

# The South Whitehall Township E-Newsletter!

Fall/Winter 2024- 2025



## Hello FALL...

Fall is here! See important seasonal Township information and upcoming Recreational Programs & Events!

## ...See you soon WINTER!

Mark your calendars with Winter Township information along with Recreational Programs & Events!



## Updates from the Township Manager to you!

With the Summer season now behind us, Autumn well underway,

The purpose of the EAC is to advise the Board of Commissioners and

and Winter rapidly approaching, it is an ideal time of the year to reflect on the significant accomplishments that the Township has achieved this past year.

In recent months, the Township has successfully completed the annual paving program and several key Public Works projects, including bridge inspection work, stormwater improvements, and essential maintenance activities. Within the Township Parks network, a new mile long extension of the Jordan Creek Greenway was recently completed in Covered Bride Park. The new section of the trail runs from the existing one-mile section of trail/boardwalk on the western edge of Covered Bridge Park and continues through the north side of Covered Bridge Park to the Lapp Road parking lot.

South Whitehall Township adopted the first ever *South Whitehall Landscapes Plan* on September 18, 2024. Throughout the comprehensive planning process, which involved numerous public outreach meetings, residents emphasized the need to preserve the community character and the Township's valuable resources. The *South Whitehall Landscapes Plan* is an extension of the *South Whitehall Township Comprehensive Plan* and a reaffirmed commitment to preserving the heritage, character, and environment of South Whitehall. Please be sure to read the *Landscapes Plan*, which is available on the Township website.

On January 17, 2024, the South Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners passed an Ordinance adopting a newly revamped South Whitehall Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC).

other Boards/Committees on matters dealing with the protection, conservation, management, promotion, and use of natural resources located within South Whitehall Township.

The EAC meets regularly each month (the meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Township Municipal Building), and the EAC will work closely with Township staff and the Board of Commissioners to work on the goals and action items set forth in the adopted *South Whitehall Landscapes Plan*.

The Township is also in the midst of developing the budget for the upcoming year, with the Board of Commissioners set to review the first draft of the proposed budget at a workshop special meeting scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup> (5:00 PM), with the proposed budget presentation scheduled for the first November regular business public meeting (November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM). The budget will ensure that resources are allocated efficiently based on overall department needs and established priorities of the Township.

Please check the Township website for all information concerning upcoming Township public meetings and events.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-newsletter, and it is the hope of Township officials that you will find this to be a resource for timely and important information concerning the ongoing initiatives of South Whitehall Township.

Sincerely,  
Thomas R. Petrucci, MPA  
Township Manager

# Human Resources:



View current Township Employment Opportunities are [Here](#).

## Meet the Newest Members of the SWT Team!

### Finance Department

Michael Russo  
LeighAnn Hack

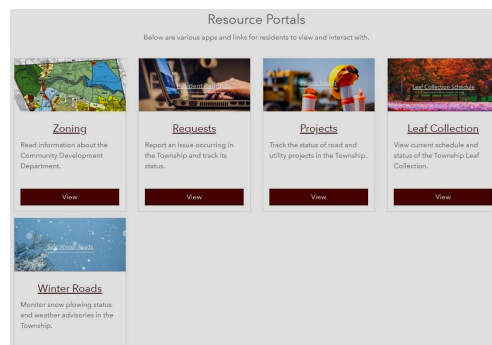
### Public Works

Bradley Miller

# Resident Resource Hub:

## Did you know SWT has a NEW Resident Resource Hub?

Located on the very top navigation bar of our website, [The Hub](#) site provides access to our Geographic Information System (GIS) and planning resources available through esri ArcGIS Online. Below are the **NEW** applications available to Residents!



- [The Request Portal](#) - Use the Request Portal to submit, view and/or comment on existing NON-EMERGENCY requests. **\*\*\*NOT intended for Police assistance requests\*\*\***
- [The Zoning Portal](#)- An interactive representation of the SWT Zoning Ordinance using interactive maps and hyperlinks to various resources. See portal for a detailed explanation!
- [The Leaf Collection Portal](#)- View current schedule and status of South Whitehall Township Leaf Collection.
- [The Winter Roads Portal](#)- Monitor snow plowing status and weather advisories in South Whitehall Township.

# Finance:

## Own a Business in SWT?

Our Township has a Business Privilege Tax. To ensure you have all the information you need, please [visit the Business Privilege Tax page on our website](#).

**Questions?** Let the Finance Department help you navigate the Business Privilege Tax! 610-398-0401 (Ext 216), [bplicense@southwhitehall.com](mailto:bplicense@southwhitehall.com).



**Promote your Business within your Community with SWT Recreational Events & Programs!** Market your business to hundreds of local families while supporting your community! For details email [matulal@southwhitehall.com](mailto:matulal@southwhitehall.com)



TRASH AND  
RECYCLING



WATER AND  
SEWAGE

## Utility Billing Information:

Why do I have to make Separate Payments for my Utilities?

- Your Water, Sewer, and Refuse bills are Separate Accounts so payments MUST be on Separate Checks or Transactions to be applied to the correct Utility Bill.

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL UTILITY BILL INFORMATION](#)

Did you know there is a Bill Pay "Quick Fact" page on our website?

- Payment FAQ's
- Online Utility Bill Pay Instructions
- Links to Bill Pay

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL UTILITY BILL INFORMATION](#)

## Public Works:

### Leaf Collection:

The Township will begin its 2024 leaf collection on Monday, September 30th, 2024 and will continue until December 4th.

Leaf Collection is one of Public

Works largest operations involving 20 employees, 14 trucks and many hours. It is the responsibility of the resident to prevent their leaves along the street from blowing throughout the neighborhood.

- Place leaves two feet from the curb so that they don't interfere with the rain and storm sewers.
- Leaves will not be collected on private property.
- Park all vehicles 15' away from where the leaves are piled.
- Collection crews will not pick up empty plastic bags or containers, branches, grass clippings, shrubbery, garbage or building material. These objects can cause extensive damage to the leaf collection equipment and will contaminate the leaves that we ultimately dispose of.



With the increasing number of maturing trees each year in various areas of the Township, it is impossible to guarantee a specific pick-up day for any one location. If leaves are not in place when the crews go by, they will be picked up on the next rotation. The crews will not make any return trips. Leaf collection is subject to inclement weather, mechanical breakdowns, and Township emergencies requiring Public Works personnel and equipment. Your area could be skipped at any time should these situations occur. Please be patient; your area will be collected.

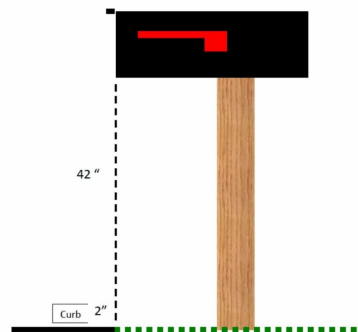
**[For more information visit our Leaf Collection webpage.](#)** Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Helpful Winter Information & Tips!

### Yard Markers

Please take the time to put up yard markers if you don't have curb in front of your house.

Yard markers give the plowing crews a visual guide to know where the street and grass meet. This will help prevent plow crews from plowing up your grass or leaving tire ruts in your lawn. These can be picked up at home depot or Lowes, Ollies, Tractor Supply or any local hard ware store.



### Mailbox Placement

Please be sure to follow the diagram above for proper installation: 2 feet back from the curb, and 42 ' in height.



If installed correctly this will help with winter operations. If followed correctly snowplows will not hit them with the corner of the plow and the roll of snow coming off the plow will not knock it down.

**All damaged mailboxes must be reported by April 1st**



## **A much-needed Snow/Ice/Sleet Removal Ordinance was adopted.**

Below are the key points of the adopted Ordinance.

- The Property Owner is responsible for removing snow/ice/sleet from sidewalk area within a 24 hour period after the weather event.
- Slippery conditions on sidewalk area must be treated with melting or traction agent
- Sidewalk area which provides ADA Ramps, school bus stops, or LANTA Bus stops must be cleared of snow and ice
- Snow and ice cannot be thrown, deposited, shoveled or plowed into or upon any public street.
- Appropriate enforcement measures may be taken for violations of this ordinance.

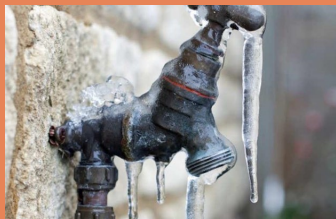
**[To view all Township Ordinances in their entirety Click Here.](#)**

# Avoid the "Second Shovel"

After a snowstorm, how many times have you shoveled your driveway only to have it plowed in when your local snowplow comes through? Clearing an area to the right of your driveway (as seen in the diagram below), giving the snow on the plow a place to go other than your driveway, should keep you from having to do the same job twice.



[For more Snow Removal Information Click Here.](#)



## How to Fix Frozen Pipes:

Calling a professional is ideal, but it's often helpful to know some basic steps to fix a frozen pipe!

- **Keep your faucet open.** Water and steam are created during thawing, and needs to be discharged. Also, keeping the faucet open allows water to move through the pipe, which expedites thawing.
- **Apply heat to the section of the pipe that is frozen.** Wrap an electronic heating pad around the pipe, heat the area a hair dryer or both! If you don't have either of those, you can use towels soaked in hot water. Remember, this is a
- **Know what NOT to do.** Never use a blowtorch, propane or kerosene heaters, a charcoal stove or any other open flame device to thaw your frozen pipes. That presents a severe fire hazard. You should also avoid using a space heater unless you are sure the area is clear of any flammable material. Again, never leave the space heater unattended.
- **Continue applying heat until water flow returns to normal.** Once you have successfully thawed the pipe, turn on other faucets in your home to check for any more frozen water pipes.
- **Take swift action if the frozen pipes are located inside an exterior wall.** This is a serious situation, and you should call a professional contractor. Repairs may involve cutting a hole in the wall toward the

temporary fix and the heating pad should not be left unattended!

inside of the house to expose those pipes to warmer air.



## Trash, Recycling, & Yard Waste:

[Visit the Trash, Recycling and Yard Waste page of our website](#) for information on the following:

- Trash & Recycling collection, toter replacement/purchase, and available discounts.
- The Holiday Trash Pick-up Schedule
- [Yard Waste Information.](#)

# Recreation:



**Find the Recreation Program & Event info you need right on the [Township's Website!](#)**

The Parks & Recreation Department section of the Township's [website](#) is the best place to find important information about each program and event! We love promoting our programs and events by posting to our Facebook and Instagram pages, as well as emailing them through our Recreation Portal, but the website allows us the space to provide specific details and registration instructions for each program and event! So...

[Check out our Website!](#)







## Upcoming Programs: Click the Programs for more details and the link to Register!

- Senior Programs with PASD and St. Luke's West End Fitness Center
- Built by Me Robotics Classes (Fall & Winter)
  - 2 Age Groups, 2 Themes
  - Mon. Oct. 28- Dec. 2, & Mon. Dec.9- Jan. 13
- Indoor Zumba
  - Thurs. 6pm- 7pm. Jan 2- Feb. 6
- Cardio Mat Class
  - Thurs. 6pm- 7pm, Feb. 13- March 13
- Wiffleball Drop-In League
  - Wed. 7pm-9pm, Jan. 22- Apr. 2
- Swim & Gym
  - Jan.- March (dates (TBD))
  - Sundays 1pm- 5pm



## Upcoming Events: Click the Events for more details and the link to Registration!

- The Halloween Spooktacular Trunk or Treat!
  - Friday, Oct. 18th, 5pm- 8pm
  - Free to Decorate a Car and Promote your Business/Org.
- SWT's Trick or Treat Night
  - Friday, Oct. 25, 6pm-8pm
  - (Rain Date 10/26, 6pm- 8pm)
- Tree & Bridge Lighting Event
  - Saturday Dec. 7th, 5:30pm- 7:30pm
- Adopt- A-Tree Donation Program in partnership with Tall Timbers Nursery.
  - Forms accepted Oct.- Mid Nov.
- Candy Cane Hunts
  - Saturday Dec. 14, 4pm sharp
  - 4 Locations: Covered Bridge, Fernwood, Springhouse West, and Vistas Parks



## Pavilion Rental Information:

Thank you making 2024 a successful Pavilion Rental Season by choosing to have your event at our Park Pavilions!

- Reservations can only be made within the current calendar year.
- Reservations open **January 1, 2025** (first business day of each year)

**2025 Rental Reservations open Wednesday, January 1, 2025**

Our pavilions book up early! If you are considering having your party or event at a Pavilion, reserve on Jan. 1st! [Click Here for Pavilion Rental Information.](#)

**WE ARE HIRING**

**CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS!**

**FOR OUR SWIM & GYM PROGRAM!**

- January- March (as facilities are available)
- Sundays from 1:00pm- 5:00pm
- Must be 16yrs or older
- Must have your First Aid, CPR/AED, and Water Rescue Certification

**APPLY NOW!**

EMAIL: [MatulaL@southwhitehall.com](mailto:MatulaL@southwhitehall.com)

South Whitehall Township RECREATION

## WE ARE HIRING LIFEGUARDS!

Each year, we hire Certified Lifeguards for our long-running Swim & Gym Program.

- Click the image above for more Details
- OR Email [matulal@southwhitehall.com](mailto:matulal@southwhitehall.com)

**NEW** SWT Recreation  
VENDOR & SPONSOR  
OPPORTUNITY!

**SUNSET TO  
SUMMER EVENT**

**SATURDAY, SEPT 28**

## Sunset to Summer Festival Wrap-Up:

SWT Recreation chose to end summer with a Bang! After our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to officially open the new section of the Jordan Park Greenway Trail, we celebrated the Sunset of Summer with a Festival! We

had Live Music from Flirtin' with the Mob, and We May Be Right, over 30+ Vendors along our Vendor Trail, Kid's Entertainment area, and delicious Food Trucks!

If you missed it, don't worry, this end of Summer Bash will be back in September of 2025!

**THANK YOU to the Generous Community Sponsors who made this event possible!**

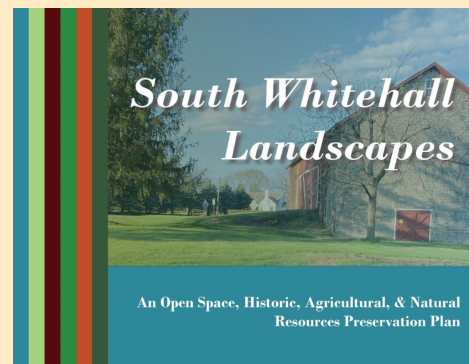


## Community Development:

### South Whitehall Landscapes

*South Whitehall Landscapes*, an Open Space, Historic, Agricultural, and Natural Resources preservation plan, is an extension of the Township's Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in March 2023.

*South Whitehall Landscapes* lays out specific strategies to preserve our community character and the finite resources that make South Whitehall special. This plan highlights the importance of preserving not just the important features in our Township, but also the context that shapes them.



Thank you to the many community members, subject matter experts, and partners that helped put this plan together over the past year.

To learn more about *South Whitehall Landscapes* and read the plan [visit our website.](#)

## South Whitehall Transportation PLAN

In 2024, the Township Community Development Department started planning for a Township-wide Comprehensive Transportation Plan. This planning effort kicked off with the **first three elements of the plan: ENGAGE, ACTIVE, and SAFETY**

**ENGAGE** – meetings, surveys, and events to understand the unique challenges and opportunities for our Township transportation network.

**ACTIVE** – looks at the Township’s “active transportation network” that supports human-powered mobility (walking, biking, rolling, and access to transit).

**SAFETY** – focused on addressing specific safety needs/issues with our transportation network for both vehicular and non-vehicular use.

Throughout 2024, The Township Community Development Department and consulting team at Bowman have collected a significant amount of data and input related to the first three elements of this plan, which was used to develop priorities and implementation strategies. **To view the first few elements of the plan in detail and learn more, [Click Here](#).**

# Police:

## 2025 SWT Crime Watch Meeting Dates:

We encourage all SWT Residents to attend their neighborhood Crime Watch meetings, and have listed the 2025 Meeting Schedule below. [Click Here for more information about Crime Watch Groups and Meetings.](#)

If you would like to sign up or receive the crime report, please email Sergeant Jason Grozier at [jvg@southwhitehall.com](mailto:jvg@southwhitehall.com)

January 14  
February 11  
March 11  
April 8  
May 13

June 10  
July 8  
August 5 (National Night Out)  
September 9  
October 14  
November 11



We would like to extend our



## BATTLE OF THE BADGES:

The South Whitehall Township Police Department and the Whitehall Township Police took part in the "Battle of the Badges," a charity softball game held at Coca-Cola Park prior to the IronPigs game against the Syracuse Mets. This friendly rivalry between the departments was more than just a game; it was an opportunity to unite the community for a worthy cause.

With the support of local businesses, the event raised \$14,000, which was donated to HUGS for Pediatric Cancer Warriors at the Pediatric Cancer Foundation of the Lehigh Valley, Inc. All the net proceeds will go toward purchasing grocery and gas gift cards for families navigating the challenges of a child's cancer diagnosis and treatment.

### heartfelt thanks to:

All-Points Towing, American Bank, Atas International, Banko Beverage, Biaggio Pizzeria Restaurant, Daniels BMW, DE Cressman Insurance Agency, Dileo Oral Surgery, Dorney Park, Englebert Financial, First United Land Transfer, Gordon Pediatric Dental, Hess Windows & Doors, Hoffman & Hlavac, Ironton Auto Body, Lehigh Valley Water Systems, Lexus of the Lehigh Valley, Mercedes-Benz Porsche of the Lehigh Valley, Painting & Decorating by Shane, Paul's ACE Hardware, Robinson Plumbing, ServPro, Stew's Tire Center, The Dining Dog & Friends, Top Star Express, and all the private donors for their generous contributions.

**A special thanks also goes to the Lehigh Valley IronPigs for making this day possible!**

This is an annual event, so be sure to follow our social media pages for the announcement of the 2025 date when the Whitehall Township Police will have another shot at the title!



## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Thank you to everyone who came out to the National Night Out on September 24<sup>th</sup> at Covered Bridge Park. It was a great night!

Next year, National Night Out will be on Tuesday, August 5, 2025. See you there!



## SWT's No Shave November Campaign:

















It's that time of year again—No-Shave September, October, November, and December! During these months, we relax our grooming standards and let our beards grow freely to raise awareness for local charities. Officers contribute with monthly donations for the privilege, and all proceeds go directly to support these causes!

## SWT PD Holiday Safety Tips!

Below are a few tips to stay safe this holiday season!

### HOLIDAY SAFETY

With Thanksgiving and Black Friday days away, here are 10 holiday shopping safety tips from the South Whitehall Township Police Department this shopping season.

1. **Park Smart:** Choose well-lit areas  and park in busy lots. Don't forget to lock  your car  and never leave any valuables inside. 
2. **Be Aware:** Be alert  to your surroundings. Keep your phone  and belongings secure, and avoid distractions while walking.
3. **Shop in Pairs:** It's always safer to shop with a buddy. Look out  for each other and ensure everyone gets back to their vehicles safely.
4. **Online Caution:** Use trusted websites for online shopping,  and be wary of deals that seem too good to be true. Check for secure payment options. 
5. **Package Protection:** If you're expecting deliveries, schedule them when you'll be home or use a secure location. Avoid leaving packages  on your doorstep.
6. **Be Cautious with Cash:** Use credit or debit cards  when possible. If you must use cash, keep it secure and avoid displaying large amounts in public. 
7. **Keep an Eye on Kids:** If you're shopping with kids, establish a meeting point in case you get separated. Teach them to find a store employee or security guard if needed.
8. **Tell a Friend:** Before heading out for a shopping excursion, inform a trusted friend or family member of your plans, including your expected return time. 
9. **Check Your Surroundings:** Before entering your vehicle, check around and inside. If something feels off, return to the store and ask for assistance. 
10. **Trust Your Instincts:** If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Report any suspicious activity to store security or law enforcement.  

Let's work together to make this holiday season safe and joyous for everyone! Call if you need us, we'll be here.

# Fire:

# South Whitehall Township is served by four Volunteer Fire Companies.

[Visit the Fire Section of our website to learn more](#) about each Fire Company, what neighborhoods they serve, and a list of current Community Events!

Click each Fire Company to visit their Websites!

[Cetronia Fire Company](#)  
[Greenawalds Fire Company](#)  
[Woodlawn Fire Department](#)  
[Tri-Clover Fire Company](#)



**ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE**  
Saturday,  
October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Rain Or Shine  
Registration at 11:30 AM  
Parade Begins at 12:30 PM



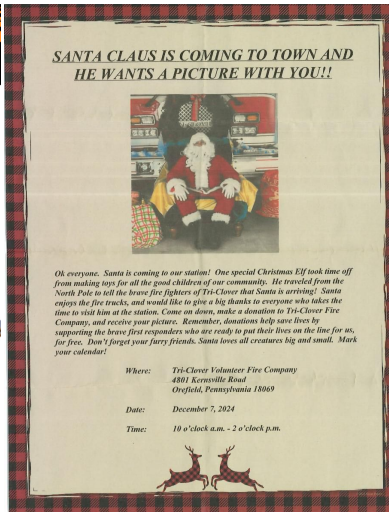
**Costume Contest**

Group 1 (Ages 0 - 5)  
Group 2 (Ages 6 - 11)  
Group 3 (Age 12 & up)  
Group 4 (Groups of 2 people or more; any age)  
Group 5 (Pets with handler; must be leashed)

located at  
**GREENAWALDS FIRE RESCUE**  
on 2500 Fochi Avenue  
Allentown, PA 18104

There Will Be a Basket Raffle for Great Prizes  
(\$5 per sheet of 25 chances/\$20 for Five sheets)  
There will also be a **BAKE SALE!!!**

\*\*Please Note that Parkland School District Does Not Sponsor or Sanction this Event.\*\*




**SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN AND HE WANTS A PICTURE WITH YOU!!**

Ok everyone. Santa is coming to our station! One special Christmas Elf took time off from making toys for all the good children of our community. He traveled from the North Pole to tell the brave fire fighters of Tri-Clover that Santa is arriving! Santa enjoys the fire trucks, and would like to give a big thanks to everyone who takes the time to visit him at the station. Come on down, make a donation to Tri-Clover Fire Company, and receive your picture. Remember, donations help save lives by supporting the brave first responders who are ready to put their lives on the line for us, for free. Don't forget your furry friends. Santa loves all creatures big and small. Mark your calendar!

Where: Tri-Clover Volunteer Fire Company  
4801 Kernville Road  
Orsfield, Pennsylvania 18069

Date: December 7, 2024

Time: 10 o'clock a.m. - 2 o'clock p.m.



**Greenawalds FIRE COMPANY**

**Annual Santa Run**

Saturday  
December 15, 2023  
12:00 PM - 9:00 PM

## Emergency Services:

### Safe Winter Driving Tips:

Avoid driving during winter storms unless it is absolutely necessary. If you must travel, here are a few driving tips to keep you safe!

- Know the current road conditions. Call 511 before travelling.
- Plan: Drive during daylight hours preferably not alone, avoid driving during the worst part of the storm, stay on main
- Clear snow and ice from windows, lights, the hood, and the roof before driving.
- Leave extra room in front of you to stop and lower your speed. Be wary of black ice and icy Bridges as they freeze first. The speed limits are for dry pavement!
- Some vehicles are heavier than others, such as trucks, making them slow to stop. Avoid cutting in front of them.
- Clear snow and ice from windows, lights, the hood, and

roads, and make sure your gas tank is full, and charge your cell phone!

- Stock Up: Stock your car with some basic Winter Driving Equipment: jumper cables, small shovel, windshield scraper/brush, flashlight with batteries, flares, extra windshield fluid and antifreeze, blankets, a couple snacks, and something for traction like sand, a towel, or salt.

the roof before driving.

- Leave extra room in front of you to stop and lower your speed. Be wary of black ice and icy Bridges as they freeze first. The speed limits are for dry pavement!
- Some vehicles are heavier than others, such as trucks, making them slow to stop. Avoid cutting in front of them.

## Community Resources:

### The Parkland Community Library:

The library hosts many different programs and events.

- See up to date [News Here](#)
- See all upcoming programs & events on their [Event Calendar](#)



### Parkland Area School District Community News:

- [Senior Programs & Events](#)
- Coming this year- "Coffee with the Superintendent!"
- Follow them on [Facebook](#) for up to date Community Information



4444 Walbert Avenue, Allentown, PA 14104 | (610) 398-0401

[www.southwhitehall.com](http://www.southwhitehall.com)





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