

AVONDALE BOROUGH

SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2017

TRASH AND RECYCLING

As you are aware, the Borough has a new trash and recycling hauler. Please call the Borough office if you did not get a new trash or recycling container; or if Republic Services did not pick up your old container. Trash and recycling are still being picked up on Tuesdays. All trash containers must be placed at the curb for pick-up no later than 6:00 a.m. and removed with 24 hours.

BULK PICK UP

One bulk item will be picked up on the last Tuesday of each month. Following are some samples of bulk items:
one piece of furniture (sofa, chair) mattress and box spring are considered one item washer, dryer, or stove

RECYCLING MATERIALS ACCEPTED

- ◇ Newspapers: The entire newspaper including inserts.
- ◇ Aluminum, steel, and bimetal cans: Food and beverage cans only
- ◇ Glass: Bottles & jars. Food and beverage only
- ◇ Plastic: Food and beverage containers marked #1 thru #7
- ◇ Plastic: Detergent and soap containers marked #1 thru #7
Please rinse all containers listed above
- ◇ Paper: Magazines, junk mail, cardboard, phone books & paperboard (cereal & clean pizza boxes).
- ◇ Cartons: milk juice, etc.

NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE PICKED UP!

THE ITEMS BELOW ARE RECYCLED ONLY AT THE **SECCRA COMMUNITY LANDFILL** DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS

Monday—Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

- ◆ Auto Tires \$3.00 each
- ◆ Truck Tires (no rims) \$10.00 each
- ◆ Tractor Tires (no rims or earth mover tires) \$25.00
- ◆ Refrigerant appliances (SECCRA removes refrigerant) \$12.00
- ◆ Other appliances \$5.00
- ◆ Unchipped brush and limbs \$45.00 per ton
- ◆ Automobile Batteries Free
- ◆ Cell phones - Free through “Cell Phones for Soldiers”
- ◆ All other electronics Free
- ◆ Motor Oil Free
- ◆ Antifreeze Free



WHEN DO YOU NEED A BUILDING PERMIT?

The Borough has adopted under the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction the 2009 International Construction Codes and amended sections of the 2015 International Construction Codes.

All non residential alterations, repairs, replacement, relocation and new construction are required to make application for a permit.

Building permits are required to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish, or change the occupancy classification of a building or erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace an electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system.

Detached carports, Detached Private Garages, Greenhouses, and Sheds which are under 1000 square feet and are an accessory to a detached single family dwelling requires *a zoning permit*.

Ordinary repairs to structures are exempt and do not require a building permit (*however they are required to meet the Code*).

EXEMPT

- Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops and similar finishing work.
- One story tool or storage sheds, and similar uses provided it is less than 1000 square feet. (electrical when installed requires an electrical permit. A zoning permit is required).
- Prefabricated pools with less than 24 inches of water. Storable pools require a permit when more than 24 inches of water.
- Swings and playhouses.
- Window awnings projecting less than 54 inches off exterior wall without additional support.
- Replacement of existing roof material not exceeding 25% of the total roof area performed within any 12 month period.
- Replacement of existing siding.
- Replacement of windows that do not increase in size.
- Replacement of rain water gutters and downspouts.
- Minor electrical repair and maintenance such as receptacles, switches, and lighting fixtures remaining in the same location.
- Replacement of faucets, vanities, lavatories, sinks, water closets and other plumbing fixtures remaining in the same location. (*when plumbing lines are being changed a plumbing permit is required*).

Permits required for the following:

- The cutting away of any wall, removal of structural or load bearing supports.
- The removal or changing of the main means of egress (ex; front door).
- The addition, alteration, replacement of any plumbing lines such as, standpipes, water supply lines, sewer, drainage waste lines, gas, or similar piping.
- Electrical wiring that is relocated, replaced, or altered.
- Stand by generators permanently installed.
- Mechanical systems that are replaced, relocated or altered.

***A special note: Permit Fees were lowered in January 2017**



STREET LIGHTS** STREET SIGNS**

Please call the Borough Office if you see a street light out or if you see a street sign missing, down or in need of repair.


**Community and
Emergency Information**

Tune Your Radio To
1670 AM

Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management

**RENT OR LEASE ANY UNITS IN YOUR DWELLING?**

If you rent or lease any units in your dwelling, a yearly inspection is required. You need to get an inspection every year or if you change a tenant during that year. It is up to the homeowner to call the Borough Office for your yearly inspection.

SELLING YOUR HOME ?

If you are selling your home, you will need an inspection to acquire an occupancy permit. This is required before you can go to settlement.

**COOKING OILS, FATS & GREASE**

- Do not pour oil, grease, or fats down the drain
- Soak up the grease after frying with paper towels and put in the trash
- Pour larger amounts of used cooking grease into a container with a lid. Refrigerate to harden and then place in the trash.
- Minimize the use of your garbage disposal. Put food scraps into the garbage.
- Never pour motor oils down the drain! It is illegal.

TELEMARKETING FRAUD

Never give personal information to someone on the phone such as social security number, credit card number, account numbers, date of birth, etc., unless you initiated the call and have confidence in the person or agency receiving the call.

- **If telemarketer calls and asks for personal information an appropriate response may be:** "I don't give out personal information over the phone. I'll contact the company directly and provide them with the necessary information. Then hang up.
- **If a caller tells you he or she wants to give you something for free, then you shouldn't have to pay to receive it. Often, the caller will tell you that you need to pay a handling charge or pay taxes on the prize, an appropriate response may be:** "I shouldn't have to send money for something that's free." Then hang up.

So-called limited time offers should not require an immediate decision right then and there. A caller from a legitimate business will not rush you, so if you are considering dealing with someone who has contacted you over the phone, sleep on it for a day or two. While thinking it over, you may find a better offer or decide you don't need or can't afford whatever is being offered. **An appropriate response may be** "I'd like some time to think about this. Tell me how I can get in touch with you. If I'm interested, I'll call you back." or "If you can't mail me the information, then I can't talk to you." Then hang up.



REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTIONS

The office hours to pay Borough real estate taxes in person are:

Thursday, May 18th
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



At the: Avondale Borough Hall
110 Pomeroy Avenue

If you can't make this date, please use the mail for your payments.
Thank You

Sherry Seace
Avondale Borough Tax Collector

YARD WASTE COLLECTION**AVONDALE BOROUGH COMPOSTING FACILITY**

In order to eliminate the plastic bag waste at the Composting Facility, the Borough is requiring you to use paper yard waste bags.

BAGS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE BOROUGH OFFICE

\$5.00 for a pack of 15 *MONDAY PICK-UP* *Please have your bags out by 7:00 a.m.*

BAGS ARE FOR YARD WASTE, LEAVES AND TWIGS SMALLER THAN 1/4" IN DIAMETER
30 LB WEIGHT LIMIT

Tree limbs must be tied and bundled. No more than 4 feet in length.

COMPOSTING WILL NOT BE PICKED UP IN ANY OTHER TYPE BAG
NO EXCEPTIONS!

The Composting Facility is for the use of Borough Residents only. No Contractors



When dropping off at the facility, there is no need to bag your composting. All loads must be covered with a tarp. Call the Borough Office for drop off.

WORK SESSIONS

Work Sessions are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Please come to this meeting if you have a question or a concern about water or sewer.

WATER & SEWER EMERGENCY

If you have a water or sewer emergency after office hours: Please call:

484-643-0024

Someone is on call 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Borough of Avondale

Established 1894

Mayor - Dottie Howell

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bill Shore - President

Steve Cummings - Vice President

Dave Besselman

Abby Pyle

Wilson Lysle

Borough Office

110 Pomeroy Avenue
P.O. Box 247
Avondale, PA 19311

Phone: 610-268-8501

Fax: 610-268-8205

Secretary: Becky Brownback

Treasurer: Sandy Masten

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR

Rick Davis

website: www.avondaleboro.net

E-mail: secretary_avondale-boro@comcast.net

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. If you have anything you would like to discuss at a meeting. Please call the Borough Office by the Friday before the meeting to be placed on the agenda.

*Due to Election Day on May 16, 2017, the Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23rd.



WHAT IS SMART911?

Did you know Smart911 is a free service available to keep you and your family safer? Provided by Chester County Department of Emergency Services, Smart911 lets you create a private and secure safety profile for your family, including any information you want 9-1-1 to have during an emergency. You can include details such as a list of family members, photos, medical notes, pets, and emergency contacts. In an emergency seconds can save lives. Take a few seconds now to plan ahead at www.smart911.com

Have you heard of Smart911.com? It's a free service provided by Chester County Department of Emergency Services to help you plan ahead for emergencies. If you ever need to call 9-1-1 for a medical emergency, house fire, car accident or other incident, Smart911 will provide 9-1-1 with the information you have entered to provide you with help faster. Plan ahead, with Smart911.com.

What if there's a fire, a medical emergency, or a child goes missing? When you dial 9-1-1 under stress, you may not have access to important details, or you may have trouble remembering them. Smart911 is a new service in Chester County that allows you to create a Safety Profile at www.smart911.com that includes details you want the 9-1-1 center and public safety response teams to know about your household in an emergency. When you dial 9-1-1, from a phone associated with your Safety Profile, that information automatically displays to the 9-1-1 call taker, allowing them to send responders based on up-to-date location and emergency information. With your Safety Profile, responders can arrive aware of many details they would not otherwise know. Fire crews can arrive knowing exactly how many people live in your home and where the bedrooms are located. EMS personnel can know family members' allergies or specific medical conditions. And police can access a photo of a missing family member in seconds rather than minutes or hours, helping the search start faster. **SIGN UP TODAY AT: SMART911.COM**

Here are some helpful tips to keep you and your home safe from the threat of fire:

INSIDE THE HOME

- Change batteries in smoke alarms, flashlights and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Check your fire extinguishers .
- Check for overloaded or damaged extension cords.
- Clean your garage of stored newspapers or other rubbish that can fuel a fire.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly.
- To help prevent nuisance alarms, gently vacuum your smoke alarm every six months or as needed.
- Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Practice exit drills with your family so everyone knows what to do in the event of an emergency.



OUTSIDE & AROUND THE YARD

- Make sure your address numbers are up and visible from the street.
- Keep outdoor debris or dead vegetation away from the house.
- If you store gasoline, keep it outside your home in a shed or detached garage. Keep only small quantities in tightly sealed containers. Use gasoline only as a motor fuel - never as a cleaning agent.
- Get your barbecue grill cleaned and serviced.
- Use outdoor barbecue grills with caution. Place in a safe area away from building, windows, heating, ventilation and air conditioning units or places with high/dead vegetation
- Never use gasoline to start the grill fire, and don't add charcoal lighter fluid once the fire has started.
- Use barbecue grills outside only - never under overhangs or balconies, and away from combustibles. Check your propane barbecue grill hose for leaks and cracks; never store propane indoors.
- **There is no open burning in the Borough of Avondale!**

**AVONDALE BOROUGH
P.O. BOX 247
AVONDALE, PA 19311**



SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER



SWIMMING POOLS

Summer is just around the corner and if you are going to fill a swimming pool that is greater than 1,000 gallons, you can get relief from sewer charges.

You need to notify the Borough not less than 5 business days in advance of filling your pool. You will be given a special water meter that will attach to your hose to measure the water usage. After you have filled your pool you will need to return the meter and the water usage will be calculated and deducted from sewer portion of your bill which will affect the next quarter.

You need a permit for any pool over 2 feet deep.

Call the Borough Office at 610-268-8501 if you have any questions.



HIGH GRASS - ORDINANCE #244

Grass, weeds or any vegetation not edible or planted for ornamental purposes exceeding six (6) inches is prohibited in the Borough. In the case any person shall neglect, fail or refuse to comply with the ordinance, Borough Officials has the authority to cut the lawn at the cost to the owner with additional penalties.

CURFEW

Under Ordinance #115, it is unlawful for anyone under the age of 18 years old to remain in or upon any public or private establishment in the Borough of Avondale between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless accompanied by a parent or guardian



- **What does it take to be a volunteer?**

Not as much as one may think. Help is needed in all areas of emergency services and no experience is necessary. All the costs associated with training are covered by the emergency response agency. It does take time to learn, train, and maintain the skills necessary to assist in emergency situations. All we need is your dedication.

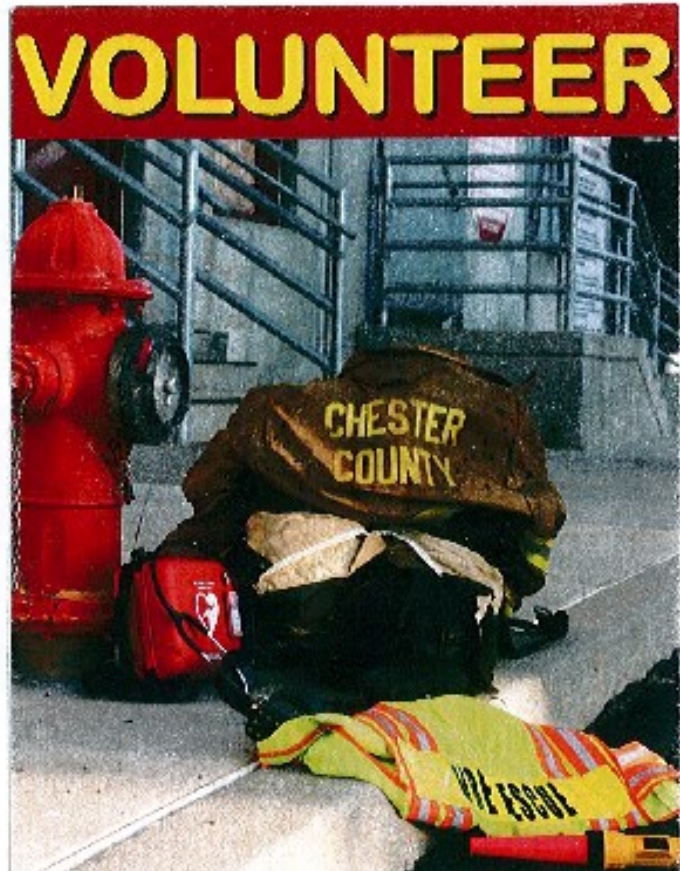
- **Who can become a member?**

Anyone. Most agencies are responsible for their own fundraising, recordkeeping, and the other normal business operations of a company. All of these tasks are performed by the volunteer members.

If you have a desire to help your community, your neighbors, and possibly your own family, than let us help you become a first responder.

Visit -

HELPFIGHTFIRE.COM



Property Maintenance Code Ordinance #244

It's that time of the year when the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer looks for property maintenance issues. Here are a few items he will be looking for when making his weekly inspections:

1. Weeds or grass that are not cut in excess of 6 inches in height.
2. Furniture not designed for outdoor use.
3. Vehicles that are: unlicensed, wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power. Vehicles are only allowed on approved off street parking and street parking. **NO PARKING ON LAWNS!!!!**
4. Accumulation of trash, equipment, infestation, unsafe structures

2016 CHESTER COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 22, 2016 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m Octorara High School Campus 226 Highland Road, Atglen, PA 19310

No Electronics, TV's or appliances will be accepted No items containing Freon will be accepted.

No more than 220 pounds or 25 gallons of Hazardous Products per household will be accepted. Hazardous cleaning and maintenance products will have the following cautionary words on the label: poisonous, caustic, toxic, flammable, ignitable, corrosive, reactive, caution, warning, danger, hazardous. Many items such as fertilizer or cleaning products, should just be used as they were designed to be used.

The following items will not be accepted: latex paint, used motor oil, tires, asbestos, explosives, propane, Helium gas cylinders, household

alkaline batteries, PCB's, medical waste, unidentified waste, commercial and industrial waste, ammunition, computers, TVs, electrical appliances and appliances containing Freon.

Latex Paint is not Hazardous Waste: Residents should not bring latex paint to Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events. Solidify latex paint by either air drying small quantities or pouring the paint into a plastic trash bag with sawdust, clay based kitty litter or rags and placing the bag and the opened can in the trash after the paint has solidified.

Oil based paint only should be brought to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event.

STORMWATER IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Stormwater picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, manure and other pollutants as it flows over surfaces such as driveways, road and lawns. Without proper stormwater management, this polluted runoff flows untreated into our streams, rivers and wetlands.



We all need to work together to prevent stormwater pollution

Polluted stormwater runoff

Is the greatest threat to clean water!!!

Our streams and rivers supply

- ♦ **Water for drinking**
- ♦ **Water for fishing**
- ♦ **Water for swimming**
- ♦ **Water for canoeing and boating**
- ♦ **Water for wildlife**

SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP TO SLOW THE FLOW AND REDUCE STORMWATER POLLUTION

GRASS CYCLE

No need to chemically fertilize your lawn when you allow grass clippings to remain on the ground and compost naturally. Bonus - No raking required!

KEEP LITTER OFF THE DRIVEWAY, STREET AND SIDEWALK

Trash in creeks and rivers get there from someone throwing it on the ground. Rain carries it to the storm drains and waterways.

CLEAN STREETS = CLEAN STREAMS

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET

Pet waste is not a good natural fertilizer but it is a great source of bacterial pollution when it gets washed into the storm drains and local waterways.



Illustration by Jeff Grader / property of Delta Education

For more information ways you can help, or to report any non stormwater discharge into local waterways please contact :

Avondale Borough 610-268-8501

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection www.dep.state.pa.us Keyword: Stormwater