



WEST WINDSOR: Leaf-free bicycle lanes mandated

By Kristine Snodgrass, Staff Writer
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WEST WINDSOR — Bicyclists in the township will no longer have to dodge piles of leaves while traveling in designated lanes, under a new ordinance passed by Township Council at its meeting Monday night.

Residents are now required to keep the bike lanes in front of their homes clear of yard waste. The lanes have been obstructed throughout the township since the leaves began to fall this autumn.

Ken Carlson, president of the West Windsor Bicycle Pedestrian Alliance, gave a brief presentation before the council voted, expressing support for the ordinance. He cited other municipalities that have regulations in place, including Princeton Borough and Princeton Township.

"Bicycle lanes should be treated the same as vehicle lanes," he said.

Councilwoman Linda Geever supported the ordinance, pointing out that the township spends a considerable amount of money each year to maintain the lanes and "it's important that they're safe," she said.

Township administrator Christopher Marion said the township will inform residents about the new ordinance through fliers, the township Web site and Channel 27. "We'll be out there to help the public know where to put their yard waste," he said.

The township approved two other ordinances at the meeting.

An ordinance was passed to amend current code to require landscapers to register with the township. A decal or other labeling system will be created for the landscapers to hang in their trucks, and English and Spanish language guidelines will be distributed, Councilman Will Anklowitz said. A third ordinance was passed that limits grease discharge, requiring food production companies to be more environmentally friendly. More lax regulations had resulted in problems for the township Public Works and for the Stony Brook Regional Sewage Authority.

Also at the meeting, Councilwoman Heidi Kleinman announced that she will not run to keep her council seat in the municipal elections in May.

"My life has changed over the past four years, and I think it's time for a change," she said.

After praising Ms. Kleinman for her service, Ms. Geever confirmed that she will be running for her seat again in May.