

Borough of

AMBLER

HOMETOWN NEWS

www.BoroughOfAmbler.com

SPRING/SUMMER 2014



Inside This Issue:

- Environmental Corner2, 4
 - Stormwater Management2
 - Stream Clean-up Day2
 - Rain Garden Campaign.....4
- Spring Cleaning: Bring your Batteries & Bulbs5
- Anything with a Plug5
- Public Safety Reminders6
- Fire & Ambulance News6
- Notes from the Ambler Police Department7
- Calendar of Events9
- Water Department News11
- Public Works News.....12
- In Our Community13-15
- Trash, Recycling & Yard Waste News.....16
- Borough of Ambler Directory17

Dear Residents & Friends:

This year, we begin a two-phase renovation of Mattison Avenue School. **Phase One** involves conversion of space for Ambler’s Municipal Building where Administration, Police and Council Chambers will be located in former classroom & music areas. During **Phase Two**, we will convert the Gymnasium and auxiliary space (over 7,300 square feet) to become Ambler Community Center.

Ambler Community Center will serve members of the whole community for recreational and learning activities, providing public meeting rooms and activity space for organized community groups, scouting, private parties and non-profit groups. The Community Center will continue to serve as an emergency/disaster relief center. This new facility will enable us to provide a focal point for services, information and activities to better meet the needs of the people of Ambler.

*Mary Aversa,
Borough Manager*



When working in Ambler, I'm not just selling a home, I'm selling a community. Selling our community comes easy for me, because I love this town! Visit my website and see for yourself.

www.MontcoREsource.com

Allison Wolf, serving Ambler and beyond.

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215.704.9888

Be a part of the Ambler community on facebook: @Ambler19002



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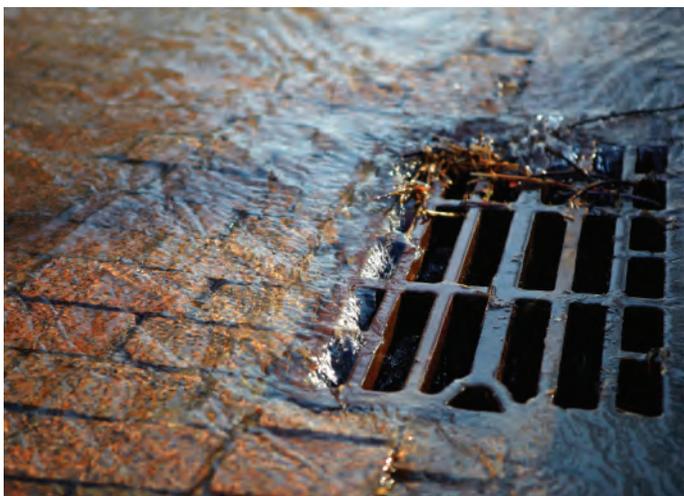


STORMWATER MANAGEMENT -- Stormwater Runoff

Rain by nature is important for replenishing drinking water, supplies, recreation, and healthy wildlife habitats. It only becomes a problem when pollutants from our activities like car maintenance, lawn care, and dog walking are left on the ground for rain to wash away. Here are some of the most important ways to prevent storm water pollution:

- 💧 Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint – never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.
- 💧 Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- 💧 Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites in storm water runoff or tracked into roads by construction vehicles. Report poorly managed construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community.
- 💧 Install innovative storm water practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens, that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.
- 💧 Report any discharges from storm water outfalls during times of dry weather – a sign that there could be a problem with the storm sewer system.
- 💧 Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess – in a backyard or at the park – storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.
- 💧 Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage that do not rust or leak to eliminate exposure of materials to storm water.

For more information, please visit Amblers' webpage (<http://www.boroughofambler.com/other-web-resources/>)



WISSAHICKON STREAM CLEAN-UP DAY Saturday, April 26 at 9 a.m.

Each year the Ambler Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) partners with Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association (WVWA) to bring volunteers down to the water! Due to high winds, stormwater runoff, flooding, and general recreational use, our waterways collect debris and litter which may harm aquatic life, affect water quality and diminish the aesthetic quality of our streams.

Join the EAC in WVWA's 43rd Annual Creek Clean Up of the Wissahickon Creek and its local tributaries. Ambler volunteers will focus clean-up efforts on the Rose Valley and Tannery Run tributaries. Trash bags, gloves and other equipment will be provided. We recommend that volunteers wear suitable clothing and shoes.

To volunteer, please pre-register by E-mail with EAC member Susan Johnsson at Amblereac@gmail.com. We will meet at the parking lot of Trax Restaurant at 9 am on Saturday, April 26. This event is suitable for all ages, so bring the whole family!



Photo courtesy of WVWA

Following the cleanup, WVWA and Friends of the Wissahickon (FOW) invite all participants to attend the "Talkin' Trash" picnic at the Fort Washington State Park Mill Road Pavilion from 11:00 am - 1:00pm.

YOU DUMP IT, YOU DRINK IT.

Oil dumped down storm drains contaminates our water. If you change your own motoroil, protect our environment by recycling this valuable resource.

Take your used motor oil locally to:

Lynch's Service Center
Race St. & Butler Ave.
215-646-9949
[motor oil only]

Ridge Auto
140 N. Ridge Ave.
215-646-2424
[motor oil & antifreeze]



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155 E Butler Ave
215-646-8400

Schwenksville
395 Main Street
610-287-8301

Fairview Village
3009 W. Germantown Pike
610-650-9517

Limerick
438 W. Ridge Pike
610-495-2265

AMBLER 100 RAIN GARDENS CAMPAIGN

We are seeking interested homeowners to help us meet our goal of 100 Rain Gardens in the Borough! Interested homeowners can benefit from a variety of assistance and incentives for their rain garden, including:

- the EAC and partners will provide a site evaluation to determine the feasibility of a rain garden on your property;
- the EAC, through grants and sponsors, will provide native plants, mulch, stone and downspout extensions to support the installation and functioning of the rain garden;
- the EAC will assist in getting volunteers to help create the shallow depression, slope and berm which define a rain garden and, if you'd like, planting assistance as well; and,
- the EAC will provide Rain Garden workshops in the fall and spring throughout the Campaign, which landowners will be required to attend.

What does the homeowner need to do? First contact the EAC at Amblereac@gmail.com with an expression of interest. An EAC



member will get back to you with additional information. Please visit www.stormwaterpa.org/raingarden for a video on our Campaign.

Why are rain gardens important?

Stormwater runoff from urban areas increases flooding and may carry pollutants from streets, parking lots and even lawns into streams and lakes. Treating this polluted runoff leads to costly municipal improvements in stormwater treatment structures. Rain gardens, however, are less costly and more efficient at managing stormwater runoff from roofs, driveways and sidewalks associated with residential properties.

The Ambler 100 Rain Garden Campaign is funded in part by the Ambler EAC and in part by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania's Citizen Education Fund through a Growing Greener grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The Ambler Rain Garden Campaign supports the Delaware Estuary and the Rain Gardens for the Bays Campaign. For more information, please visit www.raingardensforthebays.org.



“Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade.”

-- *Charles Dickens*

“Summer afternoon – summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.” -- *Henry James*

“Summer’s lease hath all too short a date.”

-- *William Shakespeare*

SPRING (CLEANING) HAS ARRIVED!

'Bring Your Bulbs & Batteries to the Borough' Campaign!

After a long winter filled with holidays, new toys, and snow, you may find yourself replacing batteries in smoke alarms and electronics, clearing out drawers and basements. The end result may be a bag full of unwanted alkaline batteries and compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL).

Ambler's Environmental Advisory Council is sponsoring a 'Bring Your Bulbs & Batteries to the Borough' campaign this spring. During the month of May please stop by the Borough and bring your household batteries and CFL bulbs for recycling and proper disposal (please no car batteries). Residents and businesses may drop off their AAA to 9V batteries in the labeled bins provided. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will ensure that they are dropped off at a responsible recycling center.

Recycling alkaline batteries makes good economic and environmental sense. Batteries are made from several different materials including acid, lead, nickel, lithium, cadmium, alkaline and nickel metal hydride. Throwing batteries into the trash sends them to an incinerator or landfill where their casing can disintegrate, releasing toxic chemicals into the surrounding environment. However, these chemicals and metals themselves can be reused after the battery is taken apart properly in a special recycling facility to make new batteries. Once a battery's chemicals and metals can no longer be used, they are disposed of in such a way that the toxic chemicals cannot escape into the environment.

Recycling of CFL bulbs makes good sense, too. First, recycling prevents the release of mercury into the environment. CFLs and other fluorescent bulbs often break when thrown into a

dumpster, trash can or compactor, or when they end up in a landfill or incinerator. Secondly, other materials in the bulbs get reused. Recycling CFLs and other fluorescent bulbs allows the reuse of the glass, metals and other materials that make up fluorescent lights. Virtually all components of a fluorescent bulb can be recycled.

To recycle batteries and CFLs on your own, the following local businesses will accept identified products:

Car/Boat Batteries

John Miller & Son, Inc. Recycling - Oreland
147 Oreland Mill Road
Oreland, PA 19075
Phone: 215-885-8199
Drop Off:
Lead Acid Batteries, Rechargeable
and Button Cell Batteries

CFL Bulbs

Most Lowes, Home Depot and Ikea
(call to inquire before making the trip)

Household batteries

Most Whole Food Stores

For more information about recycling, please visit:
Montgomery County Recycling Guide:
www.montcopa.org/index.aspx?NID=644

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:
www2.epa.gov/cfl/recycling-and-disposal-after-cfl-burns-out



Greener Option:

Consider using rechargeable batteries to power your electronics and other battery operated products. And, for even longer lasting light, when the CFL's no longer perform, consider replacing them with LED lights, when appropriate.



ANYTHING WITH A PLUG – Local Electronics Collection Event

Upper Dublin Township will host "Anything With a Plug" drop-off collection events on Saturday, April 5th and Saturday, September 6th from 9am-1pm in front of the Upper Dublin Township Building on Loch Alsh Avenue. Ambler Borough residents are invited to participate. You may drop off TV's, monitors, computers, microwave ovens, etc – anything with a plug. No large appliances or rear projection TV's.

Recycling your electronics helps ensure many valuable materials like plastic, aluminum, copper and gold do not go to waste. But just as importantly, it is also providing the important benefit of keeping some of the less desirable materials found in TV's, phones and computers such as mercury, lead and other heavy metals out of our natural environment. These materials cause harm to the environment if they are mismanaged or disposed of in improperly lined landfills.

MONTGOMERYCOUNTYRECYCLES.ORG

Check out the County's recycling website this spring for their scheduled 2014 County-wide collection events. A detailed A-Z Recycling Guide is featured on the site as well. For specific questions, call the Recycling Hotline at 610-278-3618. Ambler Borough has posted the County collection schedule on our website's home page. The County will host item-specific events at numerous drop-off locations for the following items:

- paper shredding
- tire collection
- campaign sign recycling
- electronics collection
- household hazardous waste collection



USE YOUR HEAD... WEAR A HELMET

Before you allow your children to head out on their wheels this spring, make sure they protect themselves with essential safety gear. Be sure they use their head...and put on a helmet!

NOTES FROM COMMUNITY AMBULANCE

1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler

215-643-6517 www.amblerambulance.org

Executive Director David L. Fleming

Services

- CAAA has served Ambler Borough and Lower Gwynedd & Upper Dublin Townships since 1941.
- CAAA is a 501c3 Not-for- Profit Organization.
- We respond to over 3,000 medical emergencies each year including **534 dispatched calls in 2013 for Ambler Borough.**
- We have 4 mobile intensive care units (ambulances) each equipped with state-of-the-art emergency equipment each capable of transporting two patients.
- We have an EMS/Chief Responder unit and several bike patrol units available for special events.
- Each ambulance is staffed with at least one Paramedic and one Emergency Medical Technician capable of providing ALS (Advanced Life Support) services.
- We also serve the PA Turnpike between Willow Grove and Mid County tolls.

Financial Facts

- The average cost of emergency ambulance service is \$800.00-\$1,200.00. Basic Life Support calls (i.e., broken bone, minor lacerations) is \$800.00; Advanced Life Support calls (i.e., heart attack/stroke, major trauma) is \$1,100-\$1,200 plus mileage, medications, IV access etc.
- CAAA's annual operating budget is approximately \$1,367,000.
- Our organization is supported by: billing for services rendered, annual subscription campaign, donations, grants and fundraising.

Challenges

- 73% of our ambulance calls are to assisted living facilities or nursing homes in the communities we serve. The vast majority of those patients have Medicare plans for their medical coverage. Reimbursement for those patients is capped at approximately \$300.00.
- Payments from auto insurers are similarly capped (10% over the Medicare rate).



- We must constantly replace and /or upgrade equipment on the ambulances in order to meet our mission of "providing excellence in pre-hospital care".
- New ambulances cost approximately \$156,000 each and totally equipping them can often double that figure.

Solutions

- Increased general donations, planned gifts/bequests.
- Increased corporate, church, college and local service club support.
- Increased participation in CAAA fundraising activities (Coin drop, Photo fundraiser, subscription campaign).
- Obtain additional grants from government, community and corporate foundations.



In short, **YOU CAN HELP.** It is critical that we find ways to guarantee that our services are available to the community in the upcoming years. It would be our pleasure to share our story of 73 years of service with all interested organizations and groups of any kind, since our services have been and continue to be, vital to all (including residents, workforce, commuters and visitors) to our area. Please contact us at 215-643-6517 or

visit our web page at www.amblerambulance.org or like us on Facebook. We thank the citizens of Ambler and the surrounding townships for their continued and generous support.

WISSAHICKON FIRE COMPANY

Chief John Leadbeater

The Wissahickon Fire Company protects the residents of Ambler Borough and Lower Gwynedd Township operating out of two fire stations with an all volunteer department. Led by Chief John Leadbeater, the firefighting force consists of 85 volunteers who attend training every Monday night during the year from 7 – 9 pm. The apparatus fleet consists of two engines, a rescue engine, a 100-foot ladder truck, a rescue truck, two boats and four support vehicles. In 2013, the fire company responded to 589 fire and rescue emergencies. With the dedication of these volunteers, our communities are assured the best protection available 24-hours-a-day, every day of the year.

REMEMBER: EMERGENCY DIAL 9 – 1 – 1

Please support the Wissahickon Fire Company as we strive to protect every citizen with the most updated equipment and best trained firefighters in the region. Our annual fund drive, which you receive in the mail, supports the replacement of all our apparatus and the purchase of the best firefighting equipment on the market. The average cost of coats, pants and helmet for one firefighter is \$2,400. Our Annual Pasta Night is April 12, 2014 and it continues to be a big hit in the community. So, come out and enjoy the fun in the Fire Station. Open house during Fire Prevention Week in October teaches fire safety and kids enjoy a night with a firefighter.



Firefighter Equipment:

Structural firefighting bunker coat	\$800.00
Structural firefighting bunker pants	\$487.49
Firefighting boots	\$279.95
Firefighting gloves	\$75.00
Firefighting helmet	\$433.99
Firefighting Nomex Hood	\$28.49
Apollo Digital Pager	\$170.00
Total Equipment For 1 Firefighter	\$2,324.91

OTHER EQUIPMENT:

800 MHZ Portable Radio	\$3,750.00
200-ft 1 ¾ inch fire attack hose	\$519.96
100 ft 5-inch supply hose	\$799.00
MSA – Air Pack	\$5,375.00
Thermal Imaging Search Camera	\$10,000.00

Apparatus Replacement:

Ladder Truck – 100-ft,	\$721,000.00
1500 GPM pump (2008 pricing)	
Rescue Engine –	\$524,000.00
1500 GPM pump (2012 pricing)	
Structural Engine –	\$400,000.00
1500 GPM pump (estimate)	
Rescue Truck (estimate)	\$550,000.00

NOTES FROM THE AMBLER POLICE DEPARTMENT - Chief William Foley

PREVENTING IDENTITY THEFT

Preventing identity theft is a matter of being pro-active and always being vigilant. Your goal should be to limit other people's access to your information – or they will steal your life.

Identity theft costs banks and credit card companies over \$5 billion annually. Identity theft affects over half a million consumers every year. An average consumer victim will spend \$1,500 and 175 hours to unravel the mess created by identity theft. Remember, it will be your responsibility to correct credit card errors and restore your identity should identity theft occur.

While there is no foolproof prevention, there are common sense approaches which will protect you from identity theft under most conditions.

- **STEP 1.** Guard your Social Security Number – it is the prime target
- **STEP 2.** Monitor your credit report from one of the credit reporting bureaus:
 - Equifax 800-685-1111 www.equifax.com
 - Experian 888-397-3742 www.experian.com
 - TransUnion 800-916-8800 www.transunion.com
- **STEP 3.** Buy a shredder and use it – a cross-cut shredder is best
- **STEP 4.** Watch what you put in your trash – safeguard personal information
- **STEP 5.** Remove your name from marketing lists
- **STEP 6.** Keep duplicate records – copy both sides of wallet contents and safeguard
- **STEP 7.** On the phone do not release personal information unless you placed the call
- **STEP 8.** Be aware of your surroundings using ATM cards, credit cards & pin numbers
- **STEP 9.** Monitor credit card, bank statement & financial accounts activity
- **STEP 10.** Mail payments from a safe location – home mail boxes are not secure
- **STEP 11.** Install secure-site firewall & virus protection software on your computer.

FEMA'S READY CAMPAIGN

Knowing what to do in an emergency is vital to the health and safety of you and your loved ones. FEMA's Ready Campaign offers practical information on taking actions to be prepared. Connecting with family and friends on the importance of preparedness is the first step in determining who to call, where to meet and what to pack in an emergency. FEMA urges everyone to:

BE INFORMED — What to do before, during and after an emergency.

MAKE A PLAN — Prepare, plan and stay informed for emergencies.

BUILD A KIT — Build a kit for disasters to be prepared.

GET INVOLVED — Find opportunities to support community preparedness.

BUSINESSES — Plan for an protect your business.

KIDS — Fun and games for kids. Know the facts, be empowered and stay safe!

PETS — Create a pet 'Go-Bag' to help keep pets safe during an emergency.

Disasters affect everyone. And so it takes everyone – youth, parents, and community members – to help prepare. To obtain FEMA's newsletter, obtain a family communication plan contact template for kids or an emergency supply checklist, you should check the informative websites listed below. Additionally, you may follow Ready.gov on Social Media to get daily tips and updates.

Be sure to visit the FEMA library on the kids' website to download more facts about blackouts, drought, extreme heat, winter storms/extreme cold, floods, home fires, hurricanes, thunderstorms & lightning, or earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes, tsunamis and 'space weather'.

Website: www.ready.gov
Website for Kids: www.ready.gov/kids
Twitter: @Readygov
Facebook: Facebook/Readygov

PA ONE CALL SYSTEM '8-1-1' – Where Safe Digging Starts

To assure safe digging for your project, dial 8-1-1 before you dig. Safe digging is no accident! If you are installing a fence or deck, or digging for a mailbox post, patio or other excavation project, it is important to Know What's Below. Make a Pennsylvania One Call phone call three to ten business days before your scheduled dig. PA One Call will notify utility companies who will mark where underground lines, cables & pipelines are located with colored paint, flags or chalk. Water lines, for example, are marked in blue.

When you are planning to dig, please do your part!

- Mark the specific excavation site with white.
- Dial 8-1-1
- Wait for the site to be marked.
- Confirm the utility response.
- Respect all markings & dig with care.



When you call 8-1-1 please have the following

information available: County; Municipality; Ward Number; Work Site Street Address; Nearest Intersection; PENNDOT Permit Number (if applicable); Latitude / Longitude; Type of Work; Depth, Method & Extent of Excavation; Site Description (working in street, sidewalk, public or private property); Owner; Contractor Name & Address (if applicable); Proposed Dig Date & Time; Caller & Contact Person (include name, phone numbers, fax number and/or email address if you have, and best time to call).

By not calling, here is what you could be getting into: personal injury, damage to the environment, costly property damage, damage to communications, electric, gas, water and sewer lines and traffic signals; costly delays and expensive repairs; legal problems and civil penalties.

The Pennsylvania One Call service is no cost to homeowners. Reminder – if you hire someone to install your fence, deck or new patio, ask to see the PA One Call serial number before allowing them to dig on your property. For more information, visit www.pa811.org.

CODE ENFORCEMENT NEWS

High Weeds and Grass – With the increased awareness of mosquitoes and the diseases they potentially carry it has become critical to maintain a well-groomed lawn at a certain height, six inches or less. Excess weed and grass growth promotes an atmosphere that mosquitoes and other unwanted insects thrive in. Let's help keep Ambler beautiful and safe by maintaining lawns at acceptable heights. Homeowners whose lawns exceed six inches are subject to a fine.

Yard/Garage Sales – A permit is required to hold a yard sale. Contact the Borough Receptionist and stop by Borough Hall to obtain a permit. Signs are not permitted on utility poles.

Residential Resale Requirements – Owners of properties being sold must submit a letter to the Borough prior to resale stating that the following items have been installed: UL-Approved Smoke Detectors are located one on each level and one in each bedroom (battery-operated detectors are allowed in single family dwellings only); water backflow preventor is installed on the public water service; carbon monoxide detector is installed in the basement near the heater. Additionally, house numbers at least three inches tall must be visible from the street. No U&O permit is needed, no fees are assessed and no walk-thru is required.

Curb Your Dog – Remember to curb and clean-up after your dog.



Ambler Main Street

2014 Spring & Summer Events



**First Friday: May 2nd & every first Friday,
May - October!**

18th Annual Auto Show: May 17th

**Ambler Farmers' Market: May - October
(Saturday mornings, 9am - 1pm)**

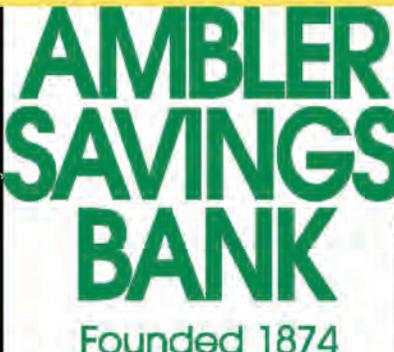
Arts & Music Festival: June 13-14

Ambler Restaurant Week: July 14-21

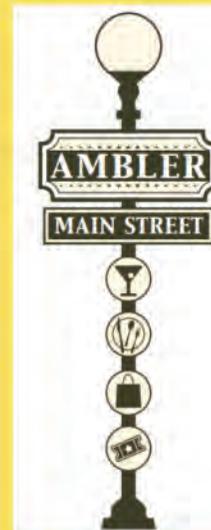
Dog Days: August 9th

AmblerMainStreet.org

Thank you to our wonderful Ambler Main Street members!



Ambler Savings Bank	Sweet Briar Café	Amazing Decks
Bar 31	34 East Tavern	Deck's Hardware
Debra Lee Music School	Trax Restaurant & Cafe	Armario
Best Kept Secret Hair Salon	Costa Deli	Tattoo Galaxy
Phillips & Associates Architects	Saffron	No Bare Walls Framing Studio
Allison Wolf, Realtor	Puppy Love by Nicole	Ambler Eye Associates
PURE Spa	Act II Playhouse	Julia's On The Go Deli
Bridget's Steakhouse	Forest & Main Brewing Company	Sew Vintage
KC's Alley	El Jefe	Orsini Auto Repair
Barberella Salon	Addicted 2 Dance	Holistic Apothecary
Frox	Aldamlouji & Parker Arch.	Educere LLC
Maro's Flooring	Allflex Packaging Products, Inc.	TONI&GUY Hairdressing Academy
LTK Engineering Services	Ambler Mennonite Church	Ambler Theater
Ambler Music Academy	Copernicus Society of America	Prive Salon
Beautyguard Manufacturing Co.	D'Agostino Carpets	Dettera
Berne Siergiej, Esq.	Dennis F. Meyer, Inc	Ambler Skate Shop
Massa	Historic Abstract	Nancy Priff Editorial Services
Preventadent Associates, Inc.	John V. Di Girolamo, D.D.S.	Mermaid Art Studio
State Farm - Jeff Boyer	Kathryn's Kitchen, LLC	Laguda Formal Wear
From The Boot	Lutter, Inc.	Candida's Pizzeria
Artman Lutheran Home	Shaeff-Myers Funeral Home	Direct Imaging Design
Urban Funeral Home	Vince DiFrancesco Opticians	Ambler Tire
Flowers By Veronica	Zacccone Motors	Ambler Music
Belovely	Main Street Vintage	Generation T
Antique Garden Cottage	Xtra 101	Jade Organic Salon
Shoefitters	3D Fitness Coaching Studio	Manely For You Beauty Salon
		Edward Jones Investments



Visit the business directory at AmblerMainStreet.org for detailed information on each of these fabulous businesses!

Ambler Main Street is able to bring you wonderful events due to the support of our business members and also by generous donations from members of the community, folks who attend and enjoy the events, like you! Please show your support and consider a donation to Ambler Main Street today!

www.DonateAMS.org

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

CURB BOXES & WATER METERS – ‘Keep them Exposed’

Water Department employees report that frequently during a water leak emergency, when they are dispatched to an address to shut off the water from the water main, they have difficulty locating a property’s curb box and on occasion cannot access a building’s water meter.



The curb box controls the water supply from the Borough’s water main to the inside of a building. It is located between the building and the main, generally in the lawn area near the curblin e or sidewalk, and sometimes is found in the sidewalk. The cover is referred to as the curb box lid. The lid is a metal disk about 4 inches in diameter and should be flush with the sidewalk or lawn. The lid is imprinted with the manufacturer’s name and will say “WATER.”

Repair time is lost, and increased damage to property can occur when Water Department employees cannot locate curb boxes to shut off water. Curb box lids must remain exposed and are not to be covered with plantings, berms, wood chips or mulch and are never to be paved over when repairing a sidewalk.

Access to water meters that are located in a basement has been hampered because some homeowners with finished basements have dry-walled over the water meter. While water meters are read in a vehicle by radio-read these days, water meters can malfunction or a leak can occur at the location of a water meter. Removing a section of dry-wall to isolate a water meter in need of repair takes up precious time and can be an added expense to a homeowner. Please keep your water meter exposed. As an added precaution, please be sure that the emergency shut-off valves located on both sides of the water meter are in working order. This will allow you to shut off the water at the meter in the case of a water emergency.

Public Notification for Water Issues

In the event of a water quality emergency we need to get in touch with our water customers. We do this through our phone dial

notification system called Swiftreach™. It is important for the Water Department to maintain updated contact information. You may update your contact information by accessing the Swiftreach™ icon on the Borough website homepage or by calling the Borough or directing an E-mail to erussell@borough.ambler.pa.us.

What to Do About Discolored Water

Water can become discolored due to a fire hydrant being opened or in the event of a water main break. In many cases, a contractor has without permission opened a hydrant while on a job. If you see this happening, contact us immediately. In the event you experience discolored water, DO NOT OPEN THE HOT WATER SIDE OF YOUR FAUCET – this will bring discolored water into the hot water tank. RUN COLD WATER only from your faucet for several minutes. Continue repeating this process until the water runs clear. If discoloration is severe, it also is suggested, if you have a water softener, that you by-pass the water softener until the situation is ‘clear.’ If the problem persists, contact the Water Department at 215-646-1000 Ext. 110 or 111.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Reports

Every year the Ambler Borough Water Department publishes a Consumer Confidence Report. This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, is designed to inform customers about the quality of water we deliver to you every day. CCR reports are sent out to our water customers every June and are also available on the Borough website.

Water Bill Credit Card Payments

Online credit card and E-check payments are now accepted for water bills. A convenience fee will be charged to customers using credit cards. Simply visit the Borough’s homepage and click on “Pay Your Water Bill.” You may also pay your bill in person with personal check, cash or Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. You may drop off your water payments (checks only) in the 24/7 Lock Box located on the left side of York Street just a few feet beyond the Borough Hall lot.

TAX TIPS FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR

Property Tax Time is Right Around the Corner

Your County and Borough **property tax bill** was mailed out early March.

You have until April 30th to pay it and receive a 2% discount.

After that date, you have until June 30th to pay the face amount.

And after June 30th, you must pay a 10% penalty.

Office Hours at 338 Tennis Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002 are every Wednesday from 9am – 1pm

Look for additional hours printed on your bill. Questions? 215-643-3255.

Bernadette Dougherty

Ambler Tax Collector



IN OUR COMMUNITY

AMBLER FARMER'S MARKET

AmblerFarmersMarket.com facebook.com/AmblerFarmersMarket

Farmers' Markets are popping up in small towns all around the country and Ambler has one of the best!

Ambler Farmers' Market, an initiative of Ambler Main Street, celebrates their second season starting in May and will be operational every Saturday through October.

The Market, which opened when there was no place in the Borough of Ambler to buy fresh produce, has since evolved into something greater. The Market prides itself for "cultivating the community through food". In its first season, the market quickly became one of Ambler's key gathering places - where neighbors meet and mingle, where chefs deal directly with the farmers, where local musicians entertain, where you will learn something new about food, or the environment or meet a local author, where your dog is welcomed and your children can express themselves through art on the 'Kids' Quilt'. All of your senses are touched at the Market.

The vendors provide a diverse and unique selection of farm fresh products including fruits and vegetables, beef, pork, lamb, fish,



chicken, goat, turkey, capon, chicken and duck eggs, cheese, cider (hard and standard), dairy, coffee, breads and pastries, honey, flowers & plants, wine, smoked products and much more.

Visit amblerfarmersmarket.com for a full schedule of special events that highlight the bounty of the seasons and 'like' their facebook page.

Join the community every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the SEPTA parking lot at Butler Avenue and Maple Street. Ambler Farmers' Market - fresh food, fresh air and friendly faces!



KIWANIS EASTER EGG HUNT

Ambler
Borough Park
April 12th
starts at 10 a.m.
(raindate April 19th)



MOVIES IN THE PARKS

Borough Council's Parks & Recreation Committee is scheduling three Movies in the Parks family events for this summer. Movies will be shown at Pickering Field, Ricciardi Park and Knight Park. Movie showings will begin at dusk. Be sure to bring your own snacks. Check back on the Borough website or the Gateway Sign at Ambler Savings Bank for movie titles, park information and dates. Enjoy the summer!



2014 Rabies Clinics

Dogs, Cats & Ferrets

\$10.00 per Shot

Date	Place	Time
June 7 th	Abington Recycling Center 2201 Florey Lane (off of Easton Road) Abington	9am - 11am
June 14 th	Collegeville Community Park 4 th and Park Avenue Collegeville	9am - 11am
June 21 st	Encore Experiences *formerly Harleysville Senior Center Harleysville	9am - 11am
June 28 th	Padden Park *also known as the Burnside/Oakland Park Burnside Avenue and Oakland Drive West Norriton	9am - 11am

ANIMALS MUST BE LEASHED OR IN AN APPROVED CARRIER



Montgomery County Commissioners:

Josh Shapiro, Chair, Leslie S. Richards, Vice Chair, Bruce L. Castor, Jr., Commissioner

IN OUR COMMUNITY

WISSAHICKON VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

'A Center for Lifelong Learning'

209 Race Street, Ambler. Mon-Thur 10 am – 9 pm & Fri-Sat 10 am – 5 pm.

Please visit us at www.wvpl.org or contact us at 215-646-1072 or 215-643-7775.

Did you know that you can use your WVPL card at wvpl.org to:

- Borrow eMagazines through Zinio
- Borrow eBooks through Overdrive
- Borrow eAudiobooks through Overdrive
- Search Consumer Reports Online
- Search Morningstar Investment Research Center
- Search Del Val Consumer's Checkbook for local ratings of doctors, dentists, vets, plumbers and auto



YMCA SUMMER CAMP - REGISTRATION

YMCA Summer Camp will run this summer at Mattison Avenue School and Knight Park. Camp will begin Monday, June 23 and run for six consecutive weeks. The cost is still \$30.00 per week per child. Registration is Wednesday, May 7th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Borough Hall. Please bring proof of residency.



MATTIE DIXON COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

'Neighbors Helping Neighbors'

150 N. Main St., Ambler. Contact us at 215-628-3002.

Please visit us at www.community-cupboard.org



The mission of the Community Cupboard is to provide food, clothing, household items and financial assistance for people in need in Ambler and the areas that we serve. Donations are accepted Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am to 2pm, Monday and Wednesday 12pm to 2pm. Distribution hours are Mondays from 9:30am to 11:30am and Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 11:30am. Our free boutique is open Mondays 9am to 11:30am, with seasonal hours on Thursdays from 9am to 11am and in spring/summer Wednesday 9am to 11:30am. Photo ID, family income and proof of current address is required for all clients.

The Cupboard was extremely busy this past holiday season! Starting in late November, in addition to our regular food distribution, boutique (where clients can shop for clothes and household items), counseling, nurse screenings, and other financial and emergency services, we distributed 210 Thanksgiving Food Baskets, 250 Christmas food baskets and we were able to offer many other extra goods and services to our clients. We could not do this without the amazing support from our community.

We are particularly proud of our Holiday Gift Program for children ages 0-17. Clients were asked to sign up their children through our administrative office by late November. With the help of many generous individuals, families, churches, local businesses, and support from Toys for Tots in Willow Grove, this year we were able to help out over 250 children with holiday gifts. Each child received at least one new toy, an outfit and a pair of pajamas and hats/mittens. Stocking stuffers, gift cards and wrapping supplies were also part of the gift packages. Parents were thrilled to be able to give their kids what they deserve during a magical season.

Please contact the Cupboard if you would like to volunteer. When making a financial contribution, please make payable to Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard and mail to P.O Box 367, Ambler, PA 19002



PLANT AMBLER

Plant Ambler volunteers donate their time and energy planting and maintaining flowers and greens throughout the business district. They have been doing this for over 40 years! To volunteer to plant, water and weed or to send a donation, contact Plant Ambler at 215-643-4929.



IN OUR COMMUNITY

AMBLER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA -- JOIN US FOR OUR 63rd SEASON

Founded in 1951, the Ambler Symphony Orchestra provides cultural enrichment for the community and an opportunity for area musicians to perform. There are over 50 musicians in the Ambler Symphony Orchestra. The Orchestra season consists of three subscription concerts performed at area auditoriums, a Children's Concert dedicated to the young and the young at heart, a Menges Scholarship Concert featuring our scholarship winners, and a number of public appearances at local residential communities and historic sites.

An All-American Extravaganza

Friday, April 11, 7:30 PM at Wissahickon High School

Pianist **Kim Barroso** will return to play **George Gershwin's** Concerto in F for Piano and Orchestra. The orchestra will also perform **Leonard Bernstein's** rollicking *Candide* Overture and **George Whitefield Chadwick's** Symphonic Sketches for Orchestra.



Spring Pops Concert

Friday, May 30, 7:30 PM at Wissahickon High School

Always a favorite, our Spring Pops concerts fill the concert hall with light classics, show tunes, and more!

Upper Gwynedd Concert. FREE. Wednesday, June 4, 7:00 PM

On the Lawn at Parkside Place Park, North Wales.

Hope Lodge Concert. FREE. Wednesday, June 11, 7:00 PM

Hope Lodge, 553 S. Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington. Bring along a picnic dinner & enjoy an evening of music on the lawn.

CONCERTS & TICKETS: Tickets may be purchased cash or card at-the-door or on-line at www.amblersymphony.org/concerts.

For general or subscriber information contact the Orchestra at admin@AmblerSymphony.org.

AMBLER CHORAL SOCIETY

www.amblerchoralsociety.org

In 1979, choir members from various Ambler churches joined in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*. Many of the singers enjoyed it so much that they decided to continue as a group. They formed the Ambler Community Singers, which in 1996 was renamed the Ambler Choral Society. Mark Daugherty became the Artistic Director in 1985, and ACS continues today under his expert direction. ACS performs many staples of the choral repertoire, including Classical pieces, Musical Theater, and Americana favorites.



The Ambler Choral Society season includes two concerts each year, a holiday and spring concert, along with various public charitable appearances. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from September through April, excluding December. Anyone wishing to join may contact the choir at www.amblerchoralsociety.org or Ambler Choral Society, PO Box 134, Ambler, PA 19002.

This season's Spring Concert, *Beautiful Music from the Stage*, will be presented on April 27, 2014 at 3:00PM at Church of the Open Door, 1260 Fort Washington Avenue, Fort Washington, PA. and features songs from *Phantom of the Opera*, Shakespeare sonnets set to music by George Shearing, and an assortment of American standards and Opera selections. Tickets are \$15.00/adult \$5.00/children under 13 and may be purchased at the door.

SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES CENTER (SAAC)

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45 Forest Avenue, Ambler. Contact us at 215-619-8863. Please visit us at www.montcosaac.com

The mission of the Montco SAAC is to involve, enrich and empower adults 50 years of age or better to create and maintain independence in all phases of life. Whether you're a baby boomer or senior, find out how we can serve as a resource, help you set new challenges and improve the quality of your life.



RESIDENTIAL WASTE, RECYCLABLES & YARD WASTE

TRASH & RECYCLABLES COLLECTION

REFUSE & SOLID WASTE COLLECTION: All solid waste, recyclables & yard waste should be placed curbside no later than 6 A.M. the day of your scheduled pickup. Refuse/solid waste is to be placed in cans with lids provided by the resident. Litter and debris can attract unwanted pests. Also, litter and debris can clog storm drains. Keep trash and recyclables covered. **PLEASE DO NOT LITTER.**

RECYCLABLES COLLECTION: Recyclables are to be placed in the blue rollcart provided by the Borough. All items listed that are recyclable can be mixed together and placed in this cart – **NO SORTING NEEDED.** Recycle newspapers, inserts & junk mail, magazines, catalogs & envelopes, paper back books & phone books,



cardboard & clean pizza boxes, office & school papers (including colored paper), boxboard (cereal, cake & cracker boxes); paper egg cartons, paper bags, aluminum cans & clean foil; tin & empty steel aerosol cans, empty glass jars & bottles, and all plastic containers labeled 1-7.

DO NOT PUT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN THIS CART: NO garbage, NO plastic bags, NO food or tainted waste, NO polystyrene cups or plates, NO motor oil or hazardous chemical containers, NO plastic toys or sporting goods, NO electronics or batteries, NO compact discs or DVDs, NO foam egg cartons or ice cream containers, NO light bulbs, hangers or yard waste.

BULK WASTE COLLECTION: One bulky item (mattress, desk, etc.) per household is permitted each week. No Tires, No TVs or Computers. Call J.P. Mascaro & Sons at 1-800-432-1616 for “white” item pickup. For items containing Freon (refrigerator only) visit Montgomery County’s website

www.montgomerycountyrecycles.org or call 610-278-3618 for a list of companies that will remove Freon and dispose of the appliance for a fee. At no cost to you, call PECO Smart Ideas (1-888-573-2672) for collection of collection of working frigs & freezers (10-30 cuft). Please note, resident must be on site at time of scheduled PECO pick-up.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION: (including Christmas trees in January) Yard waste is collected the second Tuesday of each month, with additional weekly pick-ups spring and fall. Yard waste is to be stored on your property until scheduled pickup. Yard waste shall be placed in paper bags or unlined trash cans or may be bundled with twine. No plastic bags. Yard waste includes leaves, branches & branch materials, twig material, vine & hedge trimmings. No grass clippings. Residents may also bring yard waste to Barnside Farm Compost Facility, 430 Dieber Rd., Schwenksville. You must call first at 610-287-8880 or 610-888-7719.

2014 Yard Waste Collection Schedule

April 8, 15, 22
May 13
June 10
July 8
Aug. 12
Sept. 9
Oct. 14
Nov. 4, 11, 18
Dec. 9

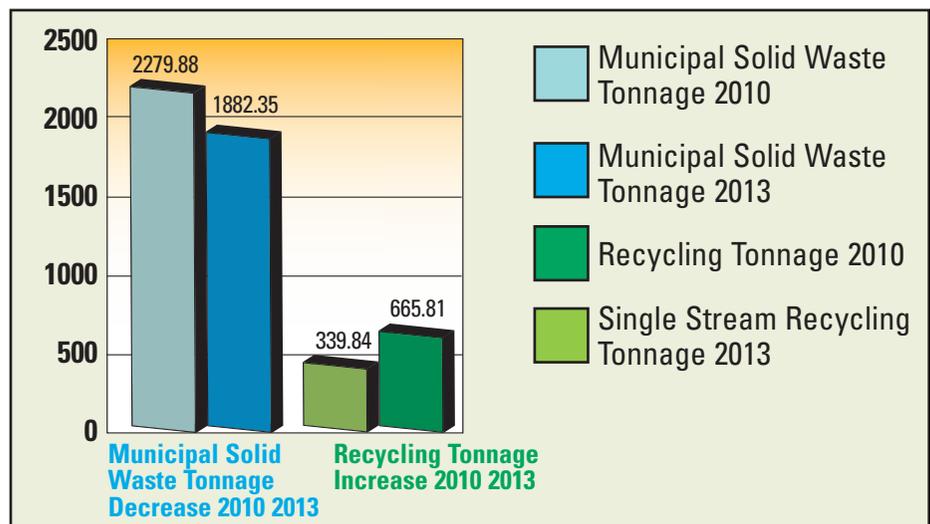
HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS & E-WASTE COLLECTION: Our carrier **DOES NOT ACCEPT** certain hazardous waste materials. **NO DUMPING ALLOWED.** Please refer to the County’s website, www.montgomerycountyrecycles.org for a list of hazardous waste & electronic waste collection sites and for other County recycling news.



AMBLER BOROUGH COLLECTION OF RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE & RECYCLABLES

UP-CYCLE RE-PURPOSE RE-CYCLE

Up-cycling is taking a product or waste material in its current state and turning it into something new and useful. Re-purposing is taking one thing and reusing it as something else. Whereas with Re-cycling, you first need to break down or destroy the waste or product then you make a new product from those broken down materials. Visit www.Earth911.com for More Ideas, Less Waste™.





Borough of Ambler Directory



Ambler Borough Hall
 122 East Butler Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002-4476
 215-646-1000 • Fax: Administration 215-641-1355 • Water 215-641-1921
 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm (closed Federal holidays)
 Website: www.boroughofambler.com

Mayor Jeanne Sorg [jsorg@borough.ambler.pa.us] • **Borough Manager Mary Aversa** [manager@borough.ambler.pa.us]

2014 AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL

WARD 1

Peter A. Amento, Vice President
 Nancy Deininger
 Sharon McCormick

WARD 2

Richard Palumbo
 Jonathan Sheward
 Claudio Zaccone

WARD 3

Ed Curtis
 Frank DeRuosi
 Salvatore Pasceri, President

2014 AMBLER COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Public Safety Committee:	Mr. Curtis (Chairperson), Mrs. McCormick, Mr. Sheward
Parks & Recreation Committee:	Mr. DeRuosi (Chairperson), Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Palumbo, Mrs. McCormick
Public Utilities Committee:	Mr. Amento (Chairperson), Mr. Zaccone, Mr. Curtis
Finance & Planning Committee:	Mr. Pasceri (Interim Chairperson), M. DeRuosi, Mrs. Deininger, Mr. Sheward
Salary & Personnel Committee:	Mr. Zaccone (Chairperson), Mr. Amento, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Palumbo

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY

Representative Allyson Schwartz (13th Cong. Dist.) • 801 Old York Rd, Suite 212, Jenkintown PA 19046 • (215)517-6572
State Senator Stewart Greenleaf (12th District) • 711 York Road, Willow Grove PA 19090 • (215)657-7700
Honorable Todd Stephens (151st District) • 515 Stump Road, North Wales PA 19454 • (215)368-5165

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

1st Tuesday	Borough Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm (November meeting Wed., Nov. 5) – Borough Hall
1st Thursday	Zoning Hearing Board (call for specific times) – Borough Hall
2nd Wednesday	Environmental Advisory Council – 7:00 pm - Borough Hall
3rd Tuesday	Borough Council Meeting – 7:00 pm – Borough Hall (except May meeting Wed., May 21)
3rd Thursday	Ambler Junior Baseball – 7:30 pm – Borough Hall
4th Tuesday	Planning Commission – 7:00 pm (except Nov/Dec held December 10) – Borough Hall
Last Monday	NAACP – 7:30 pm – Borough Hall
Last Tuesday	Ambler Main Street – 5:30 pm – Borough Hall

EMERGENCY NUMBERS – Police, Fire, Rescue, Ambulance 9 – 1 – 1

NON-EMERGENCY & DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Ambler Police (Chief William Foley) 215-646-1000 (8:00-4:30pm); Ambler Police 610-635-4304 after hours	Code Enforcement Officer Ron Myers 215-646-1000 ext 112 [rmyers@borough.ambler.pa.us]
Wissahickon Fire Co. 215-635-4343 Fire Marshall Rick Lockhart 215-646-1000 ext 122	Public Works Supervisor Bob Rocco 215-628-9409 (leave message or call 215-646-1000 '0' Receptionist)
Community Ambulance 610-635-4341 Water Department Supervisor Philip Benigno 215-646-1000 x124 [pbenigno@borough.ambler.pa.us]	Finance Manager Mary Ann Nagel 215-646-1000 x107 [managel@borough.ambler.pa.us]
Water Billing – 215-646-1000 (Cheryl x110 or Ruth x111) Water Emergency – 215-646-1000 follow prompts	Manager's Assistant Elizabeth Russell 215-646-1000 ext 114 [erussell@borough.ambler.pa.us]
Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Bruce Jones 215-628-9457 [bjones@borough.ambler.pa.us]	Borough Receptionist Tara Jones 215-646-1000 dial "0"

VOTER INFORMATION – Primary Election Tuesday, May 20, 2014

AMBLER WARD 1 - WISSAHICKON FIRE COMPANY, 245 Race Street
 AMBLER WARD 2 - MONTCO SAAC CENTER, 45 Forest Avenue
 AMBLER WARD 3 - CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH, 16 E. Park Avenue
 To determine where to vote go to: www.montcopa.org/voterservices



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Thank You!

We thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and recognize each of them as contributors to our community. It is thanks to their advertising support that Hometown News has been produced at no additional charge to our Borough residents.

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