

AVONDALE BOROUGH

FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER



October 2018

From the desk of the Mayor, Dottie Howell



I want to bring you up to date on the public meeting that was held at the Avondale Fire House on September 27th to discuss the Borough's Comprehensive Plan. Invitations were sent out to all residents of the Borough. Around 20 residents attended the meeting and provided a lively discussion on future planning. This plan will describe what is expected to happen in the Borough during the next 10 years. Chester County under their planning requires that each Municipality in Chester County develop their own 10-year plan. These plans must be updated every ten years so that the Municipalities will be eligible for revitalization and upgrade grants. Therefore, with a grant from the County, the Borough Council and myself with the help of the residents is currently developing this plan.

With that I will tell you about little-known facts of the Borough that the residents had questions about. The residents raised the questions as to transportation problems in the Borough with speed and safety on the streets to lower the speed limits. Pennsylvania Avenue, E. Third Street and parts of Church Street are owned by the State of Pennsylvania, and PENNDOT is responsible for them. The Borough cannot change the speed limits, reset the traffic lights or build sidewalks or repair bridges. The State Street Bridge that was recently replaced is owned by Chester County therefore the Borough could not dictate the design or the speed or the fact that there is no weight limit on the bridge. Also, the sidewalks in front of the residences must be installed and or replaced by the homeowner.

Blight was also discussed. The residents spoke of the how bad the Borough looks to people traveling thorough or visiting. High grass, dirty streets, trash in the yards, streets and parking areas, storm drains that are covered with debris, over-crowding in homes, and cars parked on the streets in such a way as to impede the emergency vehicles from reaching the emergency scenes quickly.

The questions were also raised about what happened to the Community Events. I have gotten many questions from not only our residents but from others about what happened to the Fall Festival, and the Halloween Parade. We need volunteers to make these things happen.

With the dedication of David Hughes, who is the owner of SERVPO and his family and employees we can continue the Christmas Tree Lighting. The churches for their choirs, the singers, musicians and dancers and other talents volunteered their time and expertise to make the event a huge success. We will be doing that again this year, but the time and date has yet to be determined.

We need Volunteers. I would like to develop an Events Committee to manage events throughout the year. We need men and women and children to make these things happen. We could have volley ball tournaments, soccer tournaments, Kayaking on the White Clay Creek, and Earth Day park cleanup events just to name a few. Call the Borough Hall to reach me.

Carillon Residents also brought up the fact that they feel isolated from the rest of the Borough because the Third Street Bridge is too dangerous to walk across to reach the events happening in other areas of the Borough. I have been trying for years to find the money and get a DEP general permit to build a walkway across the White Clay Creek to connect the Third Street park to Watson Park off Second Street. I need a design plan and cost to present to the "powers that be" to get this project started. **I need Help!**

Watch for the Tree Lighting signs around the Borough. Please plan to attend. Call the Borough Office to reach me.

Thank you,

Mayor Dottie

Water, Sewer and Trash Services Update!

In the next few weeks, the Borough will be updating its regulations for water, sewer and trash services. This will include increased penalties and fines for late payments.

Please be sure to pay your water, sewer and trash bill on time to avoid increased fines and penalties. Feel free to call the Borough office with any questions or to request a copy of the new regulations being considered for adoption.

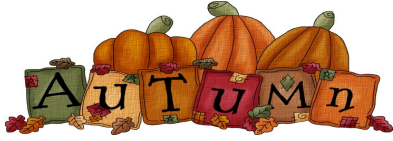


Avondale Borough will be holding Trick or Treat on Wednesday, October 31st, from 6:00—8:00 p.m.

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.

AVONDALE BOROUGH RECEIVES GRANT FOR \$293,262

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under the PA Small Water and Sewer Program has awarded Avondale Borough \$292,262 to replace the reservoir cover which protects our potable water. The replacement of the reservoir cover will begin in Spring 2019.



DO YOU RENT ANY RESIDENTIAL UNIT OR 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.

RENT OR LEASE ANY UNITS IN YOUR DWELLING???

If you **rent or lease** any units in your dwelling a yearly inspection is required. Also, an inspection is required each time you change tenants.

Please call the Borough Office for more information

LEAF PICK-UP

The Street's Department picks up leaves and other compostables every Monday until December 10th. After December 10th, compostables will not be picked up until Spring 2019.

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 or if they are more than 30 lbs.

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.

Trash Tech will not pick up any trees!!!!

TRASH AND RECYCLING PICKUP

Trash and recycling are picked up. Trash will only pick up trash that is in your trash container. Call the Borough Office if you would like 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.**

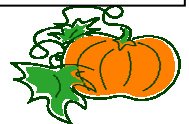
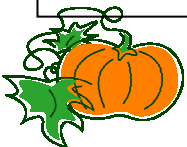
DO NOT PUT YOUR RECYCLING IN PLASTIC BAGS

PLASTIC BAGS ARE NOT RECYCLABLE

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.

RECYCLING IS UNLIMITED



SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES



The following streets are designated as Snow Emergency Routes:

Baltimore Pike

Route 41 (Pennsylvania Avenue)

West State Street

Miller Drive

Cook Court

Garner Drive

Mullen Drive

Williamson Drive

East Second Street

When a snow emergency is declared by the Mayor or the Emergency Management Coordinator you will have two hours to remove your vehicle from the snow emergency route. If your vehicle is not removed you are in violation of the ordinance and your vehicle will be towed by the Borough.

No person shall throw, shovel, cast or otherwise place, pile deposit or dump snow or ice removed from sidewalks, walkways or any other location onto any street in the Borough including those streets designated as Snow Emergency Routes.

Tune into 1670 am radio for Snow Emergency Declaration



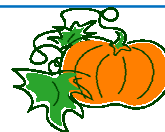
We are beginning to enter the colder months and we all know what that means, “SNOW & ICE”. As we go into the season everyone please keep a few things in mind.

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 means 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 our cooperation this winter!

The Public Works Department



Christina Watersheds Municipal Partnership (CWMP)

(Reprinted with permission from the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, Robert Struble Director)

The Christina Watersheds Municipal Partnership (CWMP), a collaborative of 38 municipalities in the Brandywine, Red Clay, and White Clay watersheds, began in 2003 with 20 municipalities joining to address collectively several requirements of the Pennsylvania MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) mandate. The MS4 program required municipalities to provide education and outreach to their residents as well as a public participation program. Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, then the Brandywine Valley Association, developed plans for public education and participation as well as coordinating public awareness projects that promoted stormwater management techniques. Those early efforts included articles and advertisements in local newspapers noting the water quality effects of unmanaged stormwater runoff, school poster contests, informational flyers, and displays at municipal events.

By 2010, with the municipalities facing deadlines for developing TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) plans, the group became the Christina TMDL Implementation Plan (CTIP). It had grown to 30 municipalities and spent the next two years developing the TMDL plans required by PADEP. By partnering the group was able to take advantage of a template in creating their plans, which were submitted in 2012. Review of the plans by PADEP and the resulting revisions required took the CTIP group into 2015. At that point PADEP issued notices that the municipalities were required to submit a TMDL plan showing how each would meet state mandated reductions of sediment and nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorous) in streams within the municipal boundaries. CTIP continued to coordinate the municipal group in the effort to meet new PADEP requirements, changing the P in CTIP to Partnership, and in 2017, became the Christina Watersheds Municipal Partnership (CWMP) to emphasize the municipal aspect of the partnership.

Through a grant to the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance pilot projects are being developed in the Brandywine and White Clay watersheds. The pilot projects will test the concept of a multi-municipal approach to meeting TMDL limits. The organizations involved in the pilot projects are Brandywine Conservancy, Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, Chester County Water Resources Authority, Chester County Conservation District, White Clay Wild and Scenic Rivers Program, Stroud Water Research Center, Water Resources Center at the University of Delaware, the Delaware Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, the Environmental Finance Center, and Gaadt Perspectives.

The Suburban Pilot is in the east branch of the White Clay Creek and includes Avondale and West Grove Boroughs and the townships of London Grove, New Garden, Franklin, and London Britain. This is a suburban landscape with two boroughs, offering opportunities for mutual BMPs in the more open areas that will reduce sediment and nutrients and benefit the White Clay Creek.

Project update: This pilot, coordinated by the White Clay Wild and Scenic Rivers Program, is largely suburban residential with the boroughs of Avondale and West Grove included. The landscape is a mix of the higher impervious surfaces in the two boroughs and more open residential area in the four townships. This pilot offers opportunities for collaborative BMPs between the boroughs where space is limited and the townships where BMP locations are more available. The pilot municipalities have completed most of the mapping work for the storm sewer systems and are delineating storm sewersheds and then planning areas where BMPs could be located.

CWMP Project Funders: William Penn Foundation

Choose “Watershed Protection” (located under “what we fund”).

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Delaware River Restoration Fund

CWMP Contact Information:

For more information on this project, please contact Bob Struble,

BRC’s Watershed Conservation Director at the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance





HOME FIRE SAFETY

Home Fire Safety Checklist

Heating

- ☐ Baseboard heaters do not touch any furniture or curtains, or other items stored on the floor.
- ☐ Have chimneys and heating systems inspected, cleaned and repaired prior to the heating season.
- ☐ All portable heaters are placed at least three feet from bedding, furniture, and other flammable materials. They are plugged directly into the outlet, not into an extension cord.
- ☐ Portable heaters are turned off when you leave the room or before going to bed.
- ☐ Every fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen.

Electrical

- ☐ Extension cords are intended to be temporary wiring, never a permanent solution for wiring.
- ☐ Extension cords used are not tacked to walls, run under rugs, or through doorways.
- ☐ Small appliances, like the toaster, are unplugged when not in use.

Housekeeping

- ☐ Matches and lighters are kept out of the reach of children in a secure place.
- ☐ Paint, varnish, and other flammables are stored in sturdy metal containers in a cool place.
- ☐ Ashes from fireplaces and barbecues are only disposed of in metal containers.
- ☐ Candles are only lit when someone is able to keep an eye on them and when placed in sturdy holders away from things that can burn.

Kitchen

- ☐ In the event of a grease fire, know that the best thing to do is to put a lid on it.
- ☐ Cooking is never left unattended.
- ☐ The oven is never used to heat the home.

Smoking

- ☐ Do not smoke in bed or while lying down.

Smoke Alarms

- ☐ Smoke alarms are installed on a ceiling or high on the wall in each bedroom and on each level of the home.
- ☐ Smoke alarm batteries are changed once a year or as recommended by the manufacturer.
- ☐ Smoke alarms are tested and vacuumed regularly.

Escape Plan

- ☐ Have a plan of escape showing two ways out of every room in your home, especially bedrooms.
- ☐ Regularly practice your escape plan by holding fire drills in your home.
- ☐ Windows used for escaping can be opened easily.
- ☐ House numbers are clearly visible from the street.



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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bill Shore - President

Steve Cummings -Vice President

Wilson Lysle

Dave Besselman

Becka Schlimme

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