

AVONDALE BOROUGH

FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER

October 2015



FROM MAYOR DOTTIE HOWELL'S DESK.....UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

HALLOWEEN



The Avondale Borough's Halloween Parade will be Halloween Night, Saturday, October 31st, 5:30 p.m. at Third and Morris Street. There will be prizes for best costumes for ages 0 to adults and we will even include a prize for your favorite pet. We will parade down Morris Street to SERVPRO at First Street and each child will get a goodie bag filled with treats. All are Welcome. You don't need to sign up just show up in your best or scariest costume. Trick or Treat immediately following at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please be safe and only cross the main street where there is a fire police person to help you. The Avondale Fire Company Fire Police will be on hand for safety along with our own Police Officer to lead the parade.



LOOK FOR THE MINION!



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Avondale Borough Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at Servpro at First Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The theme this years will be "Rocking around the Christmas Tree". Music will be provided by the Church Choir to open the ceremony. The local talent of the Fred & Felipe Duo will provide the Christmas Tree Music for your enjoyment. Come Sing Along. Light Refreshments will be provided.



All are welcome!

Come and bring your little ones to Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus

ATTENTION RESIDENTS!!!!!!

Please note that there have been several vehicles broken into in the past weeks. Please remember to lock your doors in your vehicle. Lock your doors and windows in your house. Call 911 if you see anything suspicious.



Stay Safe!!!!

.....Mayor Dottie How-

BEST DECORATED HOUSES!!!

Pay special attention to how you decorate your house for the Christmas season. The Borough again is giving prizes for the 2 best decorated houses in the Borough during the holiday. The week before Christmas, Santa's elves will be riding around town on their sleigh deciding who has the best decorations for the year 2015.

Please have fun with your decorations and light up the town!

HELP NEEDED!

I need some young people over twelve years old to volunteer to help me with the Halloween Parade and Tree Lighting. I have one young gentlemen who has volunteered. His name is C.J.. Thank you C.J. If you are interested call the Borough Hall at 610-268-8501.

DO YOU KNOW ???

You are driving along the busy road, on your way home, and suddenly there is a road block, A person in a bright colored vest is telling you the road is closed and you cannot get home. So, what happens next? You sit for a while, you get aggravated and then very impatient, and it turns to anger. How dare they tell me that I cannot get home to make dinner! You decide to take action and run the road block, knocking down the bright orange cones and maneuvering around the flares. You think, I'll show them who's boss!

Do you know, You have just put the lives of our volunteer Fire Police, Emergency First Responders, and Yourself in a dangerous situation? Do you know why the local Fire Police have to close roads and inconvenience the public? Fires and accidents are number one in road closures. It is determined by the First Responders on the scene if it is safe for you to proceed, even if it is the house next door. It could be any kind of situation, not only accidents or fires but live wires on the roadway, explosive materials, a person with a firearm or flooded roads. These roads are closed by emergency personnel who have been trained and certified in traffic safety. They are not out there to make your life more difficult. Oh yes, did I mention, by running that road block you may get a well deserved pricey ticket?

You now know why these men and women are out there in traffic, in all kinds of weather, putting their life on the line. Please don't be rude to them, they are only doing their job. ***The next time you come across a road block, be patient and try thanking these men and women for keeping you and your love ones safe .***

Borough Resident,

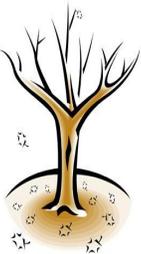
Faith Shore

LEAF PICK UP

The Borough's Street Department are picking up leaves and other compostables every Monday until December 7th. After December 7th, the Composting facility will be closed for the season.

All leaves must be in paper bags (no exceptions) and placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the pickup day. Bags will not be picked up if they contain anything other than yard waste.

You can purchase the bags at the Borough Office 15 bags for \$5.00.



OPEN BURNING IS PROHIBITED IN THE BOROUGH!

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Christmas Trees will be picked up by the Borough's Public Works Department every Monday in January.

Republic Services will not pick up any trees!!!!!!

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKERS

If you do not have an reflective address marker please get one. These markers help emergency people find you both day and night. Enclosed you will find an order form from the Avondale Fire Company. It may help to save your life or someone you love.





We will be entering the winter months and we all know what that means, "SNOW & ICE". As we go into the season everyone please keep a few things in mind.

- 1. If you have a driveway please park in it.** The less vehicles parked on the street the easier it is for our snow plows to clear the street.
- 2. If you live in a Cul-de-sac please consider where you park.** When you park in the cul-de-sac you are making it difficult for our snow removal equipment to navigate and possibly even block access if you park too close to the mouth of the cul-de-sac. A cul-de-sac is a very difficult area for our crew to plow. We try to pick a location to put the snow that will be out of the way. We try not to block driveways with excessive snow if we can help it but your cooperation is needed. **PLEASE PARK IN YOUR DRIVEWAY.**
- 3. Please do not park within 20 feet of an intersection. Our equipment needs the room to make the turns.**
- 4. During a snow storm the plow crew will plow until the snow has stopped falling.** It is our job to push the snow as far off the street as possible. During the snow plow operation we try to get all the streets open first then we start to do what we call push back. This mean we push the snow as close to the curb as we can. This makes room for the next snow fall to be pushed off the street. Sorry for the inconvenience. If you clear your driveway or sidewalk too soon it may be pushed back in. You have 12 hours from the end of a snow storm to clear the sidewalk of snow.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION THIS WINTER!

AVONDALE BOROUGH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



If you would like to continue to receive the Borough's quarterly newsletter please call the Borough Office or send an e-mail to secretary_avondale-boro@comcast.net



TRASH AND RECYCLING PICKUP

Trash and recycling are picked up on Tuesdays. Republic Services will only pick up trash that is in your trash container. Please call the Borough Office if you need another trash container. There is a \$55.00 quarterly fee per container.

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, mattress and box spring is considered one item, washer, dryer, stove.

Appliances with Freon will **not be accepted.

Car and Truck tires will be **not accepted.

RECYCLING IS UNLIMITED

RECYCLING MATERIALS ACCEPTED

- ◇ The entire newspaper including inserts.
- ◇ Aluminum, steel, and bimetal cans: Food and beverage cans only
- ◇ Glass: bottles & jars - food and beverage containers marked #1 thru #7
- ◇ Plastic: Food and beverage containers marked #1 thru #7
- ◇ Please rinse all containers listed above
- ◇ Misc paper: Magazines, junk mail, cardboard, phone books & paperboard (cereal & clean pizza boxes).
- ◇ All kinds of cartons: milk juice, etc.



HOW TO PREPARE FOR A WINTER STORM EMERGENCY

- Check and update your family's emergency supply kit before winter approaches and add the following supplies in preparation for winter weather:
 - **Rock salt** to melt ice on walkways. **Sand** to improve traction.
 - **Snow shovels** and other snow removal equipment. **Adequate clothing and blankets** to keep you and your family warm.
- Make an emergency plan for you and your family.
- Listen to your radio, television, or NOAA Weather Radio for weather reports and emergency information.
- Make sure your home is well insulated and that you have weather stripping around your doors and windowsills to keep the warm air inside.
- If you have no heat, close off unneeded rooms, stuff towels or rags in the cracks under doors and cover windows at night.
- Cover pipes with insulation or newspapers and plastic. Allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.
- Learn how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts. If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags.
- Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).
- Use extreme caution when using alternative heating sources. Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects. Also, when using kerosene heaters be sure to maintain ventilation to avoid build-up of toxic fumes.
- Wear layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing. Several layers of lightweight clothing will keep you warmer than a single heavy coat. Wear gloves (or mittens) and a hat to help prevent loss of body heat.

KNOW YOUR WINTER STORM TERMS

Winter storms include a variety of weather, including snow or subfreezing temperatures, strong winds and even ice or heavy rain storms. It's important to understand the basic winter weather terminology so you will know what the danger is and how to respond appropriately:

WINTER STORM WATCH	A winter storm is possible in your area. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, Commercial radio, or television for more information
WINTER STORM WARNING	A winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area.
BLIZZARD WARNING	Sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 miles per hour or greater and considerable amounts of falling or blowing snow (reducing visibility to less than a quarter mile) are expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.
FROST/FREEZE WARNING	Below freezing temperatures are expected
FREEZING RAIN	Rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a coating of ice on roads, walkways, trees, and power lines.
SLEET	Rain that turns to ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet also causes moisture on roads to freeze and become slippery.
FLURRIES	Light snow falling for short durations. No accumulation or light dusting is all that is expected.
SHOWERS	Snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time. Some accumulation is possible.
SQUALLS	Brief, intense snow showers accompanied by strong, gusty winds. Accumulation may be significant.
BLOWING SNOW	Wind Driven snow that reduces visibility and causes significant drifting. Blowing snow may be snow that is falling and/or loose snow on the ground picked up by the wind.
BLIZZARD	Winds over 35 mph with snow and blowing snow reducing visibility to near zero.

STORMWATER RUN OFF

When it rains, the draining water is called storm water runoff. Storm water can be a problem when there is a decrease in quality and an increase in quantity. Development can alter the natural pathway that storm water takes to travel over land, and increases the rate at which it travels over the land by changing porous surfaces (soil) to non-porous, or impervious surfaces (pavement). Natural surfaces, such as soil, act as a filter for storm water and clean it as it infiltrates into the ground.

When a pervious surface is converted into an impervious surface, pollutants on the surface are collected by the storm water as it travels over the land, and deposits them into water when it discharges from the MS4. As a result of developed and disturbed land, storm water becomes a problem because the quality of the storm water runoff decreases as it accumulates pollutants that collect on the ground. Pollutants concentrated in storm water runoff eventually decrease the overall water quality of lakes, rivers, and streams that receive storm water discharges. The quantity and speed of storm water runoff moving over the land increases. This means that a greater volume of polluted runoff is reaching our lakes, rivers, and streams at a faster pace. This can result in flooding, as well as more polluted waters. As the amount of impervious surfaces in our community increases by creating more roads, rooftops, and parking lots, the quantity of storm water increases. If the storm water system cannot drain the runoff from impervious surfaces quickly enough, flooding can result. Storm water runoff picks up litter from streets and carries it to storm drains. Sometimes litter will clog an inlet and make it difficult for storm water to drain properly. This could lead to flooding if the drain is clogged enough. Storm water runoff can also contribute to erosion from areas that do not have vegetative cover, such as construction sites. We can see pollutants such as sediment.

Pollutants that we can't see, such as bacteria and toxic chemicals, could result in illness. Thermal impacts from storm water runoff heating up as it travels over hot pavement can harm aquatic life that need cool water to survive. Illicit discharges, such as dumping antifreeze down a storm drain, are an example of how a contaminant can enter the storm sewer system and contribute to storm water contamination. It is important to understand that wastewater from the sanitary sewer system gets treated. Storm water traveling through a separated storm sewer system never gets to a treatment plant. It discharges directly to our water, along with everything it picks up on its journey over the land. Storm water, which does not get treated, becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows eventually reaching a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water.

Did you know that PECO will pick up your old refrigerator and will pay you \$50.00:

PECO will pay you \$50 to recycle your old, energy-guzzling refrigerator or freezer.

If you have an older, working refrigerator or freezer in your garage or basement, it may be costing you more money than you think. Did you know that it could use three times more electricity than a new model, consuming nearly \$150 in energy each year.

With this in mind, it doesn't make sense to hold on to it, especially when PECO will:

- ◆ Pay you \$50 per appliance for your refrigerator or freezer.
- ◆ Have it hauled away for free.
- ◆ Dispose of it responsibly—dismantling it and recycling its parts in an environmentally friendly way.

Qualifications

PECO and JACO Environmental have teamed up to offer this unique program designed to save energy and help the environment. You must receive electric service from PECO and your refrigerator or freezer must be:

- Between 10 and 30 cubic feet in size. *size is usually indicated on the side of the refrigerator or freezer door.
- Empty and working at the time of pick-up.
- Accessible with a clear and safe path of removal. The removal team will not risk injury, remove personal effects or modify your home (e.g. remove doors or railings) to remove the unit(s).

Program funding is limited. Participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

CONTACT PECO AT: <https://www.peco.com/Savings/ProgramsandRebates/Residential> OR Call 1-800-494-4000



AVON GROVE COMMUNITY GETS EMERGENCY RADIO STATION...BELOW IS INFORMATION FROM THE AGREM WEBSITE



FCC Approves "Mega-Sized" Information Station

Grants PA Emergency Management Group 3 Waivers that will Produce 3X Coverage

WEST GROVE, PA: Why would the Federal Communications Commission grant one Information Station (TIS) licensee the right to bump its antenna height and signal levels above the legal ceilings? Answer: Because it successfully made the case that there would be no harm to broadcasters... and, therefore, no foul. The Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management Group (AGREM) in Pennsylvania is arguably the first such entity to be granted a trio of waivers by the FCC, which make its pioneering request for relaxed restrictions a reality.

The order (DA 15-782 released July 21st) by the Commission is expected to lead to additional requests by TIS licensees who would like the same privilege.

Recall that in [the March issue of The Source](#), the FCC had asked for public comment on AGREM's application for additional height and signal levels. Since, in the words of the FCC, "no party responded to the public notice," and since AGREM made a successful showing that interference would not result, the project was given a green light.



*"Just as Ham Radio operators provide alternate communication methods in emergencies and disasters, so too can the TIS stations."
...David Flad, President, AGREM*

Information Station antennas are normally limited to 15 meters in height by the FCC rules; but AGREM's water-tower-mounted stick will top out at 39 meters. Normally, signals can't exceed 2 millivolts at 1.5 km; but AGREM's signal will extend out to 2.6 km. Result: the signal coverage area will be tripled.

"It all went through because they could prove that interference to area broadcasters would not result," comments [Bill Baker](#) of [Information Station Specialists](#), the firm AGREM tapped to apply for the approvals. "Other operators can do the same thing if they have adequate separation distances to broadcasters and TIS licensees on the same and adjacent frequencies."

Southeastern Pennsylvania has experienced some brutal weather emergencies in recent years. On the first week of February, 2014, an ice storm severed power to 80% of Chester County, affecting 180,000 residents. The storm's half-inch of ice caused tree limbs to fall on power, phone and cable lines causing residents loss of not only power, but also heat, communication and 911 service. Many elderly and handicapped residents were unable to travel or even to call to gain assistance. When a warming shelter was set up at the local high school, it was nearly impossible to get the word out about how people could take advantage of it.



Proposed Signage for Roadways in Southeastern Chester County, PA

The group first performed radio range tests using the Radio Express Service provided by Information Station Specialists. The results were helpful in convincing the FCC that the water tower was the only viable antenna location that could provide an unobstructed signal to the desired coverage area.

"There is no single [communication] method that will consistently survive in a disaster, so we need to have multiple means of communicating with residents and travelers,"

The Vision Comes to Fruition

"It was a long-time vision of our past President and friend, Mike Predmore, along with other early members of AGREM, to establish a locally-managed information station.

The goal was to provide travelers and others in the AGREM Community a local source of information before, during, and after any type of natural disaster or man-made event. A low-power broadcast station based on AM radio was chosen because almost every car has an AM radio and portable, battery-powered or hand-cranked, AM/FM emergency radios are available and relatively inexpensive.

Over a number of years, the plans were revised several times as equipment features and costs were identified and further refined. In late 2013, AGREM was actively working towards getting the station on the air during calendar 2014 or early 2015. Unfortunately, Mike passed away before seeing the station come to life.

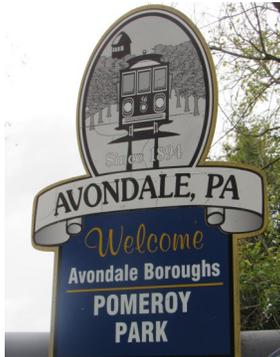
In his memory, the AGREM team is working hard to bring Mike's idea to reality. We are also working to secure funding for ongoing operations, solar power backup, and for future expansion of the system with automatic alerting signage."

...Excerpted from the Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management (AGREM) website.

AVONDALE BOROUGH'S PARK SYSTEM

Recently, the Borough upgraded the playgrounds on the Pomeroy and Third Street Parks. Rubber mulch was installed around the playground equipment for the safety of our children. The Park's Committee is working on some projects for next Spring: a soccer field at the Watson Park, resealing the basketball court and putting in a parking area at the Third Street Park. If you have any suggestions please feel free to call the Borough Office.

Enjoy the parks and remember to clean up after yourself!



CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET!

Please keep your dog on a leash when in the park or taking your pet for a walk. Please be considerate of others and clean up after your pet.



Hi Kids...
Here are some safety tips to follow while you are on the playground!



- ◇ **Play responsibly**
- ◇ **Adults should always be present when children play.**
- ◇ **Safety on Swings: Sit down while you swing. Slow down before you get off of a swing. Do not walk near someone who is swinging. You could get hit if you walk too closely.**
- ◇ **Safety on Climbers: Use both hands when you climb. Only climb on dry equipment. You could fall if it is wet.**
- ◇ **Safety on Slides: Never climb up the front of the slide. Someone may slide down and hit you. It is safest to slide down with your feet first. Only one person should slide down at a time.**
- ◇ **HAVE FUN!!!!!!**

Council Meetings and Work Sessions

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 the meeting—please call the Borough Office no later than the Friday before the meeting to be placed on the agenda. If deemed necessary, Council Meetings are also held on the fourth Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

WORK SESSIONS

The Borough Council holds a Work Session on the second Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. Please bring any questions about water and sewer to this meeting.

WATER OR WASTEWATER EMERGENCY

In case of a water or wastewater emergency after Borough Office Hours, please call the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant at 610-268-2498. Someone is on call 24 hours a day.



BOROUGH OF AVONDALE

Mayor—Dottie Howell

Borough Office

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