

AVONDALE BOROUGH



2016 WINTER NEWSLETTER

January 2016



From the Mayor's Desk:

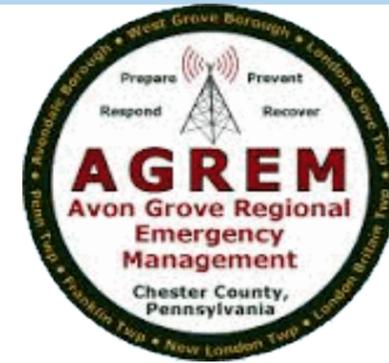
I sincerely hope you all made it through the snowstorm in good shape. We still have a lot of snow in the Borough as of this writing. With all of the cars parked on the streets it is difficult for the snow plows to do their job. As a reminder, if the weather reports indicate snow, please try to park your vehicles off the streets until the event is over.

On a softer note, we held the Christmas Tree Lighting on December 2, 2015 at SERVPRO on Pennsylvania Avenue. The Avondale Presbyterian Church Choir opened the show and Freddie McCarthy provided entertainment for the evening. He plays a mean guitar and sings wonderfully. The event was well attended and all had a good time.

The week before Christmas we had Santa's Elves roaming the Borough to pick out several houses to receive an award. The Best Decorated House award went to 8 North Williamson Drive. Second Prize went to 321 West Third Street and Third Prize went to 234 Mullen Drive. This year we added a prize for the house that showed the most Christmas spirit. That prize went to 502 Chatham Street. Each received a gift certificate for their efforts. Remember next year and try for the prize!

Please enjoy the winter wonderland in the Borough and be safe. Safety is always first.

Mayor Doris (Dottie) Howell



About AGREM

We are an emergency management organization located in Chester County, Pennsylvania, providing support for the boroughs of Avondale and West Grove, and the Franklin, London Britain, London Grove, New London, and Penn Townships.

We were originally established in 1999 as the Avon Grove Regional Emergency Management Task Force, acting as a working group designated to help plan for, and respond to, any emergencies that might be triggered when the calendar year changed from 1999 to the year 2000.

Since those initial beginnings, the relationships established with the local municipalities have remained. AGREM changed from a task force to a regular working group, and our initial focus has shifted beyond the Y2K crisis to reflect more current events and needs. Major events such as terrorism (9-1-1, Kansas City Federal Building bombing), Hurricane's Katrina and Sandy, the BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the severe snowstorms that have impacted the East Coast over the past several years, and even the school shootings at Sandy Hook have all served to highlight the importance of emergency preparedness and planning.

Today, AGREM continues its mission as a recognized Federal and Pennsylvania non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We accept tax-deductible donations to support various programs and activities, and pursue state and federal grants to support our programs as well.



The above information was taken from the AGREM website. AGREM.ORG

Borough of Avondale
Established 1894

Mayor
Dottie Howell

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Bill Shore - President
Steve Cummings - Vice President
Abby Pyle
Wilson Lysle
Dave Besselman

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

Phone: 610-268-8501
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Secretary: Becky Brownback
Treasurer: Sandy Masten

Public Works Supervisor
Rick Davis

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Please call the Borough Office at 610-268-8501 if you have any concerns, complaints, or suggestions!

If you would like a newsletter mailed to you, call or e-mail the Borough Secretary. The Newsletter is available on Borough's website or at the Borough Office





STORMWATER POLLUTION—WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?



Only Rain in the Drain – Never dump anything into a storm drain, including oil, paint, soap, debris, and leaves. Storm sewers don't go to the sewer plant but discharge directly into streams. You might be pouring oil into your own drinking water!



Pick Up After Your Dog – Pet waste can be a major source of excess nutrients and bacteria to our streams. Always properly dispose of pet waste.



Downspouts: Direct all downspouts away from pervious surfaces and onto lawns. Rain barrels can be used to collect water from downspouts, making it available for watering.

EARNED INCOME TAX INFORMATION

It's that time of year again. Your 2015 local earned income tax return is due on April 15.

Did you know the quickest way to get your refund is to file online? If you live and work in Pennsylvania, you can e-file on our tax administrator's secure website, which is available 24/7 at www.KeystoneCollects.com.

Keystone Collections Group's e-file is the easy, fast and secure way to file your 2015 tax return. It lets you file your tax return when it is most convenient for you. You will need your W-2, your Social Security Number and any other income documents that may apply (such as a PA-UE or a Schedule C).

If you have questions regarding local tax filing, call Keystone's **Taxpayer Helpline** at 1-888-328-0565 to speak with a local, knowledgeable Taxpayer Service Agent. You can also email your questions to "Taxpayer Support" at www.KeystoneCollects.com.

Taxpayers with earned income in 2015 are required to file a tax return by Friday, April 15.

SNOW STORMS

Please remember to shovel your sidewalks. Borough Ordinance #77 requires sidewalks to be shoveled within 12 hours of a snow event. Be a good neighbor and ensure the safety of others by keeping your sidewalk clear.



PARK OFF THE STREET

When snow is in the forecast, park your vehicle off the street to allow the snow plows to clear the snow off the roadways. This makes the job easier for Borough personnel and keeps your vehicles from being plowed in and decreases the chances of your vehicle being damaged.

COMPOSTING FACILITY

The composting facility will re-open in the Spring. More information to follow in the Spring Newsletter

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



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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.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Water and Sewer Committee meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2:30 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 Call:
610-268-2498
Someone is on call 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

DO YOU RENT, LEASE ANY UNITS IN YOUR DWELLING?
ARE YOU PLANNING TO SELL YOUR HOME?



If you answered yes to either question then you are required under Ordinance #246 to register your property and get a inspection.

Applications and Ordinance #246 are available at the Borough Office or on

REAL ESTATE TAXES

Borough Council adopted Tax Ordinance # on December 15, 2015. There is no increase in real estate taxes.

Following are the current tax rates:
Real Estate Tax—3.55 mills for general purposes.
Street Lighting—.45 mills
Real Estate Transfer Tax—1%
Earned Income Tax—1%

Borough Office

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610-258-8501:phone 610-268-8205: fax