

Borough of

AMBLER

HOMETOWN NEWS

www.boroughofambler.com

SPRING/SUMMER 2015



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Environmental Corner2-4, 6
- Ambler Main Street Members5
- Public Safety Notes6-9
- Notes From Community Ambulance6
- Wissahickon Fire Company.....7
- Notes From the Police Department8
- Borough Department News9-11
- Code Enforcement News11
- Tax Collector11
- In Our Community12-16
- YMCA Knight Summer Camp12
- Wissahickon Public Library13
- Ambler Main Street Events14
- Ambler Directory17

***** SAVE THE DATE *****



June 12 & 13



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- ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative), GREEN, CNE (Certified Negotiation Expert).
- Enthusiastic volunteer for Ambler Main Street, involved in organizing the Ambler Farmers' Market, Restaurant Week, and the Arts Festival.



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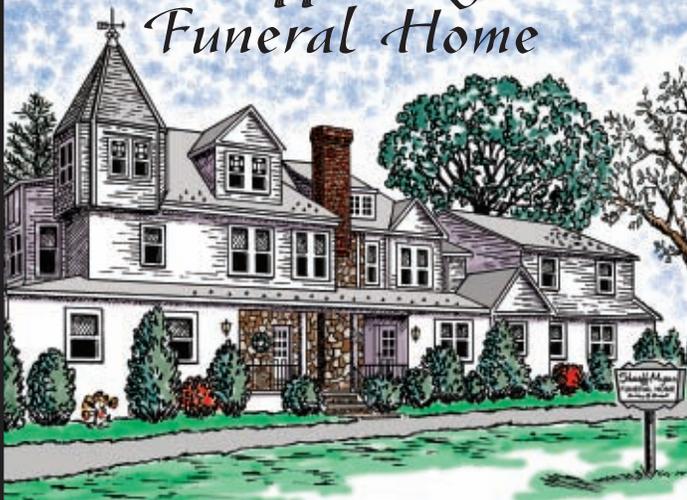
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ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER

Storm Water – Spring Reminders – Jim Dougherty, Gilmore & Associates

Many residents and business owners of Ambler may be aware that rain that drains from your roofs and runs off from your properties in Ambler eventually makes its way to the Wissahickon Creek. The Tannery Run, Rose Valley Creek and Stuart Farm Creek are all tributary to the Wissahickon Creek. The runoff travels overland, and through pipes and channels to the streams and creeks.

As one can imagine a good deal of water falls on Ambler each year. In fact, the Borough received over 4 feet of precipitation in 2014. That sounds like a lot but it is about average for the Borough. I'm sure everyone who witnessed some of the larger rain storms over the past year will not argue that runoff from a large storm can cause a great deal of damage and wash a lot of sediment, dirt, branches, trees and other debris in the storm drains and streams. While the effect of runoff is easily observed during heavy storms, the effects from light rainfall are equally important. Even a light rain washes dirt, oil and other surface pollutants into the streams. This is great for keeping the street clean but is a major problem for the Borough's creeks. All the dirt, oil, lawn fertilizer, road salt, leaves, grass clipping, pet waste, etc.

that washes away with even a light rain ends up as pollution in the Wissahickon.

The EPA and PADEP require that the Borough monitor all storm water outfalls within the Borough for various types of pollutants and take corrective action if needed. The Borough helps by regularly sweeping streets, cleaning leaves and trash from storm inlets, providing trash cans for proper waste disposal throughout town, maintaining Borough vehicles and equipment and maintaining the Borough parks.

With cooperation and effort from everyone we can help keep Ambler's water clean. If you would like more information, Borough Staff and the Ambler Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) are great resources. The Borough website is a valuable resource (www.boroughofambler.com). A link to additional information regarding the Municipal Storm Water Management Program can be found under the "Other Web Resources" section of the website. All Ambler residents and businesses owners are encouraged to review this information and to help in Borough efforts to keep our water clean.

AMBLER EARTH FEST 2015 – April 18th

The Ambler Environmental Advisory Council is coordinating an Earth Fest on **Saturday, April 18th, 2015** from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm. The event will take place inside and outside of Calvary United Methodist Church, 16 Park Avenue, at Park and Lindenwold, and is sponsored by Pi Dental Center.

Ambler Earth Fest promotes environmental awareness and highlights issues, organizations, companies, products and technologies that support a healthy environment and human health. Ambler Earth Fest has something for people for all ages. The event will be held, rain or shine. Lectures, presentations and activities will be held throughout the day including fun learning activities for children.



Partial List of Participants, Speakers and Events:

- Ambler Environmental Advisory Council
- Ambler Food Coop
- Ambler Borough
- Briar Bush Nature Center
- Calvary United Methodist Church
- GigaBiter
- Impact Thrift Stores
- Keystone Fire Protection
- Larry Menkes, Sustainable Transitions, US
- Michael Kozlowski, Stantec Environmental Engineering Company
- Pennypack Farm & Education Center
- Penn State Extension Service
- Pi Dental Center
- Plant Ambler
- Vince Master Beekeeper
- Wissahickon Valley Public Library
- Wissahickon Watershed Association
- Zumba by Jonanna

The day will conclude with an **Environmental/Sustainability Career Forum**. A panel of professionals from environmental fields, college admissions staff and educators will discuss university programs and jobs, and share their personal experiences. High school students, undeclared college students, college students considering a change in their major, and anyone considering an environmental career path are highly encouraged to attend this part of the Earth Fest.

Make plans to come to the **Earth Fest** on **April 18** for an enjoyable and educational afternoon. You can get rid of your old electronics, explore exhibits, listen to presentations, nibble on healthy snacks and learn about the environment. Bring the kids! **For info, complete schedule of presentations and updates, visit [EVENTS at amblereac.org](http://EVENTS@amblereac.org).**

continued on page 3

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Wissahickon Stream Clean-Up Day

Saturday, April 25, 2015 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 44th Annual Creak 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 a.m. on Saturday, April 25th. This event is suitable for all ages, so bring the whole family.

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



Water Conservation – In's and Out's of Water Conservation

With Ambler water rates increasing this year, it becomes financially prudent to reduce your water use where you can. Ever wonder - just how much water you or your family is pouring down the drain when you are brushing your teeth, cleaning the dishes or taking a shower? The answer is, more water than you think.

Here is a great example, if just you - no other family members - brush your teeth twice a day for a total of 6 minutes a day with the water running, you will have used approximately 24 gallons. If you multiply your usage over an entire year, assuming you practice good dental hygiene of course, you will have used 8,736 gallons of water - yes, you read correctly, 8,736 gallons of water just for you and your pearly whites. To put 8,736 gallons in perspective, that is enough water to fill 1.5 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Now, since we all obviously would like to keep brushing our teeth, how can we make a difference? Quite simply actually - turn off the water. If you only run the water for 1 minute, twice a day, for a total of only 2 minutes, you would reduce your consumption by a third, to a total of only 8 gallons per day and a total of 2,912 gallons per year. Simply by reducing your running water by 4 minutes saves 6,000 gallons of water per year. More than 109 55-gallon barrels.

So, want to learn more and see how your family can reduce your water consumption? Of course you do! Have your family stop by the Water Conservation booth setup by the Ambler Environmental Advisory Committee at EarthFest 2015 to learn all the ins-and-outs of water conservation and see some more staggering water conversation numbers.

In the meantime, we suggest the following websites:

http://water.epa.gov/learn/kids/drinkingwater/water_trivia_facts.cfm

<http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/conservation/thepowerof10/>

From these sites you can learn how many gallons of water you don't use and won't need to pay for if you practice some simply water conservation tips.

RAIN GARDENS OF AMBLER

Homeowner Funding Available



Ambler has reached the 25 percent mark in its goal to complete 100 Rain Gardens! Rain gardens make the town more beautiful and help to manage storm water in a simple and "green" way.

Rain gardens add a feature that is attractive to its human and animal neighbors alike. Birds and butterflies are attracted to the plants that grow there. The Rain Garden consists of a shallow depression that has been dug out and shaped. One or more drain spouts are directed to it from the house. A variety of native plants that are tolerant of wet conditions and require very little maintenance for homeowners are carefully chosen.

Annually, these 25 rain gardens keep over 2 million gallons of water from running off yards during storms. When the rain runs off, it carries lawn chemicals, pet waste, car fluids and other harmful toxins to local creeks. Rain Gardens allow the rain to slowly penetrate into the ground and thereby reduce stream bank erosion and flooding.

The Ambler Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is looking for homeowners who would like to join the **100 Rain Gardens of Ambler campaign**. The EAC assists in planning, site selection, and calculation for garden size and depth and advises on plant selection. They match 50% of the property owner's expenses for plants, soil, mulch, rocks and drain spout diverters — up to \$500 per yard. Interested homeowners may request a copy of the Homeowners Agreements. If you would like to watch a 7-minute video on Ambler's Rain Garden Campaign, go to www.stormwaterpa.org/raingarden. To learn more about joining the **100 Rain Gardens of Ambler campaign** and the EAC, please email amblereac@gmail.com.

Thirsty?

STORMWATER POLLUTANTS FIND THEIR WAY INTO WHERE WE FISH, WHERE WE SWIM, AND THE WATER WE DRINK.

Everything that goes into our storm drains, including pet waste, grass clippings, fertilizers, car wash soap, and sediment, eventually makes its way straight into our streams. Stormwater is the leading cause of water pollution in Pennsylvania.

DO YOUR PART TO PROMOTE CLEAN STREAMS AND SAFE DRINKING WATER

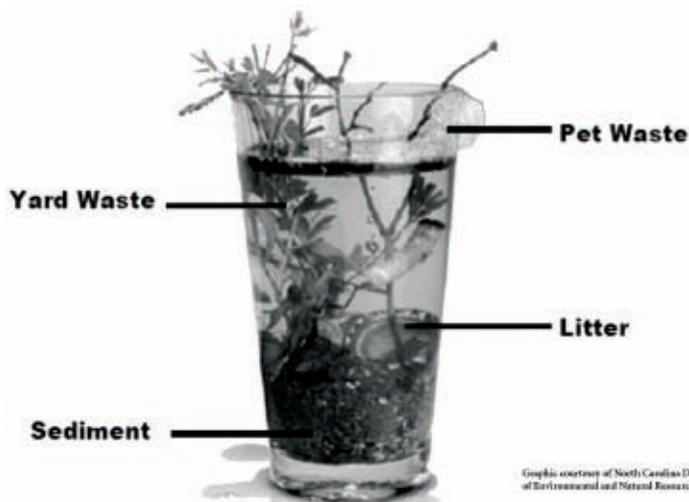
Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste
Use a commercial car wash • Pick up litter

Compost yard waste

Fix any vehicle leaks • Direct downspouts away from paved areas or use a rain barrel

For additional information, please visit:

www.depweb.state.pa.us/
then type in keyword stormwater.



Graphic courtesy of North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources

MONTGOMERYCOUNTYRECYCLES.ORG

610-278-3618

Check out the Borough website homepage or the County's recycling website this spring for collection information (items accepted / not accepted) on their scheduled 2015 County-wide collection events for Household Hazardous Waste, Tires Collection and Paper Shredding. A detailed A-Z Recycling Guide is featured on the site as well. For specific questions, call their **Recycling Hotline** at 610-278-3618. This year the County will host item-specific events – rain or shine – at numerous drop-off locations as follows:

FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS:

Indian Valley Middle School	Saturday, April 18, 2015, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Montgomery County Community College	Saturday, May 30, 2015, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center	Saturday, July 11, 2015, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Abington Junior High School	Saturday, August 8, 2015, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Lower Merion Transfer Station	Saturday, October 18, 2015, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

FREE COMMUNITY PAPER SHREDDING EVENTS:

[2 boxes or paper bags per vehicle limit]

Indian Valley Middle School	Saturday, April 11, 2015, 9 a.m. - noon
Abington Junior High School	Saturday, August 15, 2015, 9 a.m. - noon
Lower Merion Transfer Station	Sunday, October 4, 9 a.m. - noon

FREE TIRE COLLECTION EVENTS:

(6 tire maximum, rims accepted, no off road tires. Tires will be shredded and repurposed.)

Montgomery County Community College	Saturday, June 6, 2015, 9 a.m. - noon
Pottstown Senior High School	Saturday, June 27, 2015, 9 a.m. - noon



Once again, please note: **The County will not be holding Household Electronics Drop-Off Events in 2015.** The County advises: Best Buy will accept computers and TVs 32" and under for free recycling when dropped off at their store. They will also pick up TVs from homes for a fee. Salvation Army Thrift Store in Montgomeryville accepts working TVs of any size and shape as well as working computers and electronics. They are located at 671 Bethlehem Pike, Montgomeryville, PA 18936, phone number 215-631-1570. Other than municipal drop offs and collections for residents only, there are no free disposal outlets for TVs over 32" that no longer work. Concern about the lack of County collection events should be directed to your State Representative and Senator.

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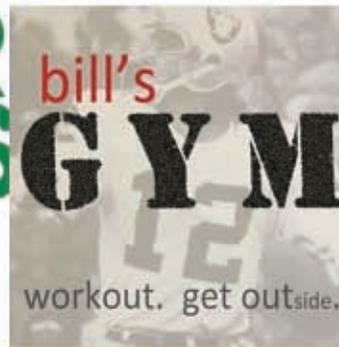
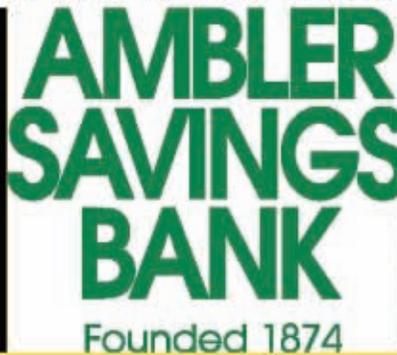
166 EAST BUTLER AVENUE

FAX 215-643-4533

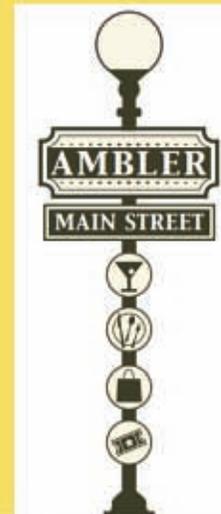
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| Barberella | 34 East Tavern | Deck's Hardware |
| Best Kept Secret Hair Salon | Trax Restaurant & Cafe | Tattoo Galaxy |
| Phillips & Associates Architects | Costa Deli | No Bare Walls Framing Studio |
| Allison Wolf, Realtor | Saffron | Ambler Eye Associates |
| Bridget's Steakhouse | Puppy Love by Nicole | Julia's On The Go Deli |
| KC's Alley | Act II Playhouse | Orsini Auto Repair |
| Frox | Forest & Main Brewing Company | Holistic Apothecary |
| Maro's Flooring | Addicted 2 Dance | Educere LLC |
| LTK Engineering Services | Aldamlouji & Parker Arch. | TONI&GUY Hairdressing Academy |
| Ambler Music Academy | Allflex Packaging Products, Inc. | Ambler Theater |
| Beautyguard Manufacturing Co. | Ambler Mennonite Church | Prive Salon |
| Berne Siergiej, Esq. | Copernicus Society of America | Dettera |
| Massa | D'Agostino Carpets | Ambler Skate Shop |
| Preventadent Associates, Inc. | Dennis F. Meyer, Inc | Nancy Priff Editorial Services |
| State Farm - Jeff Boyer | Historic Abstract | Mermaid Art Studio |
| From The Boot | John V. Di Girolamo, D.D.S. | Laguda Formal Wear |
| Artman Lutheran Home | Kathryn's Kitchen, LLC | Candida's Pizzeria |
| Urban Funeral Home | Lutter, Inc. | Direct Imaging Design |
| Flowers By Veronica | Shaeff-Myers Funeral Home | Ambler Tire |
| Belovely | Vince DiFrancesco Opticians | Ambler Music |
| Antique Garden Cottage | Zaccone Motors | Generation T |
| Shoefitters | Main Street Vintage | Jade Organic Salon |
| Trax Restaurant & Cafe | Xtra 101 | Manely For You Beauty Salon |
| Costa Deli | 3D Fitness Coaching Studio | Edward Jones Investments |
| Saffron | Sage Spa | Ciavarelli Family Funeral Home |
| Puppy Love by Nicole | Young Stars Theater Company | Vallari's Martial Arts |
| Gravity Hair Salon | Nina Price Photography | Jackets n' Things |
| Lucky Well | Lowe & Sons Hauling | Pibbles & More Animal Rescue |
| Arielle Bridal | | |
| Ambler Food Co-op | | |
| Total Performance Automotive LLC | | |
| Lauren Lashinger, Stella & Dot | | |



Visit the business directory for detailed information on each of these wonderful businesses!

AmblerMainStreet.org

RESIDENTIAL WASTE, RECYCLABLES & YARD WASTE

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.montgomerycountyclecyles.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 cu.ft.). Please note, resident must be on site at time of scheduled PECO pick-up.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION: (including **unbagged 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, 991 Haldeman Road, Schwenksville. You must call first at 610-287-8880 for hours and fees.

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.montgomerycountyclecyles.org for a list of drop-off collection sites and for other County recycling news

2015 Yard Waste Collection Schedule

April 14, 21, 28 • May 12 • June 9 • July 14 • August 11 • September 8

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

NOTES FROM COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler • 215.643.6517 • www.amblerambulance.org

Executive Director David L. Fleming

- 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.
- Our organization is supported by: billing for services rendered, annual subscription campaign, donations, grants and fundraising

Membership Subscriptions

CAAA thanks all community residents who subscribed to our services for 2014 and reminds all to join again this year as a member/subscriber. With each paid membership, any balance that remains after your insurance company has paid us will be reduced by 50%. “We handled over 500 calls in Ambler Borough in 2014.” according to Executive Director David Fleming. If you haven’t received a renewal letter or wish to subscribe for the first time, simply call our office at 215-643-6517.

Coin Drop:

CAAA netted \$ 5,529.78 from its annual coin drop held on December 20, 2014. The amount raised surpassed last year’s total and the goal for the event. The entire fleet of ambulance were on display as motorist drove by. “We thank the entire community for this successful fundraising event. The proceeds are used each year to augment our operations efforts to provide excellence in pre-hospital care as we have done for this area since 1941,” said David Fleming, Executive Director.

Check Presentation:

Mayor Sorg presented a check for \$500 to the Community Ambulance Association of Ambler at the beginning of the January 20th Borough Council Meeting as she recognized CAAA's work and commitment to Ambler.

Blood Drive:

CAAA hosts a Blood Drive in partnership with The America Red Cross on April 13, 2015 at the CAAA station (3:00-8:00pm). You may schedule an appointment by calling 1-800 RED CROSS.



PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

NOTES FROM WISSAHICKON FIRE COMPANY – Chief Philip Koller

245 E. Race Street, Ambler, PA 19002

EMERGENCY DIAL 9-1-1 • NON-EMERGENCY DIAL 215-646-1266 • www.Station7.org

The Wissahickon Fire Company protects the 17,500 residents of Ambler Borough and Lower Gwynedd Township through two fire stations. In 2014, the fire company responded to 664 calls.

Ushering in 2015, Wissahickon Fire Company welcomed newly-elected Chief, Philip Koller, while offering their gratitude to outgoing Chief, John Leadbeater, for his seven years of service.

The company will soon be replacing their heavy rescue vehicle with a new E-One rescue truck to complement its operation of two engines, a rescue engine, two fire police units, an aerial and two marine units.

Serving the community for 124 years, this organization is comprised of volunteers who are highly trained, dedicated and caring people. While many volunteers serve as firefighters, there are also special fire police and administrative personnel. For more information on volunteering, please call 215-646-1266 or visit www.station7.org.

The Wissahickon Fire Company wishes to extend their thanks to the residents of Ambler Borough and Lower Gwynedd for their continued donations and support.



On February 18th, Jesse Hayden, a 60 year veteran of the Wissahickon Fire Company, was honored with an award by the Montgomery County 5th Fire District. Jesse has held multiple positions over his career, including Fire Chief, several times over. Currently, Jesse holds the positions of Assistant Chief Engineer, photographer and station historian. Jesse truly embodies the dedicated, compassionate spirit of the Wissahickon Fire Company. Congratulations, Jesse!

NOTES FROM THE FIRE MARSHALL – Rich Lockhart

Backyard Chimineas & Fire Pits

With the recent cold weather and snow, it's hard to believe spring and summer are right around the corner. During the warmer months, I receive quite a few questions about outside chimineas and fire pits used for recreational fires in the backyard. Let's see if I can answer a few of the most frequently asked questions here.

Fire pits, which are the permanently installed fireplaces constructed of stone or brick and their portable counterpart, the chiminea, are allowed for use according to the fire code. However, there are some requirements that must be followed to make the experience safe for you and your neighbors.

- It should be placed at least 15' from any structure and not used on any deck. Any permanently installed unit that is constructed as part of a deck, should be permitted during construction and inspected by the Fire Marshal and Building Department.

- Only firewood should be used. You cannot burn trash, leaves, yard debris or construction debris.
- You should always have a way to extinguish the fire present such as a garden hose or a fire extinguisher.
- Be mindful of weather conditions. If it is windy or hasn't rained and the vegetation around your yard is dry, it may be best to postpone your fire until conditions improve.
- Please be mindful of your neighbors! Smoke blowing in to your neighbors' house from your chiminea or fire pit is not the way to improve neighbor relations. And having a fire pit or chiminea does not give you a license to have loud parties well into the night.

If you follow these simple, common sense steps, you and your friends can have a safe and relaxing experience. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 215-646-1000 X122 or by e-mail at rlockhart@borough.ambler.pa.us.

PENNSYLVANIA'S YELLOW DOT PROGRAM

www.YellowDOT.PA.gov

Pennsylvania's Yellow Dot Program was created to assist citizens in the "golden hour" of emergency care following a traffic accident when they may not be able to communicate their needs themselves. Placing a yellow dot in your vehicle's rear window alerts first responders to check your glove compartment for vital information to ensure you receive the medical attention you need.

The program is a cooperative effort among the Pennsylvania Departments of Transportation, Health and Aging; the Pennsylvania State Police, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and First Responders and local law enforcement.



How does it work? Participants complete a personal information form, which includes the participant's name, contact information, emergency contact information, medical history and medications, allergies and the participant's doctors' names. A photo is then taped to the front of the completed information sheet. Completed materials are put into the Yellow Dot folder. The yellow dot decal provided with the kit is placed in the lower left corner of the participant's vehicle's rear windshield. The folder, containing vital information, is placed into the vehicle's glove box. To obtain Yellow Dot Program materials, please go to www.YellowDOT.PA.gov.

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

NOTES FROM AMBLER POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief William Foley

Car Safety & Your Children

A back seat is the safest place for any child to ride. While air bags can save lives, kids riding in the front seat can be seriously injured or killed when an air bag comes out in a crash. Don't risk your child's life! Secure children properly every time they ride! Tragically, 40% of children are not secured at all – some 600 children under age five annually are killed while riding in automobiles.

It's the law! All 50 states have laws requiring children to ride in motor vehicles secured in safety seats. Regular vehicle safety belts are not suitable for infants and small children. Special safety restraints are needed, designed to spread crash forces over a large area of a young child's body. When used correctly, car seats can prevent injuries and save lives.

Correct use is critical! What is the safest restraint? All safety seats must meet a strict government safety standard. The safest seat is one that will be **used correctly** every time. Is the child restraint facing in the right direction? Is the restraint correctly reclined? Is the seat belt routed correctly and is the safety seat firmly installed? Are shoulder straps at the correct height and are harness straps snug and do they stay on the shoulders?

More tips on safe travel! Buckle your seat belt – on every ride. All passengers in a vehicle must be buckled and children must be properly restrained in the back seat. Do not tuck a shoulder belt under the arm. Do not put a shoulder belt behind a child's back. Do not let anyone ride with a seat back reclined. Do not strap two children into one belt. Never leave a child alone in a vehicle. Secure all cargo. Replace any child safety seat that has been in a crash, even if no damage is visible.

Remember to read and follow your vehicle owner's manual and car seat instructions carefully. Be alert to announcements about recalls of child restraints. If you have filled out and returned the registration card that came with the seat, you will be notified by the manufacturer when a seat has been recalled. For more information, contact the National SAFE KIDS Campaign at www.safekids.org or call the NHTSA Auto Safety Hotline 1-800-424-9393.

DON'T LET CHILDREN RIDE UNRESTRAINED. IT IS UNSAFE AT ANY AGE.

- Infants until at least 1 year old and at least 20 pounds should be in rear-facing car seats.
- Kids over 1 year old and between 20-40 pounds can be in forward-facing car seats.
- Kids between 40 and 60-80 pounds (usually 4-8 year olds) should be in booster seats.
- Usually kids over 80 pounds and 8 years old can fit correctly in lap/shoulder belts.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY ALERT SYSTEM

The Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management is dedicated to ensuring the safety and readiness of all the citizens of Montgomery County. The County's official website www.dps.montcopa.org provides basic information needed to prepare for an emergency. Find out what to do in an emergency by reading guidelines on emergency kits, food & water, evacuation & shelter, and household planning or by visiting 72hours.org. Knowing what to do in an emergency is vital to the health and safety of you and your loved ones.

Montgomery County uses the **Roam Secure Alert Network** to immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency. The

Community Alert System delivers important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to you on all your devices: Email Accounts (Home, Work or Other); Cell phones (note: text messaging charges could occur); Pagers; or Smartphones/PDAs (BlackBerry, Treo and other Handhelds)

When an incident or emergency occurs, authorized sends will instantly notify you using the **Community Alert System**. This is your personal connection to real-time updates, instructions on where to go, what to do, or what not to do, who to contact and other important information. To register, go to the Public Safety Website at www.ReadyNotifyPA.org.

2015 RABIES CLINIC – Montgomery County Health Department

www.health.montcopa.org

Montgomery County Health Department Rabies Clinics for Dogs, Cats & Ferrets have been scheduled for 2015. Cost is \$10 per shot. The shot is a 3-year shot. Animals must be leashed or in an approved carrier. Please refer to the schedule below:

DATE	PLACE	TIME
June 6th	Abington Recycling Center, 2201 Florey Ln (off Easton Rd), Abington	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
June 13th	Collegeville Community Park, 4th & Park Avenue, Collegeville	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
June 20th	Encore Experiences *formerly Harleysville Senior Center, Harleysville	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
June 27th	Padden Park, *also called Burnside/Oakland Park, Burnside Ave & Oakland Drive, West Norriton	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Curb Boxes & Water Meters – ‘Keep them Exposed’

A curb box controls the water supply from the Borough’s water main to the inside of a building. It is located generally in the lawn area near or at the curblin e or sidewalk. The curb box lid is a round metal 4-inch disk flush with the sidewalk or lawn. The lid is imprinted with the manufacturer’s name and “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. 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 customers. We do this through our phone dial notification system called Swiftreach™. It is important for us 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 Dept. at 215-646-1000 Ext. 110 or 111.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Reports

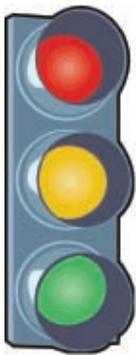
Every year the Ambler Borough Water Dept. publishes a Consumer Confidence Report. This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, is designed to inform customers about the quality of water we deliver to you every day. CCR reports are sent out to our water customers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



Water Bill Credit Card Payments

Online credit card & E-check payments are accepted for water bills. A convenience fee will be charged for credit cards. Visit the Borough homepage and click on “Pay Your Water Bill.” You may also pay your bill in person with check, cash or Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. You may drop off your 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.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS



TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHT OUTAGES – If a traffic or street light is out, please notify the Borough Receptionist at 215-646-1000 Ext. ‘0’ or send an E-mail to receptionist@borough.ambler.pa.us. For streetlight outages, please try to obtain the pole number so we can more quickly relay the information.

POTHoles OR OTHER DAMAGE – If you would like to report a pothole, broken playground equipment or damaged Borough signage please call Public Works at 215-628-9409 and leave a message on the machine. Or, if you prefer, contact the Borough Receptionist and she will relay your message to the Garage.

STREET SWEEPING BEGINS – Street sweeping begins Wednesday, April 1st. Heed the street signs as ‘No Parking’ on specified days and hours will be enforced. Tickets are \$12.

Pennsylvania One Call System ‘8-1-1’

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 and pipelines are located with colored paint, flags or chalk. The Pennsylvania One Call service is no cost to homeowners. For more information, visit www.pa811.org.



Know what’s below.
Call before you dig.

CODE ENFORCEMENT NEWS – ‘Construction Corner’

Glenn Kucher, Code Enforcement Officer • 215-646-1000 ext. 112 • code@borough.ambler.pa.us

Did you know that if you put up a swimming pool on your property that has more than 24 inches of water, a permit is required? Do you need a permit to replace your boiler? What about putting up a new fence?

Home ownership in Ambler Borough comes with many responsibilities that many residents may not be aware of. Every day the Borough Code Department fields numerous calls with questions from residents and contractors with these exact questions.

As a general rule, any structural alterations or additions you may be considering for your home or property, require a permit. Receiving a permit will enable the Borough officials to review your proposed work for building code and Borough ordinance compliance.

The following is a list of the more common types of work that requires a permit:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| ✓ Fences | ✓ Roofs | ✓ Sewer Work |
| ✓ Sheds | ✓ Window Replacement | ✓ Fuel Oil Tanks |
| ✓ Swimming Pools | ✓ Plumbing Changes | ✓ Chimneys, Fireplaces |
| ✓ Concrete Work | ✓ Electrical Changes | ✓ Basement Renovations |
| ✓ Siding | | |

Keep in mind that this list is not all inclusive. If you have questions about work not listed here or any other code related questions, please contact the Code Department for more information at 215-646-1000 ext. 112.

TAX TIPS FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR – Bernadette Dougherty, Tax Collector

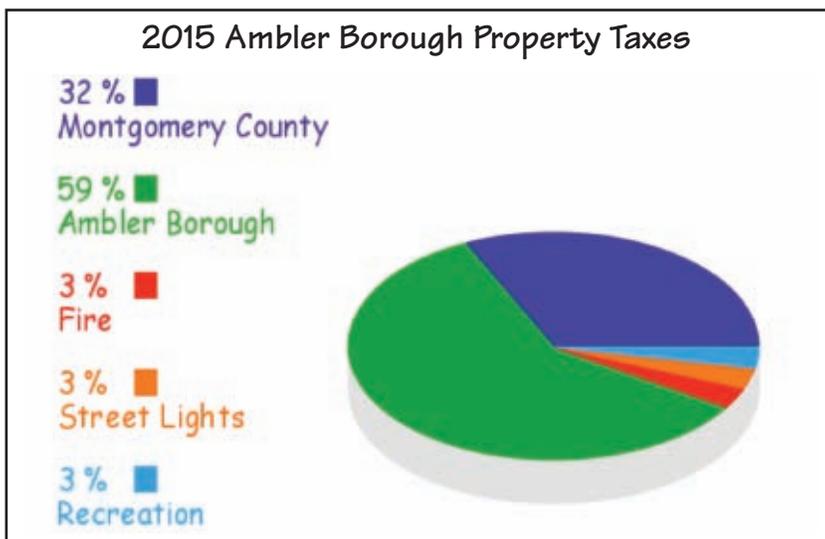
Your 2015 County and Borough property tax bill should have arrived in your mailboxes on March 1st. If you did not receive it, please give me a call (215-643-3255). If your mortgage company escrows and pays your property taxes for you, please forward the bill to them. Because there are over 2,000 properties in Ambler, I cannot begin to know all the mortgage companies servicing in the Borough. That is why you must send the bill to your individual lender.

If during the year, you put on an addition, add a pool to your backyard, or upgrade to central air conditioning for example, you must first get a permit. After the work is completed, a County Assessor will inspect the work and if the improvements increase the value of your house, your property will be reassessed. An interim (in-between) tax bill will be sent to you shortly after this reassessment. This bill is generally not paid by your mortgage company. Best advice...call your lender when the interim bill arrives and ask...do not assume that they pay it!

Often, taxpayers will ask “Where do my tax dollars go?” The accompanying pie chart lets you know.

If you ever have any questions please do not hesitate to call me. And, please do not ignore your tax bills. They don’t go away.

Bernadette Dougherty, Ambler Tax Collector, (215-643-3255)



Thank you

The Borough of Ambler gratefully acknowledges the generosity and support of the businesses and individuals who have placed advertisements in our community guide. This guide has been designed and printed at no cost to you, our residents. We encourage you to patronize these businesses as they play a vital role in the economic stability of our community.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

YMCA KNIGHT PARK SUMMER DAY CAMP - 'Where Summer Happens'



The Ambler Area YMCA, in conjunction with the Borough of Ambler, has created the Knight Park Summer Day Camp. Drop off and pick up are at the former Mattison Avenue Elementary School. Children walk to Knight Park each morning, weather permitting, for structured activities. Knight Park offers children residing within Ambler Borough a safe and positive place to spend their summer days. Energetic, creative, and well trained staff encourage youth participation in a wide variety of activities including sports, Arts & Crafts, science, gardening, character development, and cooperative play. Campers are given the opportunity for weekly field trips, special events, and a family swim pass for the Ambler Area Y Indoor Pool once a week. Staff/Camper Ratio is 1:10. For more information contact Christie Dunning 267-784-3101 or Emily Weiser at ext. 1574 or go to www.philaymca.org.

A longer day program will now be featured – from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. (No extended Camp Care). Camp will begin June 22 and run through July 31. Camp fee is \$40 per week. Camp will be CLOSED Friday, July 3rd and camp fees will be prorated for that week.

Camp Registration:

Ambler Borough Hall on May 6, 2015 (5:00 PM - 7:00 PM)

or register at the Ambler Area YMCA starting May 7

Proof of Ambler Borough residency is required at registration

Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association (WVWA) – www.wvwa.org

12 Morris Road • Ambler, PA 19002 • 215-646-8866 • info@wvwa.org

The WVWA is a non-profit land trust founded in 1957 by a committed group of local leaders to address concerns of flooding by the Wissahickon Creek. The mission of the WVWA is to protect the quality and beauty of the Wissahickon Creek, to maintain open space and natural areas and to enhance all life in the Watershed.



The Wissahickon Creek is the gem of our community; an important natural resource and a space for recreation in our suburban landscape. It is, for many, a place to commune with nature and revel in the landscapes that once covered our region. The WVWA is a member-supported organization. Individuals, foundations and businesses all fund conservation efforts. Visit www.WVWA.org to find more about what WVWA is doing and how you can join!

Ambler Borough Council is seeking your input as to the future of **Ambler Borough Park**.



Please complete the short *on-line survey* found at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y8L5GJB>

Entrance to Ambler Borough Park



Saturdays, MAY – OCTOBER

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

39 W Butler Ave at Maple Ave



Ambler Main Street presents:

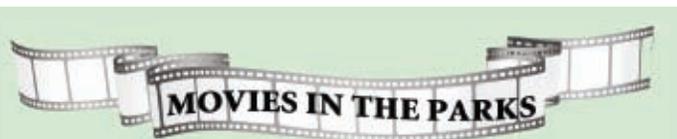
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OCTOBER 3, 2015**

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PLANT AMBLER VOLUNTEERS

Plant Ambler volunteers donate their time and energy planting and maintaining flowers and greenery throughout the business district. Plant Ambler volunteers have been doing this for over 40 years! To volunteer to plant, water and/or weed or to send a donation, please contact Plant Ambler at 215-219-6553.



Borough Council's Parks & Recreation Committee once again is scheduling Movies in the Parks family events for the summer. All movies are free and showing will begin at dusk. Be sure to bring your own snacks. Check out the Borough website later this spring for schedules, dates and locations. Enjoy the summer!

Wissahickon Valley Public Library – 'A Center for Lifelong Learning'

Events at the Library wvpl.org click on Calendar
209 Race Street • 215-646-1072 or 215 643 7775



Children Story Time with Guitar Music by Miss Michelle – Tues. @ 10:30 AM & Thurs. @ 4:30 PM

Beading Group – First and Third Mondays of each month @ 1 PM

Art with Benita – Second and fourth Saturdays of the month. For all ages. Registration needed. Call the library 215-646-1072.

Summer Reading Club – Starts June 8. Call Miss Michelle for details. 215-646-1072

Adults Daytime Book Group – 2nd Thursday each month 1:30pm

April 9	<i>Rumpole and the Penge Bungalow Murders</i> - John Mortimer
May 14	<i>Still Life</i> - Louise Penny
June 11	<i>Brooklyn</i> - Colm Toibin
July 9	<i>The School of Essential Ingredients</i> - Erica Bauermeister
August 13	<i>The Swan Thieves</i> - Elizabeth Kostova
September 10	<i>The Expats</i> - Chris Pavone
October 8	<i>City of Women</i> - David Gillham



The Ambler Friends of the Library sponsor a "Tea and Scones" Speaker Series. Join the Friends to support our library.

Scones @ 6:30 PM. Programs @ 7 PM

Lindsey Gearhart Nevin, PA Academy of Fine Arts – Tuesday April 21

The Artist's Garden: American Impressionism and the Garden Movement, 1887-1920

Programs throughout the year on the second and/or fourth Tuesday of each month.

Tea and Scones at 6:30 PM. Program begins at 7 PM. Call the library for details. 215-646-1072 or www.wvpl.org.

Movies with Meaning – Meets at 6:30 pm at the Ambler Library, on the first Monday of most months. Led by Lisa Hawkins. Watch the movie on your own prior to the meeting. Email Lisa to sign up: lisahawkins410@comcast.net

Blood Pressure Screening – The Ambler & Blue Bell Libraries are providing FREE QUARTERLY BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS. Abington Health is sending a registered nurse from their Community Health Outreach Dept. She will be at the libraries from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. on the following Mondays - May 18 & August 17.

Summer Reading for Adults begins June 8th. – Read for your pleasure or read to your children. It all counts toward prizes.

SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES CENTER (SAAC) – 'Five Decades of Outstanding Service'

45 Forest Avenue • Ambler • 215-619-8863 • www.montcosaac.com

Boomers Events at www.montcosaac.com/index.htm

At Montco SAAC we believe seniors are an integral part of our community, and we will do all we can to keep them healthy, engaged, and connected. Annual membership is available to people over 50 for \$30 for an individual and \$40 per year for a couple. Exercise classes, craft and game activities are offered along with opportunities to hear notable speakers on subjects such as heart disease, the arts, nutrition and asset protection for long-term care. Additionally, we enjoy lunch outings, seasonal celebrations and live entertainment.



As we celebrate 50 years, new programs to benefit seniors are launching at Montco SAAC! Art4ME@Montcosaac, which starts at both centers in early March is geared to all seniors, especially those with some cognitive loss, and their Boomer caretakers. This project is adapted from an Alzheimer's Project of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City.

To celebrate our fifty years of service we are planning events including the first annual Meals On Wheels Benefit Brunch on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at the Normandy Farm Hotel & Conference Center. The keynote speaker will be Marisa McClellan, food writer, canning teacher and dedicated farmer's market shopper. Tickets are available on our website, at Ambler SAAC or from any MOW staff person. Additionally, the Senior Adult Activity Center of Montgomery County will hold its 5th Annual Meals On Wheels 5k/3k Run/Walk on Saturday, September 19th, 2015 on the main campus of Montgomery County Community College.



Ambler Main Street

2015 Spring & Summer Events



First Fridays: Begin May 1st

**Ambler Farmers' Market: Opening Day TBA
Saturdays, 9am - 1pm, May - October**

19th Annual Auto Show: May 16th

Arts & Music Festival: June 12-13

Ambler Restaurant Week: July 13-20

Dog Days: August 8th

AmblerMainStreet.org

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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

MATTIE DIXON COMMUNITY CUPBOARD – “Neighbors Helping Neighbors”

Christine Bouley, Executive Director

150 N. Main St., Ambler • 215-628-3002 • www.community-cupboard.org

- Our **Winter Holiday Gift Drive** was a huge success! Through the community’s kindness and generosity we were able to collect presents for over 260 children in need; that’s twice as much as last year!
- Our **3rd Annual Dinner** will be hosted at the Hilton Garden Inn on **April 18th, 2015**. Proceeds will benefit our food program and our guest speaker will be Dr. Wanda Lewis-Campbell, Assistant Dean for Student Life at Temple University’s Ambler Campus. Tickets are \$60 per person, \$400 for a table of 8
- We are looking forward to the **Annual Mother’s Day Food Drive** in May, which is run by the post offices of Ambler, Blue Bell and Fort Washington. Big thanks to them in advance for all their hard work!
- In June we will host our **2nd Annual Car Wash Fundraiser** right here in our parking lot. It was a great success last year, with the help of families in our community, Alex’s Lemonade Stand and Mercedes of Fort Washington!
- **T.H.A.N.K.S., The Helping A Needy Kid Society**, is a charitable organization that provides financial assistance to underprivileged children to explore extracurricular activities in the areas of education, art, sports and music. They have begun to work with us at the Cupboard! Find out more at www.thanksociety.org.
- Theresa Rines from **Montgomery County Community Connections** will be at the Cupboard on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m. this year. She can help clients find the resources they need that require special attention.



AMBLER CHORAL SOCIETY
Spring Concert

This season’s **Spring Concert** will be presented on **April 26, 2015** at 3:00 p.m. in their new performance location at Supplee Presbyterian Church, 855 East Welsh Road, Maple Glen. The program features Leonard Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms, songs and texts from the Civil and Second World Wars, and a selection of American standards. For further information go to www.amblerchoralsociety.org.

AMBLER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – Celebrate Spring!

- April 17, Subscription Series at Wissahickon High School (7 p.m.) - pieces from Dvorak, Schubert & Respighi, as well as an original composition by symphony violinist John Mahony. Dvorak’s Cello Concerto in B minor by renowned cellist Stephen Framil.
- May 29, Subscription Series at Wissahickon High School (7:30 p.m.) – “At the Movies” featuring pieces by John Williams, Henry Mancini, Howard Shore, and “Frozen.”

Outdoor Concerts: On Wednesday, June 3, the Orchestra will be playing at a free outdoor concert at Parkside Place in North Wales, starting at 7 p.m. On Sunday, June 7, also at 7 p.m., members of the orchestra will be giving special performances at the Act II Playhouse in downtown Ambler. The season will close on Wednesday, June 10 (rain date June 17), with the annual Hope Lodge concert, starting at 7 p.m. Audience members are invited to bring a picnic and enjoy a variety of music on the lawn at the Historic Hope Lodge on Bethlehem Pike in Fort Washington. For details and further information on any of these concerts, visit the website at www.amblersymphony.org.





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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]

2015 AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL

WARD 1

Peter A. Amento, Vice President
 Nancy Deininger
 Sharon McCormick

WARD 2

Richard Palumbo
 Jonathon Sheward
 Claudio Zaccone

WARD 3

Ed Curtis
 Frank DeRuosi
 Salvatore Pasceri, President

2015 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. Sheward (Chairperson), Mr. DeRuosi & Mrs. Deininger
Salary & Personnel Committee:	Mr. Zaccone (Chairperson), Mr. Amento, Mr. Curtis & Mr. Palumbo

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY

Rep. Brendon Boyle (13th Cong. Dist.) 115 E Glenside Ave, Ste #1, Glenside PA 19038 (215)517-6572
St. Sen. Stewart Greenleaf (12th District) 711 N. York Road, Ste #1 Willow Grove PA 19090 (215)657-7700
Hon. Mary Jo Daley (148th District) 815 Fayette St, Ste #200, Conshohocken PA 19428 (610)832-1679
 Rep. Daley's Mobile Office: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (10:30–1pm) at Ambler Borough Hall

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

1st TuesdayBorough Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm (No meeting July; Wed., Nov. 4) – Borough Hall
 1st ThursdayZoning Hearing Board (call for specific times) – Borough Hall
 3rd WednesdayEnvironmental Advisory Council – 7:00 pm - Borough Hall
 3rd TuesdayBorough Council Meeting – 7:00 pm – Borough Hall (except May meeting Wed., May 20)
 3rd ThursdayAmbler Junior Baseball – 7:30 pm – Borough Hall
 4th TuesdayPlanning Commission – 7:00 pm – Borough Hall
 Last MondayNAACP – 7:30 pm – Borough Hall
 Last TuesdayAmbler 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); 610-635-4304 after hours
 Wissahickon Fire Co. 215-635-4343 Fire Marshall Rick Lockhart 215-646-1000 ext 122
 Community Ambulance 610-635-4341
 Water Department Supervisor Philip Benigno 215-646-1000 x124 (pbenigno@borough.ambler.pa.us)
 Water Billing – 215-646-1000 (Cheryl x 110 or Ruth x 111) Water Emergency – 215-646-1000 follow prompts
 Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Bruce Jones 215-628-9457 (bjones@borough.ambler.pa.us)
 Code Enforcement Officer Glenn Kucher 215-646-1000 ext 112 (code@borough.ambler.pa.us)
 Public Works Supervisor Bob Rocco 215-628-9409 (leave message or call 215-646-1000 '0' Receptionist)
 Finance Manager Gail Gordon 215-646-1000 ext 107 (ggordon@borough.ambler.pa.us)
 Manager's Assistant Elizabeth Russell 215-646-1000 ext 114 (erussell@borough.ambler.pa.us)
 Borough Receptionist Melissa Reale 215-646-1000 dial "0"

VOTER INFORMATION - www.montcopa.org/voterservices

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

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