



County of Chester
Pennsylvania

Annual Report Summary
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Prepared by the Office of the Controller
Margaret Reif, Controller



COUNTY OF CHESTER OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

313 WEST MARKET STREET, SUITE 6302, P.O. BOX 2748, WEST CHESTER, PA 19380-0991
TELEPHONE: (610) 344-6155 FAX: (610) 344-6750

MARGARET REIF
CONTROLLER



To the Residents of Chester County:

I am pleased to present to you the 19th Annual Report Summary for the Fiscal Year ended 2023. This Summary offers a condensed overview of the County of Chester's audited 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). It provides selected information about our County's revenues, spending, and demographics in a format that is both informal and easy to understand.

The Office of the Controller has created this Annual Report Summary to enhance transparency and help taxpayers gain a clearer understanding of the County's financial position and how their tax dollars are being utilized. Transparency remains our highest priority, especially as it is crucial for taxpayers to be aware of the financial pressures facing our government.

We encourage you to explore this Summary and other resources available on our website at www.chesco.org. Please also feel free to contact your elected officials to share your views on the future direction of our nation, state, and county.

Please note that this Annual Report Summary is unaudited and does not include many of the detailed disclosures, financial statements, schedules, and notes found in the County's ACFR. For a more comprehensive view of our financial information, you can access the full document on our website at <https://www.chesco.org/206/> under "Reports & Forms" and "ACFR & Annual Report Summary."

I hope you find this report informative. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me at (610) 344-6155 or via email at control-lerdept@chesco.org.

Sincerely,

Margaret Reif
Controller, County of Chester

Welcome to Chester County!

Chester County: A Historical and Geographic Overview

Historical Background: Chester County, one of Pennsylvania's original three counties, was named by William Penn in 1682. It is located in southeastern Pennsylvania, nestled in the scenic Brandywine Valley, approximately 30 miles west of Philadelphia. The county's origins trace back to the late 17th century when Welsh Quakers were granted 40,000 acres by William Penn in 1684. This area, known as the Welsh Tract, was intended to be a separate county but was divided among existing counties by the 1690s. Today, it forms parts of Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware counties. Notable Welsh names like Tredyffrin, Uwchlan, and Berwyn persist in the region.

Initially, the county seat was the City of Chester, but in 1784, it was moved to Turk's Head, renamed West Chester in 1788. It currently encompasses 73 political subdivisions, including one third-class city (Coatesville), 15 boroughs, and 57 townships.



Demographic Details: As of the 2023, the county has a population of 549,784, reflecting a 2.8% increase from the 2020 census figure of 534,515. The county is part of the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington metropolitan statistical area and includes the Philadelphia Main Line western suburbs.

The county is noted for its high median household income, ranking highest in Pennsylvania and 35th nationally. Its economy benefits from suburban development, thriving industries, agriculture, and high technology businesses along the Route 202 corridor. Chester County is also recognized for its excellent public school systems.

Geographic Features: Chester County's topography consists of rolling hills and valleys within the Piedmont region. The county's total area is 759 square miles, with 751 square miles of land and 8.7 square miles of water. Major watersheds include the Octoraro, Brandywine, and Chester creeks, as well as the Schuylkill River. The fertile soil and temperate climate have historically supported extensive agriculture, including mushroom farming and horse farms. Despite suburban expansion, agriculture remains a significant part of the county's economy, with approximately 244 square miles dedicated to preserved open space, with some of this being the most productive agricultural land in Pennsylvania.



Historical Significance: The county played a notable role during the American Revolutionary War, with battles such as Brandywine, the Clouds, and Paoli taking place within its boundaries. The area also hosted George Washington's encampment at Valley Forge.

Photo credits: Elaine Deutsch - pgs 14, 17 (Mercer Mill Road) and 18 (Cheney & Lincoln Universities). Tacie Himelright Cover, pg 18 (New Bolton Center), Chesco Health Dept pgs 15 & 16; Community Transit pg 17 (bus)

The County's Financial Position

Chester County's financial position remains very strong and is able to maintain sufficient net financial resources to protect against shortfalls. The County continues to have a diverse tax base with the top ten taxpayers representing only 2.5 percent of the total assessed values.

The County's AAA/Aaa debt ratings were reaffirmed in 2023, for the 15th consecutive year, from the three rating agencies: Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings, and Moody Investors Services, Inc. Chester County is one of a handful of counties in the United States, and the only county in Pennsylvania (as of 2023), to have AAA/Aaa bond ratings from all three major rating agencies. The AAA/Aaa rating has and will continue to result in lower debt service on County debt, saving taxpayers money.

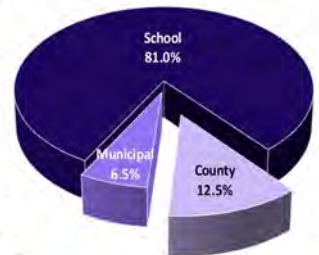
The County's fund balance policy establishes the objective to maintain an unrestricted fund balance, in the General Fund, of not less than two months of the subsequent year's budgeted expenditures. Included in the unrestricted fund balance will be a Working Capital Reserve. Ten percent of subsequent year's General Fund budgeted expenditures will be assigned as Working Capital.

In 2023, the County had \$20.1 million in the working capital reserve, which represents 10 percent of the 2024 expenditure budget. The General Fund's unassigned fund balance is \$48.6 million, and assigned fund balance is \$28.1 million totaling to \$76.7 million, which represents approximately 49.2 percent or 5.9 months of General Fund expenditures.

Because of the County's strong financial position, it is able to issue general obligation notes and bonds to help fund the County's Capital Improvement and Open Space Projects at the lowest rates of interest available to county government.

Your Real Estate Dollars

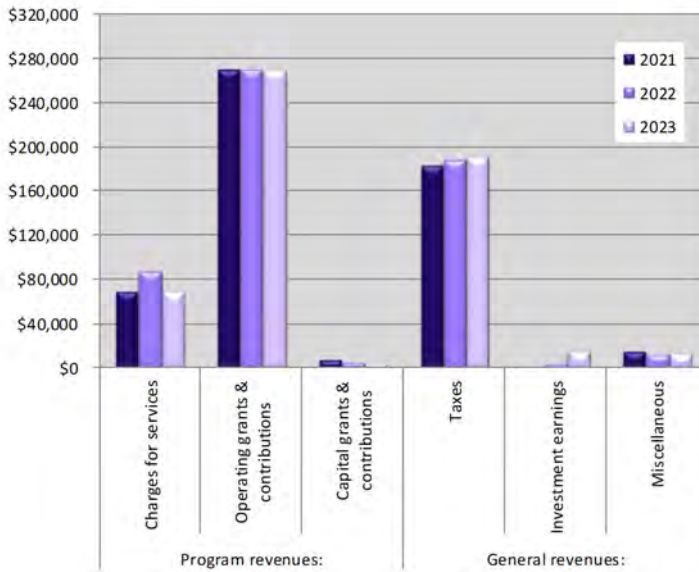
In 2023, on average, Chester County residents paid \$3,654 in taxes per \$100,000 of their home's assessed value. Of that assessment, only 12.5%, or \$457, were County taxes. The pie chart to the right illustrates how your local real estate taxes are typically used.



County real estate taxes funded 34.0% or \$189.6 million of the County's activities for 2023. 66.0% or \$368.6 million of the County's spending was funded by Commonwealth and federal grants, charges for services, and interest from investments.

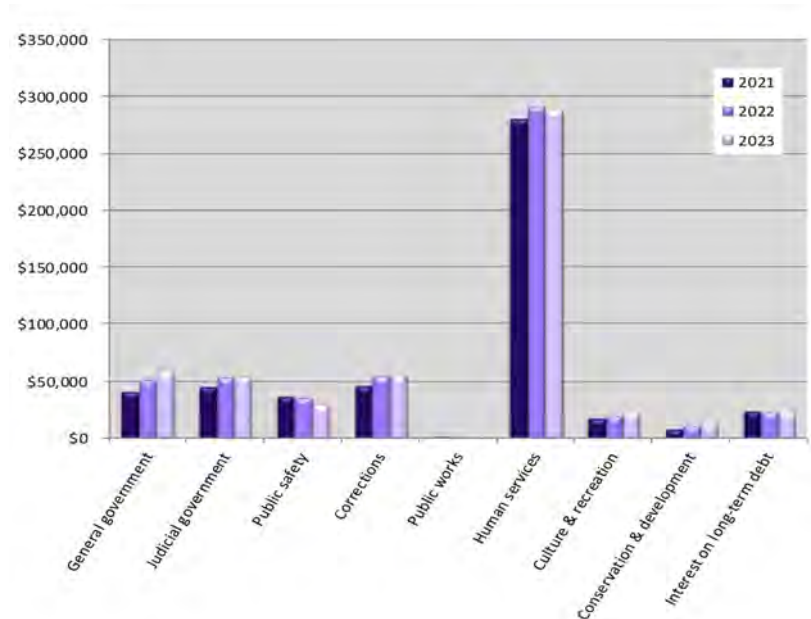
Trends of Revenue by Activity

(expressed in thousands)



Trends of Expenses by Activity

(expressed in thousands)



Financial Position

The net position figure represents the amount that the County owns versus the amount owed.

The accounting policies of the County of Chester conform to generally accepted accounting principles applicable to governments.

(expressed in the usands)	2021	2022	2023
Assets			
Cash	\$ 280,922	\$ 325,130	\$ 292,859
Investments	11,472	1,232	1,289
Accounts receivable	48,998	64,526	68,472
Capital assets	429,932	435,494	426,295
Other assets	2,310	2,340	2,426
Total assets	<u>773,634</u>	<u>828,722</u>	<u>791,340</u>
Deferred outflows of resources			
Def. outflows of resources	50,560	99,614	72,027
Total deferred outflows	<u>50,560</u>	<u>99,614</u>	<u>72,027</u>
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	50,786	44,633	53,514
Other liabilities	7,231	8,152	5,981
Long-term liabilities	725,321	866,571	786,337
Total liabilities	<u>783,338</u>	<u>919,356</u>	<u>845,833</u>
Deferred inflows of resources			
Def. inflows of resources	58,352	11,801	8,591
Total deferred inflows	<u>58,352</u>	<u>11,801</u>	<u>8,591</u>
Net Position*	<u>\$ (17,496)</u>	<u>\$ (2,821)</u>	<u>\$ 8,943</u>

* Negative net position is due to the cumulative effect of debt used to finance capital assets titled to others. Grants were provided to land conservancies for open space and to municipalities for park development and community development projects.

Financial Summary

Dollars In: Revenue includes all amounts of money received by a government from external sources during its fiscal year, net of refunds and other correcting transactions, other than issuance of debt, sale of investments, and agency or private trust transactions.

Dollars In ...*	2021	2022	2023
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 69,129	\$ 86,241	\$ 69,222
Operating grants and contributions	269,938	269,021	268,188
Capital grants and contributions	7,698	4,253	3,769
General Revenues:			
Taxes	182,523	186,918	189,690
Investment earnings	885	3,328	15,401
Miscellaneous	14,346	12,513	12,000
Total Revenues	<u>\$544,519</u>	<u>\$562,274</u>	<u>\$558,270</u>
Dollars Out ...*			
General government	\$ 42,140	\$ 52,373	\$ 58,541
Judicial government	45,963	54,751	53,983
Public safety	36,867	35,843	30,448
Corrections	46,799	55,123	56,105
Public works	2,783	2,065	2,329
Human services	280,064	290,222	287,242
Culture & recreation	18,114	20,726	22,961
Conservation & development	8,847	12,463	12,569
Interest on long-term debt	24,846	24,032	22,328
Total Expenses	<u>\$506,423</u>	<u>\$547,598</u>	<u>\$546,506</u>

*(expressed in thousands)

Dollars Out: Expenditure includes all amounts of money paid out by a government during its fiscal year - net of recoveries and other correcting transactions - other than for retirement of debt, purchase of investment securities, extension of loans, and agency or private trust transactions.

Please see our full ACFR for complete details.

<https://www.chesco.org/1689/ACFR-Annual-Report-Summary>

General Government – Services provided by the County for the benefit of the public and the governmental body as a whole, including the administrative departments such as the Office of the Controller, Commissioners, Treasurer, and Recorder of Deeds.

Judicial Government – Services provided by the County to the courts including the Court of Common Pleas and the following row offices: District Attorney, Clerk of Courts, Register of Wills/Clerk of the Orphans' Court, Prothonotary, Coroner, and Sheriff.

Public Safety – Services provided by the County for the safety and security of the public including emergency management, the 911 communications system, hazardous materials response, and emergency medical services.

Corrections – Services used to support the prison, Adult and Juvenile Probation and other correctional programs.

Public Works – Services for maintaining and rehabilitating the 95 County-owned bridges.

Human Services – Services with the purpose of promoting the general health and well being of the community as a whole, including public health, the human services funds, and the Pocopson Home, a long-term nursing facility.

Culture & Recreation – Services to provide County residents opportunities and facilities for cultural and recreational programs including libraries and parks.

Conservation & Development – Programs provided by the County to achieve a satisfactory living environment for the community as a whole including: planning, water resources, agricultural development, and soil conservation.

Working for You - Elected Officials

Board of Commissioners

Josh Maxwell



Chair
610-344-6100
joshmaxwell@chesco.org

Marian Moskowitz



Vice Chair
610-344-6100
mmoskowitz@chesco.org

Eric M. Roe



610-344-6100
eroe@chesco.org

Row Officers



Yolanda Van de Krol
Clerk of Courts

610-344-6135
ccclerk@chesco.org

The Office of the Clerk of Courts manages all paperwork for all criminal cases in the Chester County Court of Common Pleas. The Clerk's office also assesses fines, costs and restitution and collects the fees in conjunction with the Adult Probation and Parole Departments. The Clerk of Courts staffs all criminal, juvenile and dependency hearings held in the Chester County Court of Common Pleas.



Margaret Reif
Controller

610-344-6155
controllerdept@chesco.org

The Office of the Controller supervises the fiscal affairs of Chester County. The Controller maintains accounting records, processes accounts payable, manages payroll and retirement disbursements, and is responsible for the internal audit function. The Controller also prepares the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.



Sophia Garcia-Jackson MS, D-ABMDI

Coroner
610-344-6165
coronerooffice@chesco.org

The Office of the Coroner is an independent agency serving the citizens by investigating the facts and circumstances concerning jurisdictional deaths which have occurred within Chester County. They determine the cause and manner of death, the identity of the decedent, and provide notification to the legal next of kin.

Working for You - Elected Officials



Christopher de Barrena-Sarobe
District Attorney

610-344-6801
dacontact@chesco.org

The District Attorney is the chief law enforcement officer for the County. The core functions of the Office of the District Attorney is to investigate, prosecute, and prevent crimes. It is the District Attorney's duty to uphold and defend the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Constitution of the United States of America.



Debbie Bookman
Prothonotary

610-344-6300

The Office of the Prothonotary acts as the chief clerk and record keeper for the civil and family divisions of the Court of Common Pleas. Work is generated from the court and through filings such as divorces, name changes, custody cases, Protection from Abuse orders, mental health hearings, medical malpractice cases, judgments & liens, as well as passport applications.



Diane O'Dwyer
Recorder of Deeds

610-344-6330
rodinfo@chesco.org

The Office of the Recorder of Deeds is an important interface between taxpayers, real estate professionals and County government, and is responsible for the public repository of real estate records, military discharges, commissions and official documents.



Michele Vaughn
Register of Wills/Clerk of the Orphans' Court

610-344-6335
rwill@chesco.org

The Office of the Register of Wills/Clerk of Orphans' Court provides estate administration, marriage licenses, adoption, and guardianship filing services to individuals and the courts. The Register of Wills has jurisdiction over the probate of wills, granting of letters and is the agent for the collection of state inheritance tax.



Kevin D. Dykes
Sheriff

610-344-6850

The Office of the Sheriff provides security services, efficient notification of civil actions, Protection from Abuse orders, gun permits, background investigation services to the public as well as Sheriff sales. It also provides transportation and custody services for adult and juvenile prisoners.



Patricia Maisano
Treasurer

610-344-6370
treasurerdept@chesco.org

The Office of the Treasurer serves to receive, record and deposit County funds resulting from payment of taxes, payment due on the sale of various state and county licenses, funds collected in the performance of public services, other state-related revenues, and payment of judgments and fines. The Treasurer's Office issues licenses for hunting, fishing, pistol permits, and dog ownership.

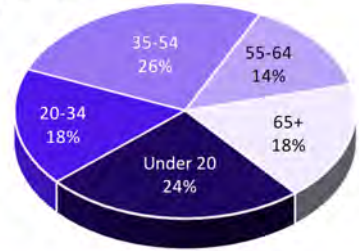
Quick Facts....

Population

Chester County's 2023 population estimate was 549,784. This is an increase of .7% from 2022 and an increase of 6.7% from ten years prior.

The median age of County residents in 2022 was 40.8 years old, was slightly lower than in 2021.

The most substantial increase again in 2022, was in the 65 and over population with a 4.8% growth.



Housing

The average Chester County household size decreased slightly to approximately 2.4 people. In 2022, 96.0% of all housing units in Chester County were occupied, of which 76.6% were owner occupied.

The median monthly rent in 2022 in the County increased to \$1,625. This is higher than the Commonwealth median of \$1,116 and the national median of \$1,300.

The average value of owner occupied housing increased to \$454,000 with 68.2% of owners have a mortgage.

Year Built	
2000 or later	53,837
1980-1999	59,999
1960-1979	49,268
1959 or earlier	49,620

Increasing from prior years, 61.7% of the housing in Chester County are single-family homes with 74.5% of all types of housing units having three or more bedrooms. The median number of rooms per dwelling stayed consistent at 7 rooms.

Chester County preserves its history with 23.3% of our homes built before 1959.

Occupied Housing	
Chester Cty	96.0%
PA	91.0%
USA	90.3%

Education

Education continues to be a priority for Chester County residents.

- There are 15 charter school and 14 public school districts in Chester County.
- Chester County is home to eight universities and colleges (see page 18).
- 52.2% of County adult residents have a Bachelor's or higher degrees, which is much higher than the national average of 33.0%.

	High School Graduate	Bachelors or Higher
Chester Cty	93.7%	52.2%
Pennsylvania	91.7%	32.7%
United States	89.5%	33.0%

Data and statistics presented in this publication is the most current available at time of printing.

Business and Transportation

A first class county demands a first class transit system. Being a world leader in the cultivated mushroom industry, a leader in agricultural, and a transportation hub for many manufacturers and distributors, Chester County's roads and transportation options are vital to attracting and retaining businesses.

Multimodal transportation networks provide options for all travel modes - vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, public transit, and freight - and are essential to maintaining communities that support public health and provide accessible transportation options for all.

Chester County's transportation system continues to evolve for the County to attract new residents, workers, and businesses and to foster strong, sustainable economic development.



Income

In 2022, 85.1% of employed County civilian residents were employed in private industry. 9.2% were governmental workers, 5.4% were self-employed, and .3% were unpaid family workers.

Increasing significantly in 2022, 66.3% of County residents drove alone to their employment. This is below the national average of 68.7% and the Pennsylvania average of 68.8%.

	Ave Income	\$75K or more
Chester Cty	\$ 117,232	70.3%
PA	\$ 71,798	48.0%
USA	\$ 74,755	49.9%

Employment and Health Insurance Coverage

In 2022, Chester County continued its low unemployment rate trend with an average rate of 3.1 percent.

Along with low unemployment comes a high number of residents that are covered by health insurance. Continuing a downward trend, in 2022 95.3% of Chester County residents had health insurance coverage, with the majority covered under private health insurance. See page 13 for information on medical, dental, and prescription discount cards.

	Insured	5 year prior
Chester Cty	95.3%	99.4%
PA	94.7%	98.8%
US	92.0%	99.1%

Did You Know?

Chester County has chosen to remain a 3rd Class county. The class helps regulate how many elected officials are needed and fees are levied. A 3rd class county has a population that is between 225,000 and 500,000 residents as of the most current census. The County population was approximately 549,784 residents in 2023.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, PA Department of Labor, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute

Guide to County Services

We encourage you to visit our website www.chesco.org for additional resources.

Agriculture Development Council	610-344-6285
Community & Economic Development	610-344-6900
Conservation District	610-925-4920
County General Operator	610-344-6000 / 1-800-682-1100
Domestic Relations	610-344-6215
Election/Voter Service	610-344-6410
Jury Service Center	610-344-6174
Parks & Recreation	610-344-6415
Veterans' Affairs	610-344-6375
Human Services	610-344-6640
Local Social Services Information	211
Aging Services	610-344-6350
Elder Abuse	800-564-7000
Pocopson Nursing Home.....	610-793-1212
Child Abuse Report Line.....	610-344-5800 / 800-932-0313
Children, Youth & Families	610-344-5800
Crime Victim Center	610-692-7420
Drug and Alcohol.....	610-344-6620
Mental Health / Intellectual & Develop. Disabilities.....	610-344-6265
Domestic Violence 24 Hour Hotline	888-711-6270
Drug/Alcohol Crisis	911
Mental Health Crisis	988
Mental Health 24 Hour Crisis Hotline	1-877-918-2100 / 610-280-3270
Rape Crisis Center	610-692-7420
Suicide Prevention Lifeline	800-273-8255
Poison Control.....	800-772-7112

Pennsylvania State Hotlines

Suspected Welfare Fraud.....	800-932-0582
Elder Abuse Unit	866-623-2137
Consumer Protection.....	800-441-2555

Call if you can,

911

Text if you can't.

511PA is Pennsylvania's official travel information service. Call (511 or 1-877-511-7366), visit www.511PA.com, or use the 511PA mobile app for reliable, current traffic and weather information, as well as links to other transportation services.



Human Services Provided

The human services provided by the County are, in large part, funded by grants received from the Commonwealth and federal government.

In 2023, human services, including the geriatric center, made up 52.6% of the County expenditures.

Department of Aging: The primary goals of the department are to develop, coordinate and support comprehensive community based services which assist persons age 60 and older to remain independent and self-sufficient in the community.

Children, Youth & Family (CYF): The mission of CYF is to utilize high-quality, comprehensive social services that strengthen the family's ability to provide for the safety and well-being of each child.

Community Development The Chester County Department of Community Development provides housing, neighborhood improvement, and social services to citizens so that they have the opportunity to successfully live in a safe, stable, and desirable community.

Community Transit Chesco Connect's specializes in door-to-door shared ride transportation for residents of Chester County. Chesco Connect's services are available to all Chester County residents.

Drug & Alcohol: Drug & Alcohol provides effective, high quality alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention, intervention, and treatment services for the citizens of Chester County in order to prevent the onset of substance abuse and addiction wherever possible and, where it does exist, to mitigate its effects on individuals, families, and communities.

Geriatric Center: Pocopson Home is Chester County's short and long term healthcare facility. The Home offers both short and long term medical and nursing services, placing emphasis on rehabilitation for the purpose of returning residents to their homes and community environment.

Health Department: The Chester County Health Department provides personal and environmental health services to residents and visitors so that they may grow, live and work in healthy and safe communities.

Human Services: Department of Human Services protects vulnerable children and adults, promoting independence and well-being for the visitors and citizens of Chester County so that they may lead stable, safe, and fulfilling lives.

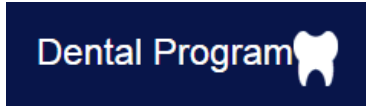
Managed Behavioral Health Care (MBHC): MBHC provides services to all eligible County residents in a coordinated and collaborative manner. To best meet our residents' needs, the department ensures that decisions are made on a sound planning basis, measures are put in place to maintain high quality services, and the statutes and regulations are followed consistently by and between the different services comprising the human services system.

Mental Health/Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (MH/IDD): Every Chester County citizen experiencing mental illness or developmental disabilities may access services and natural supports that foster recovery and integration into a greater community where they are valued and enjoy fulfilling lives.

Workforce Development: This department is responsible for the strategic planning and promotion of an effective workforce development system in Chester County, that responds to the regional labor market needs and produces workers better equipped to compete in the global economy.



The NACo *Health Discount Card* helps individuals and families gain access to medical discounts from local providers. Residents can get more information or same day savings on medical discounts once they enroll at <https://www.nacohealth.org> or by calling Member Services toll-free at 1-877-573-2395.



The *Dental Discount Card* Program helps county residents in need of dental services who may be uninsured or underinsured. The program offers immediate access to dental providers with no waiting periods or forms to fill out. Residents may save on average between 15%-50% on most dental procedures from a national network of more than 114,000 general dentists and specialists. For more information, or to enroll, call 1-877-573-2395.



The Chester County *Prescription Drug Discount Card* can be used by Chester County residents to help cope with the high price of prescription drugs for themselves and their pets. This program offers average savings of 22% off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs. There is no cost to Chester County taxpayers for this program. For more information visit <https://www.caremark.com> or call toll free 1-877-321-2652.

For more information please go to <https://www.chesco.org/1822/Prescription-Discount-Program> or <http://www.nacorx.org/r>

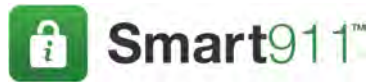
Peer Support and Teen Talk Lines

Our Peer Support & Teen Talk Lines provide live call lines, called warm lines, where teens and adults can speak or text anonymously with a peer about any issues or problems without fear of judgement. Sometimes you may feel isolated or feel like you have no one to talk to. Peer Support & Teen Talk Lines are manned by a team of dedicated certified peer specialists and teen volunteers.

This means that the adults and teens answering the phones have lived experience and can provide an empathetic, listening ear to any issue you may be facing. You don't have to face things alone. You can talk to someone who understands anonymously.

For more information please go to <https://www.accessservices.org/> or call 855-852-8336 or text 484-362-9515 (teens), call 855-715-8255 or Text 267-225-7785 (adults)





Over 80% of calls made to 9-1-1 come from mobile phones, giving dispatchers very little information about you other than a phone number and general information regarding your location.



With the mobile app - Smart911 - you can provide first responders the critical information you want them to know in any kind of emergency, including your addresses, medical information, home information, description of pets and vehicles, and emergency contacts. You can provide as much or as little information as you like.

Smart911 is a national service so your profile is visible to any participating 9-1-1 center nationwide.

You can also choose to sign up for notifications regarding weather, traffic and other emergencies including gas leaks, missing persons or other incidents that may impact your safety.

With Smart911, at-risk individuals can sign up and share their needs requirements with emergency managers, helping them to better prepare for and identify residents in need of assistance during a disaster.

Thousands of communities across the country rely on Smart911 to better protect at-risk residents. Don't get left behind and sign up for Smart911's access and functional needs registry.

Sign up today at <https://www.smart911.com/>



Fighting the Opioid and Heroin Epidemic

The Chester County Commissioners, District Attorney, the Department of Drug & Alcohol Services, and the Health Department hosts its annual Color 5K

In 2023, a check for \$110,000 was presented to the Department of Drug & Alcohol Services to fund the Community Outreach & Prevention Education (COPE) program, which provides 24/7 support to overdose survivors seen at County hospital emergency rooms. Chester County's creation of the COPE program has proved to be a big step forward in the effort to try and steer those who have overdosed into a treatment setting, which ultimately can lead to recovery. Through the COPE program, overdose survivors who are being treated in emergency rooms at any hospital in Chester County can meet with a certified recovery specialist within an hour of entering the ER. The peer specialist engages with the overdose survivor and provides personal support and a direct connection to treatment and recovery services.



For more information on the annual Color 5K Run, please visit our website at <https://chesco.org/color5k>. Please see that previous link for any changes to the 2024 run.

Chester County Health Department...

Chester County Health Department is committed to providing public health leadership, and personal and environmental health services to residents and visitors so they may grow, live and work in healthy and safe communities. Below are just some of the services offered. Please see our website at <https://www.chesco.org/224/Health> for more information.

Chester County Board of Health

The Chester County Board of Health is comprised of a minimum of five resident citizens. The purpose of the Chester County Board of Health is to provide scientific, technical and administrative input in support of the Chester County Health Department's mission to provide public health leadership personal and environmental health services to residents and visitors so that they may grow in healthy and safe communities; and to ensure the Department is using public health best practices, and quality improvement strategies. The public is welcome at our monthly meetings.



Chronic Diseases

Chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease (CVD), stroke, cancer, and diabetes are among the most prevalent, costly, and preventable of all health problems in the United States, and here in Chester County as well. Chronic disease management programs are workshops and support systems that focus on disease management skills to increase an individual's confidence, well-being, knowledge of the disease, decision making, and planning for their disease, all to improve their quality of life and overall wellbeing.



Clinic Services

Chester County Health Department Clinics offer many services including: Childhood and Adult Immunizations, Flu Vaccine Clinic. Maternal/Child Health. Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Tuberculosis. WIC (Women, Infants & Children). For more information on clinic services, call 610-344-6252.

Disease Information

An important role of public health is the surveillance and investigation of diseases. Diseases can be non-infections or infectious. Infectious diseases are very important to monitor and intervene, so infections do not spread and impact our communities. In Pennsylvania, including Chester County, there are a number of infectious diseases (and conditions) that are required to be reported. To report a suspected or confirmed case, complete the appropriate disease report form or report by phone by calling 610-344-6452 during regular business hours (8:30am-4:30pm Monday-Friday). Forms may also be printed and faxed to 610-344-5405.



Food Protection

The Chester County Health Department is responsible for licensing and inspecting all public food facilities such as restaurants, supermarkets, school cafeterias and other retail operations. In addition, annual inspections are made of nursing homes, daycares, schools, camps, campgrounds, mobile home parks and swimming pools to ensure facilities are compliant with state and county regulations.

The Health Department also conducts investigations of food and institution-based illness, environmental

...creating healthy and safe communities.

complaints and vector control issues such as rodent infestations and West Nile Virus concerns.

Maternal & Child Health

The Chester County Health Department promotes the good health of mothers, infants and children through many services, including vaccine clinics and blood lead testing for eligible children at the Health Department and nurse home visiting services in the community. See below for more information about these services or call 610-344-6252.



Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Studies show pregnant women who participate in WIC have fewer premature births, fewer low birth-weight babies; experience fewer fetal and infant deaths; seek prenatal care earlier in pregnancy and consume more key nutrients like iron, protein, calcium, and Vitamins A and C. WIC helps ensure infants' and children's normal growth, reduces levels of anemia, increases immunization rates, improves access to regular health care/social services and improves diets.

Sewage & Water

The Chester County Health Department is responsible for issuing permits for the installation of individual and small community on-lot sewage disposal systems, and well construction. Wells permitted include private water supply wells, geothermal wells and boreholes, and monitoring wells used at sites of known or suspected groundwater contamination. The Health Department is also responsible for the enforcement of Pennsylvania Act 537 Regulations whenever there is a violation related to on-lot sewage disposal systems. For more information, please call 610-344-6688, 610-344-6526, or email alongacre@chesco.org.

Chesco Moves with MoveSpring

Check out our new resource for tracking all types of movement from walking, rolling, even doing yard work! Chesco Moves with MoveSpring is a digital movement resource available at no cost to



anyone who lives, works or learns in Chester County. The goal of this resource is to motivate everyone to move more, increase movement opportunities, set movement goals and have fun along the way.

Contacts and Links

<https://www.chesco.org/224/Health>

Hours 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Phone: 610-344-6225

Fax: 610-344-6727

email: CCHD@chesco.org

Clinic services, call 610-344-6252.

Please call for an appointment

After Hours: 9-1-1 (Emergencies only)

<https://www.chesco.org/2145/Office-Locations>

Please call the nearest WIC clinic to schedule an appointment:

Coatesville	610-455-1340
Oxford	610-455-1345
Phoenixville	610-344-6240
Spring City	610-344-6240
Toughkenamon	610-455-1345
West Chester	610-344-6240

Chester County is...

Chesco Connect

Chesco Connect is Chester County's community transit program, specializing in door-to-door shared ride transportation for residents of Chester County.

Chesco Connect's services are available to all Chester County residents, but some riders can travel at a reduced rate. Trips must be reserved at least one business day in advance before 1:00 P.M. and can be provided to medical appointments, work, grocery stores, pharmacies, senior centers, recreation areas, a friend's house, and any other destination in Chester County. Chesco Connect operates Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Service is available anywhere in Chester County for any trip purpose. Life sustaining trips for dialysis are offered on Saturdays and during extended hours on weekdays. Please see our website at <https://www.chesco.org/5325/Community-Transit> for out of Chester County availability.



Any resident of Chester County can ride with Chesco Connect. Adults age 65 and older, persons with disabilities and medical assistance recipients can ride at a reduced rate. To find out if you qualify for any of the discounted programs above, please visit PennDOT's [Find My Ride](#) website or call 610-344-5545 and ask questions!

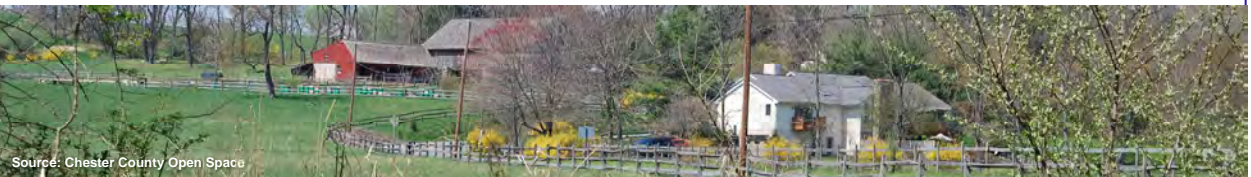
Our office hours for reservations are Monday to Friday, 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please call us at 610-344-5545 to book your ride.

Open Space Preservation

Chester County's Open Space Preservation Program, administered by the Department of Parks + Preservation, uses funds allocated by the Commissioners to help keep farmers on the land, to provide safe and accessible places for children and families to play, and to protect the woods and wildlife that make Chester County special.

In 2023, Chester County preserved approximately 575 acres in partnership with non-profit land trusts and municipalities, preserved 425 acres of open space and completed several park and trail improvement projects. The County's funding programs enabled the achievement of a significant milestone - approximately 31 percent of Chester County's land is now permanently preserved, totaling approximately 149,000 acres.

The amount of land permanently preserved throughout Chester County adds an invaluable resource to our citizens and our community.



Source: Chester County Open Space

Higher Education

Chester County has a long history with education dating back to 1837 and is currently home to 8 colleges and universities.



- Cheyney University
 - Established February 1837
 - Approximately 706 Students
 - The oldest African-American institution of higher learning in the US.
- Delaware County Community College
 - Established March 1, 1967
 - Approximately 9,989 Students
 - 4 of 7 Campuses in Chester County - Downingtown, Exton, Phoenixville, West Grove
- Immaculata University
 - Established 1920
 - Approximately 2,500 Students
 - It was the first Catholic college for women in the Philadelphia area
- Lincoln University
 - Established April 29, 1854
 - Approximately 1,824 Students
 - Founded as a school for the education of African Americans.
- Penn State Great Valley Campus
 - Established 1963
 - Approximately 2,950 Students
 - The first permanent college campus in the United States located within a corporate business park.



...a Great Place to be.

- University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine's New Bolton Center
 - Established 1964 (Penn Vet 1884)
 - Approximately 6,200 patients per year
 - World-renowned for its large animal hospital and research centers.
- University of Valley Forge
 - Established 1939
 - Approximately 1,166 Students
 - Formerly Valley Forge Christian College began as a summer Bible School
- West Chester University
 - Established 1871
 - Approximately 17,614 Students
 - Frederick Douglass gave his very last public lecture at WCU



Top 10 Chester County Employers

Vanguard Group	20,000
Chester County Hospital.....	3,500
County of Chester.....	2,854
Main Line Health System.....	2,800
QVC, Inc.	2,400
Giant Food Stores, LLC	2,400
PA System of Higher Education.....	2,344
Downingtown Area School District.....	1,800
West Chester Area School District.....	1,470
Chester County Intermediate Unit.....	1,163

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Know Your Numbers

Chester County continues to earn national awards for both its financial reporting and budgeting: 42 years for the Controller prepared audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and 33 years for the Finance prepared, Commissioner approved, Annual Budget. Please visit the County's website at <https://chesco.org/> to view or download these documents.

Waste, Fraud, & Abuse Hotline

Report waste, fraud, and mismanagement of our county tax dollars



610-344-5912

ControllerInfo@chesco.org

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REPORT:

- ✓ Suspected theft or misuse of County property or cash
- ✓ False reporting of hours worked
- ✓ Submission of illegitimate vendor invoices
- ✓ Falsification or misrepresentation of expense reimbursements
- ✓ Mismanagement of tax dollars
- ✓ Spending in excess of what is reasonable and necessary
- ✓ Violations of the County's purchasing policy
- ✓ Other suspected fraud or abuse
- ✓ Fraudulent reporting of medical, disability or workers' compensation claims

YOU CAN HELP SAVE MONEY TOO!

We would love to hear **your ideas** to improve efficiency and **save the County money!**



-
- Fraud investigations are opened **within 24 hours** of receiving fraud tips.
 - Status reports can be provided regarding your tip. Just provide your full name with your submission.
 - You can submit fraud tips **anonymously** either by voice mail, e-mail or regular mail.
 - If you choose to remain anonymous, be assured that your complaint will receive the **same attention** as all tips we receive.
 - As we have no way of tracing the source of anonymous tips, status reports can't be provided on tips submitted anonymously.
 - Fraud & Abuse Hotline extends only to Chester County government resources and activities.
 - Any type of fraudulent activity involving private business or governmental agencies not related to Chester County should be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.



Include as much detailed information as possible in your tip.
Vague allegations may not be able to be substantiated.

FRAUD & ABUSE HOTLINE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Contact us via E-mail:

ControllerInfo@chesco.org
or [http://chesco.org/FormCenter/
Controller-13/Waste-Fraud--Abuse-
Form-65](http://chesco.org/FormCenter/Controller-13/Waste-Fraud--Abuse-Form-65) for our online form.



Mail your tip to:

Fraud Hotline
Office of the Controller
313 West Market Street, Suite 6302
PO Box 2748
West Chester, PA 19380-0091



Telephone:

610-344-5912

Please leave a detailed message.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!