

Chapter 6 Community Facilities

Horsham Township government provides numerous public services and facilities to residents and employees of the Township. In addition to Township services, quasi-public organizations assist Township government in providing necessary services such as fire protection – through volunteer fire companies – and the Hatboro Horsham School District which provides public school facilities throughout the Township.



Municipal Campus

Over the last decade, Horsham Township has consolidated, relocated and/or expanded certain township facilities at the Horsham Road Municipal Campus which occupies approximately 16 acres situated near the geographical center of Horsham Township. In 2009 a new Police Administration building along with detention facilities was constructed at the Horsham Road Municipal Campus. This allowed the police to relocate from their existing quarters in the Township Administration building and provide expanded services as well as parking and storage for police vehicles. In 2005 the Township converted an old public works building into a modern Community Center building along with additional parking to the rear of the Township administration offices and meeting rooms. In addition, the Fire Company constructed a new and expanded building adjacent to Kohler Park. The Township Public Works Department is also positioned on the Municipal Campus, including a large municipal garage. In total, six municipal buildings are situated on the Horsham Road Municipal Campus. In addition, Kohler Park surrounds the Municipal Campus on two sides and includes numerous active and passive recreational facilities. In addition to a network of walking trails, a pond, a gazebo, and natural wetland areas, a section of Kohler Park which is accessed via Limekiln Park provides parking facilities and lighted sports fields for soccer and football, in-line skating and hockey court, tot lots, and picnic tables on approximately 71 acres as well as the extension of the “Power Line Trail”, which is an important link between the easterly and westerly sections of the Township. (With the future development of the Horsham Valley Golf Club for residential purposes approximately 15 additional acres will be incorporated into Kohler Park, including the preservation of a riparian corridor along the Park Creek.) There are 18 full-time employees in the Township Administrative Department (including the Parks

Department) and 15 full-time employees associated with Public Works. Horsham Township is also home to one District Justice office, District 38-1-22 located at 903 Sheehy Drive, Suite A, Babylon Business Campus.



Community Center building

Police Protection

The new police station consists of a 14,000 square foot one story building immediately adjacent to the Township Administration building at the Horsham Road Municipal Campus. The Police Department currently has a total of 48 employees (Administration – 4, Sergeants – 6, Detectives – 4, Patrol/Traffic – 25, and Civilian Staff – 9).

Fire Protection

Horsham Township is served by the Horsham Fire Company with two battalions, both located in newly constructed buildings. Based on information received from Timothy Flanagan, Fire Company Chief, Battalion 1, which lists 25 members responding from this location, occupies a new six bay/two story building adjacent to the intersection of Easton Road (Route 611) and Meetinghouse Road, a short distance below the Keith Valley Middle School. The primary service area of Battalion 1 is the entire Township, however focus is on the area from Upper Moreland Township to Babylon Road area and serves as a back up to both the westerly sector of Upper Moreland Township and the balance of Horsham Township. Battalion 2, which lists 10 members, occupies a new building as part of the Township Municipal Campus with direct access to Horsham Road adjacent to Kohler Park. The primary service area of this fire station is Babylon Road to the Montgomery Township/Lower Gwynedd Township borders. Career staff consists of two firefighters/EMT's and four firefighter/paramedics to ensure weekday responders and that paramedics are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Battalion 1 Fire Station at Meetinghouse Road

Emergency Services

The Horsham Fire Company has been delivering emergency services to the residents of Horsham Township and surrounding communities for over 50 years. The Fire Company has three state of the art emergency vehicles which are positioned at both Battalions. Emergency service is connected to the First Responder system of 911. The Fire Company lists 5 EMS volunteer members on its roster, with another 10 people belonging to the Special Fire Police and approximately 12 members of the Auxiliary.

Horsham Township Library

The new Horsham Township Library, consisting of 25,000 square feet, was constructed in 2004 adjacent to the Simmons Elementary School at the intersection of Jarrett Road and Babylon Road. The collection of the library contains 82,000 volumes and the library circulates 297,048 items per year. The library serves a population of 25,000 residents. Opened to the public on October 11, 2004, the library provides free lending and information services to the residents of Horsham Township and the Hatboro-Horsham School District. Programs offered include: Book Discussion Group, 3 Horshams Read, Friends of the Horsham Library Book Club, Children's Summer Reading Club, and Reading Olympics. The library is a member of the Montgomery County Public Libraries.

Schools

In 2010 the Hatboro Horsham School District had an estimated 5,100 students which consists of the following schools:

- Hatboro Horsham High School

- Keith Valley Middle School
- Blair Mill Elementary School
- Hallowell Elementary School
- Simmons Elementary School (Babylon Road location)
- Pennypack Elementary School (located in Hatboro)
- Crooked Billet Elementary School (located in Hatboro)
- Limekiln Learning Center currently houses the four year old pre-school program and the Hatboro-Horsham Special Services Department.



View left to right of Hatboro Horsham High School, stadium, sports fields, Simmons Elementary School and Horsham Public Library

In addition to excellent public schools, there are numerous private schools located within Horsham Township. These include:

- The Quaker School of Horsham, founded in 1982, is situated next to the historic Horsham Friends Meetinghouse at 250 Meetinghouse Road and is a Friends school serving approximately 70 students with learning differences in pre-first through eighth grade from sixteen different school districts throughout Philadelphia, Montgomery and Bucks Counties.
- St. Catherine of Sienna School for kindergarten through 8th grade at 317 Witmer Road.
- The Lakeside School located along Chestnut Lane in the far northwesterly sector of the Township is a private school which serves 102 students in 7th to 12th grades.

Graeme Park

Graeme Park (consisting of approximately 41.7 acres) contains the historic country Keith House, the only surviving residence of a Colonial Pennsylvania Governor, Sir William Keith, and offers historic and educational programs in a park-like setting.

Convalescent/Continuing Care Communities

- The Abramson Center for Jewish Life (formerly the Philadelphia Geriatric Center) provides housing and medical needs for the elderly and also contains a club room, art gallery, and a library for aging resources.
- Luther Woods Convalescent Center along County Line Road.

Horsham Clinic

The Horsham Clinic (consisting of 55 acres), situated at the intersection of Butler Pike and Welsh Road, is a treatment facility providing both outpatient services and 146 beds for inpatient care. Horsham Clinic is currently undergoing expansion to provide additional hospital patient care facilities.

College Settlement Farm

The College Settlement Farm (consisting of 115 acres) provides campground and recreation activities for disadvantaged youth and also provides an environmental education center. In addition, the non-profit Pennypack Farm and Education Center, dedicated to making local sustainable agriculture an important part of the community, occupies 24 acres. Members of the Pennypack Farm CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) enjoy locally grown, fresh and organic vegetables.

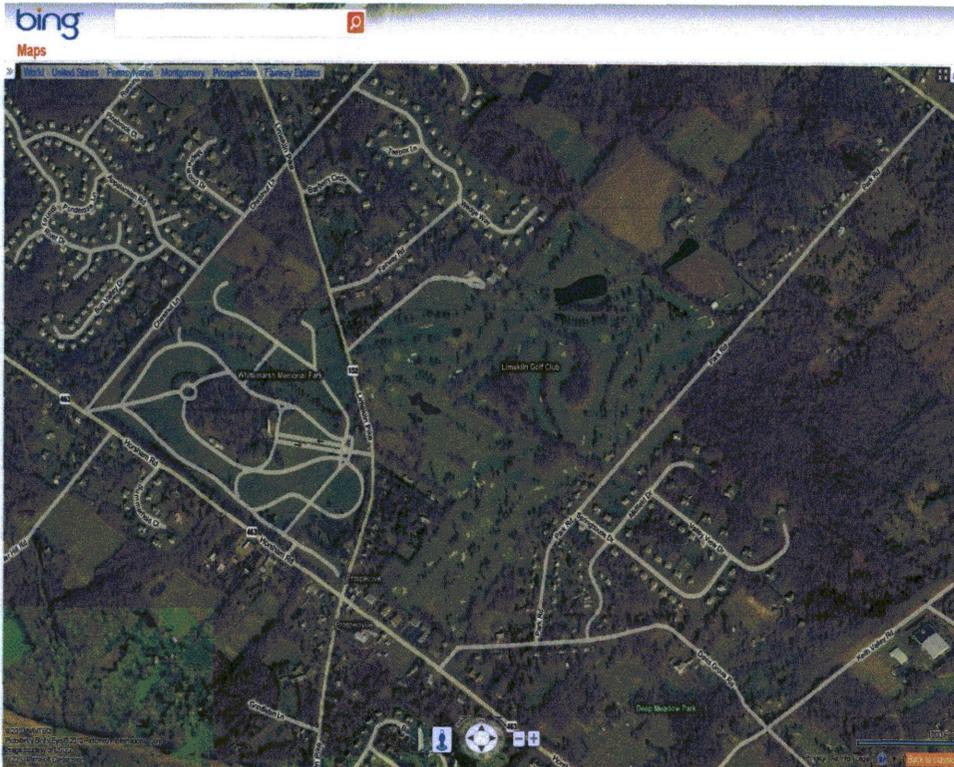
Religious Uses

Horsham Township is home to numerous houses of worship. These facilities include:

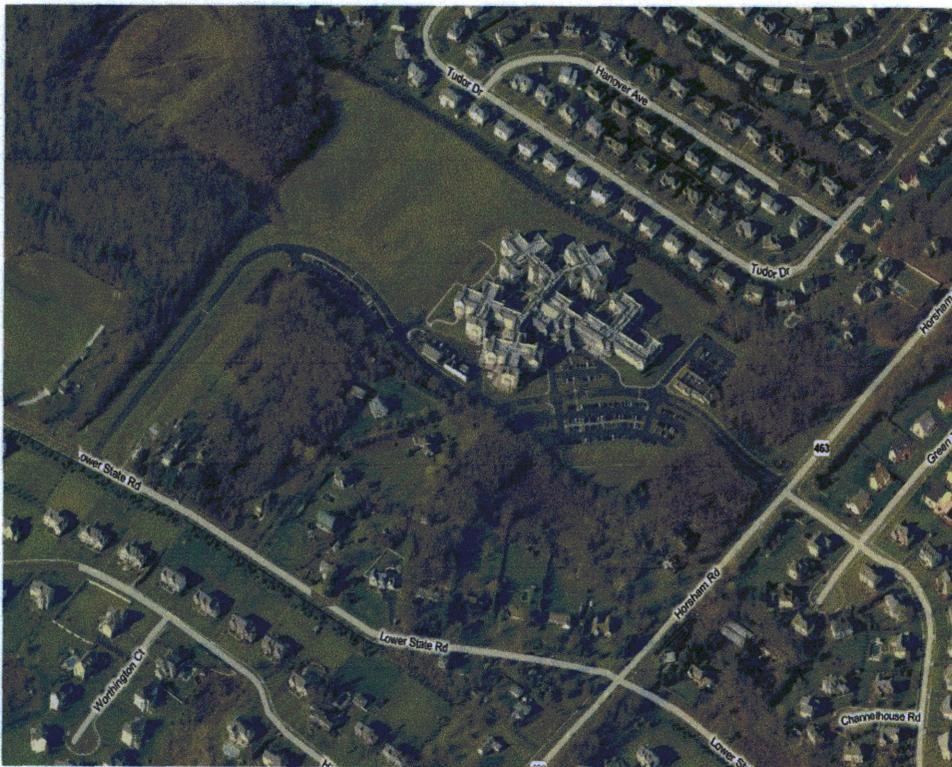
- St. Catherine of Sienna Roman Catholic Church along Witmer Road
- The Horsham Quaker Meetinghouse and cemetery
- Korean Young Sang Presbyterian Church at Witmer Road
- Jehovah's Witness along Norristown Road
- Resurrection Lutheran Church at Mann and Welsh Roads
- Maple Glen Bible Fellowship Church along Horsham Road east of Maple Glen
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on Tennis Avenue
- Prospectville United Methodist Church at the intersection of Horsham Road and Park Avenue
- Trinity Orthodox Presbyterian Church along County Line Road next to Hatboro Little League Fields
- Bux-Mont Baptist Church, County Line Road next to Luther Woods Convalescent Center
- Horsham Bible Church, at the corner of Upland Avenue and Milton Avenue

Whitemarsh Memorial Park

Whitemarsh Memorial Park, established in 1929, occupies the largest tract of land (160 acres) used for institutional purposes in Horsham Township. The property contains the 174 foot tall Tower of Chimes, a mausoleum, a chapel and cemetery plots, and maintains extensive road frontage along Limekiln Pike, Horsham Road, and Chestnut Lane.



View of Whitemarsh Memorial Park and Limekiln Golf Club, looking north from Prospectville



View of Abramson Center for Jewish Life from Lower State and Horsham Roads