



# UPPER UWCHLAN TOWNSHIP

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## ADMINISTRATION

Date: July 21, 2017  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### TRAFFIC VOLUME AND SAFETY CONCERNS AT MARSH CREEK STATE PARK

CHESTER SPRINGS, PA – Summer 2017 has been a busy one for Marsh Creek State Park (MCSP), a 1,727-acre park primarily located here in Upper Uwchlan Township. Over the past several years, the park has seen an enormous increase in annual visitation. This has resulted in increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic, particularly along Park Road. When MCSP reaches capacity, the main gate at the end of Park Road is closed, and traffic is diverted from the area at the intersection of Park Road and Moore Road.

Police Department personnel and other Township officials have been working with officials from MCSP and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to address the safety concerns that come along with this increase in vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

#### **Traffic restrictions and increased communication**

The Upper Uwchlan Police Department has posted information on their Facebook page outlining the changes that will be made to alleviate the hazards along Park Road. New and revised traffic restrictions for both vehicular and pedestrian park-goers will be put in place during Park closure events. When the Park is at capacity, dynamic messaging signage on Park Road, at critical regional points along state highways, and along the Pennsylvania Turnpike will alert motorists to the closure and advise that they avoid the area. Read the full statement from the Upper Uwchlan Police Department [here](#).

#### **What if I live along Park Road?**

Local (non-Park-going) traffic, i.e. residents of the neighborhoods along Park Road and their guests, will continue to be permitted to proceed down Park Road. Read more in the [statement](#) from the Upper Uwchlan Police Department.

#### **If MCSP is at capacity, where can I go instead?**

Southeastern Pennsylvania is home to a number of lovely state and local parks. The nearest state park to MCSP is French Creek, a park with amenities very similar to those found at Marsh Creek. You can find this and other state parks on a map or by name on the DCNR website: [www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks). Find a park while you're on the go by downloading the DCNR's Pennsylvania State Parks and Forests [mobile app](#). Or, search a database of state and local parks at [goodforpa.com/explore](http://goodforpa.com/explore).

#### **Why is the park so crowded? And why is that a problem?**

In addition to the large increase in annual visitation, changes to Marsh Creek State Park's parking procedures may influence the frequency of Park closures. In past years, visitors parked their cars

on grassy areas near the entrance of the Park. The Pennsylvania DCNR has found that cars parked in this unofficial overflow area have had an adverse impact on the Marsh Creek Lake, particularly because of soil compaction and runoff. Water quality has suffered as a result. Therefore, parking in this area is no longer permitted. Overcrowding also has a negative effect on the Park. Resources – from sewage facilities to safety procedures – are designed to handle a certain number of visitors. When these are stretched, no one can enjoy the Park to its fullest.

Upper Uwchlan Township is a Township of the Second class, population 11,500, located in central Chester County, PA. Visit us on the web at [www.upperuwchlan-pa.gov](http://www.upperuwchlan-pa.gov). Like us on Facebook and Twitter @upperuwchlan.

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