of our roadways aids in eliminating pollutants entering our watershed and increases safety for walks, bicyclists, and motorcyclists. The soil in your yard is an extremely effective filtration system for ground water, whereas grass and other debris deposited on the roadway end up as storm water runoff without the aid of this filtration.

It's been said that it takes a village to raise a child, and it also takes a community to protect our natural resources. The Chesapeake Bay's watershed reaches the entire length of the State of Pennsylvania and into New York. If we all keep our grass in the yard, our little piece of the world will be a bit cleaner and safer for those around us and those coming after us. "All things are connected."

Regards,

Gary L. Baumgardner – Chief of Police