



# AVONDALE BOROUGH

## SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER



April 1, 2019

From the Mayor's Desk:



I am looking for Borough residents to volunteer to serve on an "Events Committee" for the Borough to plan special events for both children and adults especially Christmas Tree Lighting, Halloween Parade, Creek and Park Clean up, and lots of other ideas. It is a great way to get the children involved and would really be a give back to the community opportunity for them and it looks good on their resume. Please think about it and let me know what you would like to do to participate. Call Becky at the Borough Office 610-268-8501.

This spring please use the good weather to do a spring cleanup around your house and street.

For your interest; for the 2019 election there will be three seats open on Borough Council (two 4-year terms and one 2-year unexpired term). Please remember to vote in the primary election on May 21, 2019 and vote in the regular election on November 5, 2019.

FYI : There will be a new business opening in the Borough probably in early summer. Look for it. It will be opening on Pennsylvania Avenue. Surprise !!

Enjoy your Spring and Summer!!

*Mayor Dottie Howell*

### AVONDALE BOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PUBLIC PRESENTATION

You are invited to a public presentation of  
Avondale's New Comprehensive Plan  
Thursday, April 4th - 7:00 p.m.  
Avondale Fire Company  
23 Firehouse Way

The Comprehensive Plan provides the foundation for the future development of Avondale

### **STREET SWEEPING**

**We will be sweeping the Borough  
Streets on Monday, April 29th from  
7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

***Please have your vehicle off the street  
so the street sweeper can do a proper  
job.***

The Street Sweeper does operate in the rain  
except in a very heavy rain. We will know closer  
to the date if it is postponed to the rain date.  
RAIN DATE: Tuesday, April 30th.

Borough of Avondale  
Established 1894

Mayor - Dottie Howell

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bill Shore - President  
Steve Cummings - Vice President  
Dave Besselman  
Wilson Lysle  
Becka Schlimme

#### 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

website: [www.avondaleboro.net](http://www.avondaleboro.net)

email: [secretary\\_avondale-boro@comcast.net](mailto: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; the May Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 28th at 6:00 p.m.

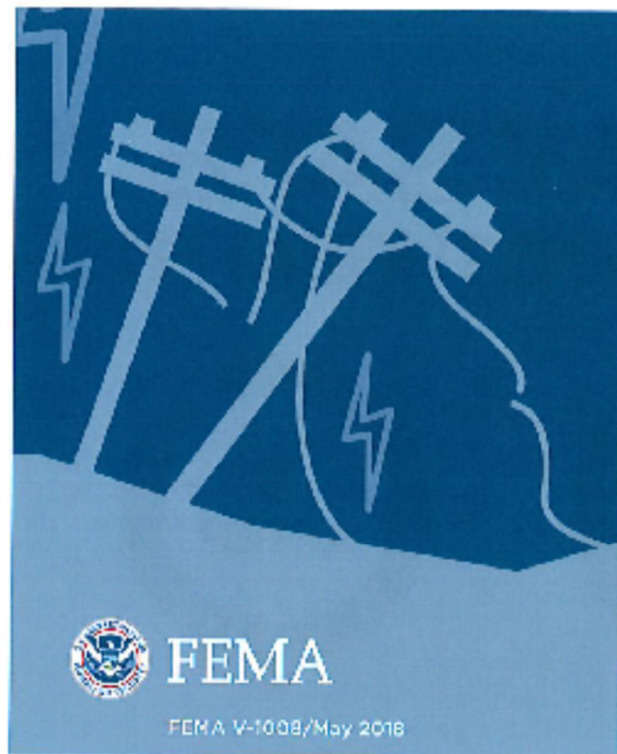
#### WORK SESSIONS

Work Sessions are held on the second Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend these public meetings.




FROM THE DESK OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR - BILL SHORE



# BE PREPARED FOR A POWER OUTAGE

**Extended power outages may impact the whole community and the economy.**



**FEMA**  
FEMA V-1008/May 2018

<p>A power outage is when the electrical power goes out unexpectedly.</p>	 <p>May disrupt communications, water, transportation</p>	 <p>May close retail businesses, grocery stores, gas stations, ATMs, banks, and other services</p>	 <p>Can cause food spoilage, water contamination</p>	 <p>Can prevent use of medical devices</p>
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## PROTECT YOURSELF DURING A POWER OUTAGE

<p>Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.</p>			<p>Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.</p>
<p>Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.</p>			<p>Use alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or power-dependent medical devices.</p>
<p>Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.</p>			<p>If safe, go to an alternate location for heat or cooling.</p>
 <p>Check on neighbors.</p>			



# HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A POWER OUTAGE THREATENS

## Prepare NOW

**Take an inventory now** of the items you need that rely on electricity.

**Talk to your medical provider** about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures and get specific guidance for any medications that are critical for life.

**Plan for batteries and other alternatives** to meet your needs when the power goes out.

**Sign up for local alerts and warning systems.** Monitor weather reports.

**Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup** in central locations on every level of your home.

**Determine whether your home phone will work in a power outage** and how long battery backup will last.

**Review the supplies that are available in case of no power.** Have flashlights with extra batteries for every household member. Have enough nonperishable food and water.

**Use a thermometer in the refrigerator and freezer** so that you can know the temperature when the power is restored.

**Keep mobile phones and other electric equipment charged** and gas tanks full.

## Survive DURING

**Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.** The refrigerator will keep food cold for **about four hours**. A full freezer will keep the temperature for **about 48 hours**. Use coolers with ice if necessary. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer.

**Use food supplies that do not require refrigeration.**

**Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.** Generators, camp stoves, or charcoal grills should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows. Never use a gas stovetop or oven to heat your home.

**Check on your neighbors.** Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable to extreme temperatures.

**Go to a community location with power** if heat or cold is extreme.

**Turn off or disconnect appliances, equipment, or electronics.** Power may return with momentary "surges" or "spikes" that can cause damage.

## Be Safe AFTER

**When in doubt, throw it out!** Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.

**If the power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated,** unless the drug's label says otherwise. If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist and use medicine only until a new supply is available.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) and search for power outage. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **power outage**.



## REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTION

The Borough's Tax Collector will have office hours  
Friday, May 17th from 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Avondale Borough Hall - 110 Pomeroy Avenue



This is the only day you can pay in person. If you can't make this date; please use the mail for your payments.

You can only pay the Tax Collector  
The Borough Office can not take your payment.

Thank you,

*Sherry Seace,*  
Avondale Borough Tax Collector

### AVON GROVE LIBRARY

The Avon Grove Library located in West Grove has many activities for all ages. From daily storytimes and special events to a teen service club, book club for adults, and crafting sessions for all ages.

You can learn more about what the library offers by going to their website at:

[www.avongrovelibrary.org](http://www.avongrovelibrary.org).

You can also call them at 610-869-2004

## WATER, SEWER, AND TRASH SERVICES RATES AND RULES

Borough Council adopted Ordinance #263 on March 19, 2019. This ordinance contains the rates, charges, penalties, processes and procedures related to water, sewer and trash services, including Operational Rules and Regulations. Following are the current rates for residential customers: There has been no increase.

1. **WATER:** The minimum charge 0 to 5,000 gallons per quarter is \$19.75 and then \$3.95 per thousand gallons up to 20,000 gallons. 20,001 gallons to 40,000 gallons per quarter: \$4.72 per thousand gallons. Over 40,001 gallons per quarter \$5.12 per 1,000 gallons.
2. **SEWER:** The minimum charge 0 to 5,000 gallons per quarter is \$63.95 and then \$12.79 per thousand gallons up to 20,000 gallons. 20,001 gallons to 40,000 gallons per quarter: \$15.75 per thousand gallons. Over 40,001 gallons per quarter \$17.07 per 1,000 gallons.
3. **TRASH:** Quarterly fee - \$55.00 per trash container.

Please visit the Borough's website ([avondaleboro.net](http://avondaleboro.net)) for a full copy of the ordinance or stop by the Borough Office for a copy.

## REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER RECYCLING GET \$75.00 FROM PECO

PECO will pick up your old, working fridge or freezer, recycle it and send you \$75. Plus, get another \$10 for recycling a working room air conditioner at the same time.

To schedule an appointment, be sure you have your electric bill account number handy. Also, you will need the make, model and size of the unit, which must be between 10 and 30 cubic feet and working at the time of pickup.

Customers living in multi-family buildings who do not receive an electric bill from PECO but own their fridge are eligible to participate in PECO Appliance Recycling. To schedule a fridge or freezer pickup, please call 1-888-5-PECO-SAVE (1-888-573-2672) and a customer service rep will assist you.

Go to [peco.com](http://peco.com) (under "ways to save") to schedule your pick-up online.



## **WHEN DO YOU NEED A BUILDING PERMIT?**

The Borough enforces the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, 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 alter.





## TRASH AND RECYCLING

Trash and recycling are 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 within 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 \*stove

### RECYCLING MATERIALS ACCEPTED

### NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE PICKED UP!

- ◇ Newspapers: The entire newspaper including inserts.
- ◇ Cartons: milk juice, etc.
- ◇ 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*



## COMPOST PICK UP

**Yard waste pick up will begin on Monday, April 1st  
and will continue every Monday until December 9th.**

**Only Paper Yard Waste Bags will be picked up  
Bags must be out by 7:00 a.m.**

**You can purchase bags at the Borough Office or you can use your own.  
5.00 for a pack of 15      Monday Pick Up**

**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 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**

- |                                                               |                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ◆ Auto Tires \$3.00 each                                      | ◆ Cell phones - Free           |
| ◆ Truck Tires (no rims) \$15.00 each                          | ◆ All other electronics - Free |
| ◆ Refrigerant appliances (SECCRA removes refrigerant) \$12.00 | ◆ Motor Oil - Free             |
| ◆ Other appliances \$5.00                                     | ◆ Antifreeze - Free            |
| ◆ Unchipped brush and limbs \$45.00 per ton                   | ◆ Automobile Batteries - Free  |
| ◆ Automobile Batteries Free                                   |                                |

## ***STORMWATER POLLUTION!***

**Our streams and rivers supply:**

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

**Polluted stormwater runoff  
Is the greatest threat to clean water!!!**



### **WAYS YOU CAN HELP TO 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

Please keep your bushes and tree limbs trimmed so that they are not blocking traffic. If you have a sidewalk, please keep shrubbery and low branches cut back where people are walking.

Let's keep our streets and sidewalks safe!



#### **COOKING OILS, FATS & GREASE**

Please do not put any cooking oils, fats or grease down your sink/drain. This causes blockages in the Borough's sewer system and ends up costing the Borough money to have the sewer lines cleaned.

This is prohibited under Ordinance #178.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

#### **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 the sewer portion of your bill which will effect 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.

**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.



**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

**ELECTION DAY  
TUESDAY, MAY 21 2019**



Avondale Borough Hall  
110 Pomeroy Avenue

**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.

**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 to schedule your yearly inspection.

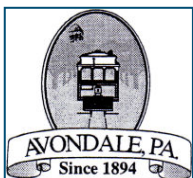
**SELLING YOUR HOME ?**

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.

Applications are available at the Borough Office or on the Borough's website

**AVONDALE BOROUGH**

**110 POMEROY AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 247  
AVONDALE, PA 19311**



**SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER**

