



Presented by Ambler Borough

# Home Town News

April 2008

## News from Council



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Meetings start at 7pm on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays; Mondays May-August

### Code Enforcement Hotline: (215) 646-1000 Ext. 135

You may now report issues and problems 24 hours-a-day by leaving a message at (215) 646-1000 Ext. 135 on the Code Enforcement Hotline. Issues such as overcrowded housing, deteriorating properties, unsafe conditions, excessive trash & debris can be reported anonymously. A complaint form then will be processed and the complaint will be followed and documented to conclusion by Ron Myers Sr., Code Enforcement Officer. If you request a call back, you will be updated on the status of the complaint.

### Building Permits Are a Must

Borough Code mandates a building permit be obtained when "Any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required permit." Building permits may be obtained at the receptionist's desk at Borough Hall (M-F 8:00am-4:30 pm). Also, water from concrete jobs must not be discharged into gutters and storm drains.

### Police Department

Through the efforts of Representative Allyson Schwartz, the Borough has received a federal grant in the amount of \$127,000 for modern technology upgrades for our Police Department.

Parking meters are being enforced Monday-Friday from 8am-6pm.

Noon-2pm is free for lunch. Saturday 8am-6pm meters are enforced.

Sundays and Holidays are free.

### YMCA Summer Camp for Borough Residents

Register from 5pm to 7pm on Thursday, May 1 at Mattison Avenue Elementary School, or stop by the YMCA after May 1 to sign up. Summer Camp will run June 23 through August 1.

Cost : \$25 per child per week.

*New Extended Program 9am -3pm.* Camp is held at Mattison Avenue Elementary School and Knight Park.



◆ **Street Sweeping** resumes **Monday March 31**. Heed the parking signs, as "No Parking" on specified days and hours will be enforced.

◆ **Spring Leaf Pickup**  
Place your yard waste out on **Monday nights** before:

**Tue. April 8**

**Tue. April 15**

**Tue. April 29**

Pickup happens on TUESDAYS. Store leaves in cans or brown paper recycling bags. No plastic.

◆ **Fall Leaf Pickup**  
Place yard waste out on **Monday nights** before:

**November 4 and 11**

**December 9 and 16**

**Wissahickon Fire Company**  
**Breakfasts:** Use side entrance. Saturdays and Sundays from 6am to 11am. Varied Menu.

Did you know?  
You can earn a GED at  
Community Cupboard,  
150 N Main Street.  
Call 215 628-3002.

- ◆ ALL residences and buildings **MUST** have **addresses** clearly marked in front, with at least 3 inch tall numbers, so that emergency crews can read them from the street.

**STANDARD MAIL**  
**U. S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**AMBLER, PA**

**RESIDENTS &**  
**BUSINESSES OF**  
**AMBLER BOROUGH**



## Environmental Corner

### Ambler's Stormwater Management Program

#### 10 Things You Can Do to

#### Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution

By James Dougherty, P.E., Gilmore & Associates, Inc. (Borough Engineer)

When it rains, stormwater is collected by the Borough's storm sewer system and carried directly to the nearby streams and creeks. It is Ambler Borough's responsibility to monitor the storm sewer system for pollutants. In the case of stormwater, a pollutant is basically anything other than rain water. For information regarding the Borough's responsibilities please refer to the Borough's Stormwater Management Webpage:

<http://www.ambler.pa.us/OtherGovernmentInfo.asp>



Below are 10 simple things the typical home owner and/or business owner can do to help reduce pollutants in rain water carried to Ambler's streams and creeks. By making an effort to keep our rain water clean you are helping the Borough and the environment.

- ◆ Use fertilizers very sparingly.
- ◆ Sweep up driveways and sidewalks: dispose debris properly. Do not sweep into street gutters.
- ◆ Never dump anything down storm drains.
- ◆ Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
- ◆ Compost your yard waste.
- ◆ Avoid pesticides; learn about Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- ◆ Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
- ◆ Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
- ◆ Check car for leaks, and recycle motor oil.
- ◆ Pick up after your pet, even in your own yard.

Source: EPA

The Ambler EAC is planning a Rain Garden workshop.

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection

**Compact fluorescent bulbs contain mercury: remember to dispose of them in these collections also!**

Info: 610-278-3618 [www.wsaemc.org](http://www.wsaemc.org) Recycling or HHW.

Five Saturdays **9am-3pm No Latex Paint nor Propane Tanks**

**April 19** Indian Valley Middle School, Harleysville

**June 14** Montgomery County Community College

Use Cathcart Road entrance.

**June 28** Spring-Ford School District

**August 2** Springfield School District,

500 Haws Lane, Flourtown

**October 25** Lower Merion Transfer Station, Narberth

Bring **Automotive Products** like motor oil; **Household Products** like cleaners, fluorescent tubes; **Paint Products** like oil based paints, thinner; **Miscellaneous** like pool chemicals, dyes, computer equipment, cell phones, cameras, copiers, fax machines, scanners, mercury devices, any rechargeable power tools and/or batteries. Keep liquid items with labels intact; lids tight. Secure items in boxes for transport, separating components that may react with each other. Do not leave materials in hot areas. Do not smoke around materials. Provide ventilation.

### Borough Recycling

To receive another or a replacement recycling bin call the Borough and ask when you can pick one up. 215-646-1000. **Recycle to keep trash costs low.** Recycling saves

a large percent of the energy used to make bottles, cans and paper. Recycle each Wednesday at curbside.



### Best Tree Care Practices

**Choose** the right tree for the right place. Check wires overhead. **Call** PAOneCall (p. 4) and get results before digging. **Water** new trees thoroughly once a week if no rain. **Mulch** to retain moisture, forming a donut shape of 2-4" depth, not a dome. Consult a fully insured certified arborist to **prune**. Arborists know expert ways to remove dead, diseased or rubbing branches, so the branch cut will seal well. They avoid a round off or "topping", which tends to damage the tree and cost more in the long term. **Avoid paving on** or compacting roots.



215/641-1070

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

### ***Ambler Receives 2007 Revitalization Award***

Main Street Cultural and Entertainment Initiatives received the award from Montgomery County for the commitment and focused effort involved in renewing and enhancing Ambler's Main Street.

Bernadette Dougherty, Ambler Main Street Manager, was presented with the award, which also served to rightfully acknowledge her twelve years of dedicated service to Ambler's revitalization.

On December 31, 2007, Bernadette retired as Main Street Manager but will no doubt remain an active part of the community. [www.planning.montcopa.org](http://www.planning.montcopa.org). View Montgomery County awards.

### ***First Thursdays in Ambler, More Popular than Ever!***

For \$25.00 per person, where else can you experience "A Taste of the Town" progressive dining (a taste of an appetizer at one restaurant, a taste of an entrée at another, a taste of dessert at a third), and then a movie at the AmblerTheater? For movie listings log on to: [www.amblertheater.org](http://www.amblertheater.org).

**When:** First Thursday of every month. Tickets on sale, 6 pm to 7 pm. (cash or check, please).

**Where:** Ambler Movie Theater Lobby / 108 East Butler Ave.

**What:** Participating restaurants and menu offerings posted in lobby.

**Note:** Drinks and gratuities are not included.

### ***Ambler Main Street Car Show Returns***

A Blast from the Past... See more than 200 quality cars displayed on Butler Avenue.

**When:** Sunday May 18, 2008 Noon – 5pm **Where:** Butler Ave., from Lindenwold to Main Street.

### ***Plant Ambler Joins Ambler Main Street***

The Ambler Main Street Board of Directors voted to create a "Special Committee" by which Plant Ambler would oversee all beautification projects involving flowers and planters throughout the Borough. Tax-deductible contributions to support Plant Ambler should be made payable to Ambler Main Street, with Plant Ambler written on the memo line of the check. These contributions will only be used by Plant Ambler. Volunteers needed, contact [plantambler@gmail.com](mailto:plantambler@gmail.com). Spring planting day is Saturday, April 12, 9am to Noon. Rainedate is Sunday, April 13, 2-5pm.

### ***--GREEN Ambler***

The Board also voted to create a "Special Committee" to make recommendations and plans for Ambler businesses to *think globally by acting locally* when it comes to energy savings, recycling, and purchasing services, goods and supplies. Contact Susan Curry at [suscurry@comcast.net](mailto:suscurry@comcast.net).



**Presented by Ambler Borough**

122 East Butler Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002  
Phone 215-646-1000  
Fax 215-641-1355  
Email: HomeTownNews@borough.ambler.pa.us  
Web: www.ambler.pa.us



PLANT AMBLER, the group of volunteers that has been planting and maintaining flowers throughout the Borough since 1973, will be participating in the Flowers and Fashion show on the Alley of the Arts on Sat, Apr 5, from noon to 4 pm. [plantambler@gmail.com](mailto:plantambler@gmail.com).

## Reminders from the Manager

**Call before you dig: 811 or 1-800-242-1776.** PAOneCall locates underground utilities. [www.paonecall.com](http://www.paonecall.com).

**Quiet Hours:** 10pm-6am  
9pm-6am for construction.

**Grass** should be no higher than 6".

Grass should not be blown into the street. Please notify landscapers.

### Ambler Symphony

**Concerts at Wissahickon High School**  
7:30pm in the Auditorium.

**Wednesday, April 9:** Bach's Oboe and Violin Concerto with Priscilla Smith, guest oboist and *Scherazade*.

**Friday, May 23:**  
Pops Concert with AVA Opera Theatre.



**Act II Playhouse Concert: Brass!**  
**Sunday, May 11,** 7pm with hors d'ouevres. Call 215-503-2256 or visit [www.amblersymphony.org](http://www.amblersymphony.org).

### Wissahickon School District Kindergarten Enrollment

**Mondays & Wednesdays** 10:15am - 5:45pm

**Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays** 8:15am - 3:45pm

**Mattison Avenue School-April 16, 29.**

**Lower Gwynedd School-April 17, 21, or 30.**

Information: 215-619-8000 ext 3009: Toni Reed, Registrar

### Senior Adult Activities Center

Located at the corner of Forest Ave. and North Spring Garden St. Please call 215-619-8863 for info or to volunteer for Meals on Wheels. Free parking in back. Boomer U programs, 7-8pm. Call for schedules; pre-register early.

**Wed Apr 2 Celebrate your Family-** Linda Johnston

**Mon Apr 7 Identity Theft** discussion - John Maioniello, Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist

**Tues Apr 8 Wake Up Your Garden For Spring!**- Peggy Rastiello

**Mon Apr 21 Dove Chocolate (at Home)**

**Sat May 10 Pangea Day** 2:00-6:00pm Films and culture broadcast around the world! [www.PangeaDay.org](http://www.PangeaDay.org)

**Course on Wednesdays: Reiki - Level 1 Training.** Awaken the power of your healing hands. - Susan Anderson



### Events at the Library

**209 Race St. [www.wvpl.org](http://www.wvpl.org)**



**Check out books and more!**

**Telephone: 215-646-1072**

**Children Story Time with Guitar Music by Miss Michelle**

Tuesdays at 4:30pm; also Wednesdays at 10:30am (except 3rd Wed); Thursdays at 10:30am. Get book bags (trucks, animals).

**Art Classes April 22 and May 6** at 7:00pm.

**Summer Readers' Club** Wednesdays at 10:30am, starting with Silly Joe, music for kids!

**June 25.** Rick Waterhouse, funny stories and songs **July 2.**

**Bingo July 9.** Eric Dasher the Magic Pirate **July 16.** Al Grout the juggler **July 23.** Dave Smith, star of America's Got Talent **Aug 6.** and Prizes for Readers **Aug 13.** Bring your library card! Take out plenty of books!

**Adults Daytime Book Group** 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:30pm. **April 10** *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa Su. **May 8** *The Mystery of Breathing* by Perry Klass.

**The Ambler Friends of the Library "Tea and Scones" speaker series.** Join the Friends to support our library.

**"Antique Baskets"** with Lois Wismer on **Tuesday April 8.**

**Container Gardening** with Master Gardener Peggy Rastiello on **Tuesday May 13.** 6:30pm Scones; 7:00pm Program.