

*Borough of*

Fall/Winter 2025



# AMBLER

**HOMETOWN NEWS**

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Allison@AmblerRambler.com

AmblerRambler.com

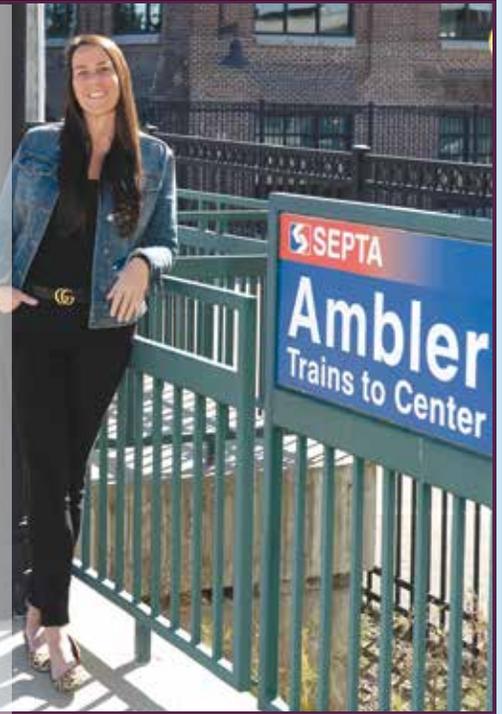
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Ambler19002

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Peter A. Urban, Jr., Funeral Director

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Weavers Way has the freshest seasonal produce and groceries, a great selection of self-care and wellness products, beautiful gifts, and everything you need for your pets!

2025 has been another exciting year for Ambler Main Street!

We hosted our wildly popular Spring and Summer events and despite Mother Nature's lack of cooperation we had a blast!

We welcomed back our New and improved Ambler Farmers Market spearheaded by the outstanding Volunteer husband and wife team Kelly and Andrew Gaess.

The Market runs until November.



We're super excited for this year's Oktoberfest October 3rd and 4th to kick off our fun filled Fall & Winter Season!

We celebrate Halloween with the Halloween Extravaganza on Sunday October 26th from 11-1 when we welcome little ghosts and goblins in town to trick or treat in town at our participating shops and restaurants.

In November we ring in the Holiday season and shop till we drop for Small Business Saturday November 29th.

Then BOOM! The Holidays are on! The Holiday parade takes place on Saturday December 6th at 1PM.

Santa arrives by train Thursday December 11th at 7PM on the south Side platform.

Friday the 12th through Sunday the 14th we host the Holiday shopping weekend with sips and nips, strolling carolers, specials, and the unique holiday shopping experience that only a small town can give.

Stay tuned for Restaurant week in January!

# ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER

## Stormwater Management

Jim Dougherty, P.E., Gilmore & Associates

Almost all towns in the United States that own a storm sewer are required to have a permit to allow discharge to the local streams and waterbodies. In Fall of last year the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) issued Ambler its permit that governs how Ambler operates and maintains the Borough storm sewer system (known as MS4). The permit is part of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The goal of the permit is to reduce pollutants that are picked up by stormwater runoff and washed into the local streams, ponds, and other waterbodies. For Ambler, the main pollutants of concern are sediment and excess nutrients.

Over the course of the permit term, which is 5 years, the Borough will be required to implement certain measures and complete tasks in order to meet the conditions of the MS4 permit. These include:

Here are some suggestions:

- Inspect every stormwater outfall that discharges to the local streams and creeks for signs of pollution,
- Encourage to public to participate in stormwater related activities,
- Provide educational materials to the public and business owners,
- Review construction plans and permits for stormwater related concerns, and
- File an annual report with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) documenting the permit related activities that occurred during the year.
- Implement stormwater features that reduce sediment and nutrients in runoff.

Ambler is currently preparing a plan to address the last bullet point. The Borough owns approximately 100 acres or 20% of the land within the Borough limits. The remaining 80% of the land in the Borough is owned by the residents and businesses. Ambler's efforts will reduce the amount of pollution that enters our waterways. However, it can only address 20% of the problem. In part, residents and businesses can help address the remaining 80% by implementing simple best management practices. Some suggestions include:

• Don't over-water your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When necessary, however, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts.
- Use organic mulch and safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or place it in storm drains or streams.
- Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly.
- Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local bodies of water.

Please visit the Stormwater Management section of Ambler's website at <https://boroughofambler.com/government/stormwater-management/> for additional information regarding the Borough NPDES MS4 permit and other stormwater related issues.



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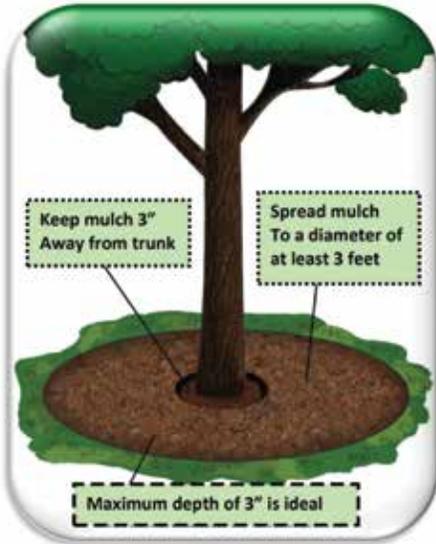
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# AMBLER'S ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (EAC)

## AMBLER TREE SALES AND PLANTING + TREE CARE TIPS

Ambler's Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) completed its fall tree sale at the end of summer, a program that offers discounted trees to Ambler residents and provides trained volunteers to plant your trees at no cost. On Saturday November 15, starting at Ambler Borough Hall, we will be planting 22 trees at residences, public property and non profits with the help of volunteers. The EAC will offer this program again in the spring. It's never too early to fill out the online form to get on the list for the spring planting.

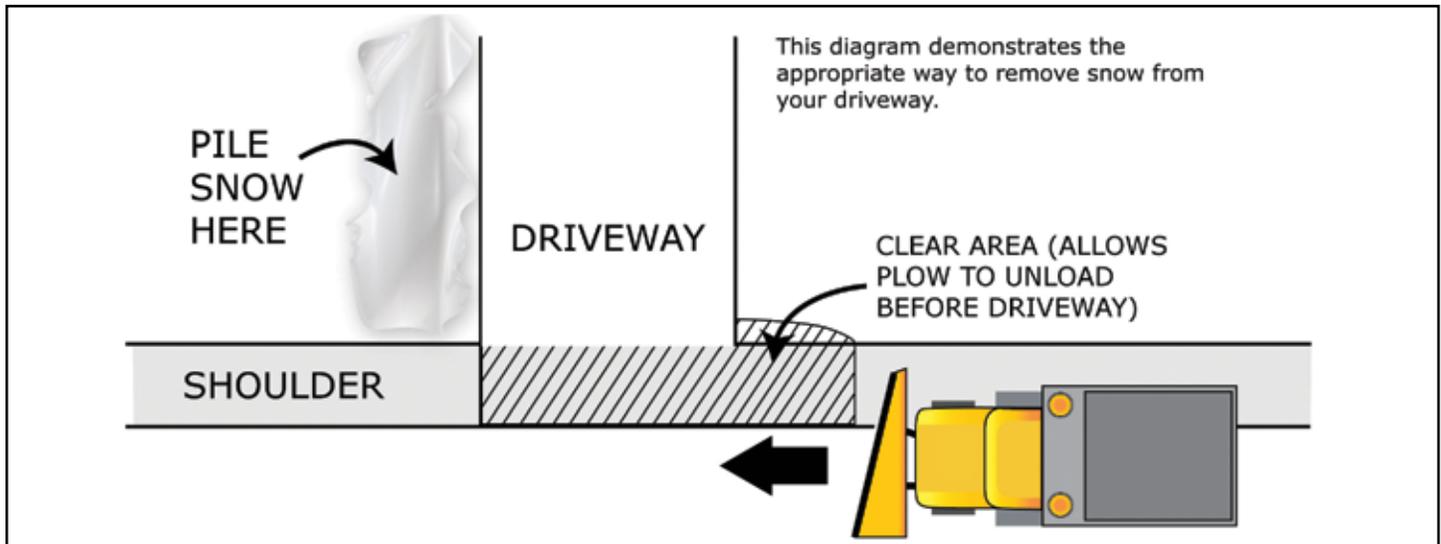
The trees in this program are native, grow well in urban areas, provide shade, and reduce rainwater runoff. Scan here for the EAC Online Tree Order Form and Tree Characteristics Chart →



### TREE TIP

Proper mulching of young trees is very important to maintaining health and promoting growth. Mulch retains moisture longer to provide water to the tree and helps to prevent weeds and grass. Grass and weeds can create a barrier to water seeping through to a tree's root system.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) has experimented with mulching techniques for years and recommends using a 3-3-3 method. This means making sure the mulch is 3 inches away from the trunk, 3 inches thick and ideally in a 3-foot radius around the tree. The completed shape should resemble a donut, rather than a volcano. "Mulch volcanoes" are when mulch is piled up against the trunk in a cone shape. This application of mulch is very bad for the health of the trees. The base of the tree trunk will stay too moist and can rot the tree bark off and actually kill the tree. The piled-up mulch will also encourage roots to start to grow into the mulch and sap some of the tree's energy it needs to grow. PHS also found that the larger the mulch circle, the faster the tree will grow. You can mulch up to the full "drip line" of the tree, which is the width of the tree branches.



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# Ambler Main Street for the Holidays

October 26th 11AM-1PM  
The Halloween Extravaganza

November 28th  
Black Friday (all day)

November 29th  
Small Business Saturday (all day)

December 6th  
The Holiday Parade 1:00PM

December 11th,  
Santa arrives by train 7PM South platform SEPTA station

December 12th-14th  
Holiday Shopping Weekend



## Ambler Borough Police Department

Message from Chief of Police Jeffrey Borkowski

131 Rosemary Avenue, AMBLER, PA 19002-4475 • Phone: (215) 646-1000 • Fax: (215) 646-0704  
www.AmblerPD.org

*"To Protect and Serve"*



The Fall and Winter season brings many activities that Ambler Main Street is sponsoring. During these events, Officers will be patrolling. If you are attending and recognize a problem, please do not hesitate to call 911. We look forward to maintaining a high level of public safety so all attendees have an enjoyable experience.

Our crossing guards have already logged in many hours protecting our children from the motoring public. Remember, they are authorized by the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code to control traffic at their corners. Please obey all instructions. If you are not sure if you should proceed, remain stopped until a command is given.

Listed below is some helpful information that can benefit all residents.



### STREET SWEEPING VACATION PERMITS

Heading out of town and worried about your vehicle being ticketed on street cleaning day? The Borough now offers **four free street sweeping passes per year, per vehicle**. These permits allow you to keep your car parked without penalty while you're away. Visit the Borough website to register for your free pass and enjoy peace of mind while on vacation.



### MEET PETER THE METER

This summer we introduced "Peter the Meter," these select parking meters in Ambler now feature a **15-minute free parking button**. This makes it easier to pop into a shop or grab a coffee without worrying about coins or cards. Be sure to press the free time button before inserting any payment. Look for Peter along Lindenwold Avenue, Cavalier Drive, and Butler Avenue.

### DIGITAL PARKING PERMITS NOW AVAILABLE

To improve the parking experience in Ambler, the Police Department launched a new digital permit system. Patrons can now purchase time-specific digital permits for our municipal lots, including options for morning, afternoon, and evening hours. No slips, no tickets, just convenient parking access via your smartphone or computer.



### SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ENFORCEMENT

As the school year gets underway, please remember: **Passing a stopped school bus is dangerous and illegal**. In partnership with Wissahickon School District and surrounding police departments, Ambler PD now utilizes camera technology through BusPatrol to monitor violations. If a vehicle passes a bus with its stop arm extended, a video and photo will be reviewed, and a \$300 civil citation will be issued to the registered owner. Please drive carefully and keep our students safe.



### ONGOING REMINDERS

- Our lobby remains open 24/7 as a safe prescription drug disposal site.
- Parking tickets can be paid online at: <https://www.tocite.net/amblerpolice/portal>, by mail, by phone 215-642-8111, or in person at Ambler Police Department.

The Ambler Borough Police Department is committed to keeping our streets safe and our community informed. Thank you for working with us to make Ambler a great place to live, work, and visit.



The Borough of Ambler would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.

## Ambler Community Garden

As the years roll on, the Ambler Community Garden continues to grow - thanks to the support of our wonderful community and Ambler Borough. As a 100% volunteer-run community garden (donating over 80% of what we grow), as of late summer 2025 we have been able to successfully donate over 400 lbs. of produce to a variety of partners including The Ambler Community Fridge, the seniors at Ambler's SAAC, Mattie Dixon Food Pantry and our own pantry outside of the garden walls in Knight Park. We were lucky to have garden opening hours all throughout the week thanks to our most dedicated volunteers willing to do so!

We have learned that growing food to support the need of our community is one of our most important missions but having a shared, safe and inclusive space for all to relax, connect, learn about and experience nature and the magic of plants is just as important. This year we continued many of the events the community has grown to love including our partnership with the Ambler Public Library - inviting Ms. Delia to come play guitar, sing and read a book next to the garden with our volunteers offering a garden-inspired craft or a wander around to smell, taste or feel the plants afterwards. We had wonderful community efforts to open the garden in March to plant early spring plants and later in May to plant summer annuals. We meet again to put the garden to bed in late November. But not before our annual Fall Festival in October!

A few new things happened in 2025. First, a group of plant lovers got together in April to use our skills to tackle a stormwater issue near the garden. Together we dug some trenches and added stones for better drainage, installed 5 mini wildflower meadows (which bloomed beautifully throughout the summer and helped with compacted soil issues as well as increasing pollinators) and a gorgeous rain garden with native plants. We hope to do more of these in the future as the positives far outweigh the negatives!

The ACG also hosted our first "Ladies Night" where friends gathered to create beautiful flower arrangements and we partnered with Ambler's Camaraderie Yoga for "Yoga in the Garden (even though the rain had other plans!)."

We started our first ACG Book Club - this group meets every 2 months to read and discuss a book about plants, growing things/gardening, environmental issues or even cooking. The group met for a potluck using seasonal vegetables and recipes from one of the chose books.

Finally, in the spirit of community, a group of volunteers asked local businesses and our community partners to be a part of ACG's First Annual Scarecrow Contest. The scarecrows were then put around Knight Park to be voted on via QR code. The winner was crowned in November. We are hoping this will become a seasonal event with more and more participation in the future as a way to bring together all the organizations that make Ambler amazing!

If you're interested in learning more about the Ambler Community Garden, follow us on Instagram: @amblercommunitygarden or FB: @amblergarden and sign up for our emailer via the QR code below. You are also welcome to email us at amblergarden@gmail.com.

Thank you Ambler! See you in March, 2026 for our 5th growing season!



## A Farewell Message from the Council President

After eight years of serving on Ambler Borough Council, the last four of those as Council President, I am wrapping up my second term at the end of the year and not seeking reelection for a third. This decision came with mixed emotions, but it feels like the right time to pass the torch and begin another new chapter in my life. As I step away from public office, I'll be taking on new responsibilities in my professional life, enjoying empty-nest-hood with my husband, and spending more time with my elderly parents.

It has genuinely been an honor to serve this community that I care so deeply about. I'm incredibly proud of the progress we've made together ensuring that Ambler continues to be a vibrant and welcoming community for all who live, work, and visit here. I want to extend heartfelt thanks to my fellow Council members, past and present, for their partnership, commitment, and support. Thank you as well to our exceptional Borough staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep Ambler running smoothly. And, of course, thank you to the residents, businesses, organizations, and volunteers of Ambler for your trust, your engagement, and your passion for our town. Though I'm leaving Council, I'm certainly not leaving Ambler. Ambler is my home, and I look forward to continuing to support our amazing community, just in different ways.

As always, I'll see you downtown!

*Glynnis Siskind*

Ambler Borough Council President



## Make Your Home Your Favorite Place

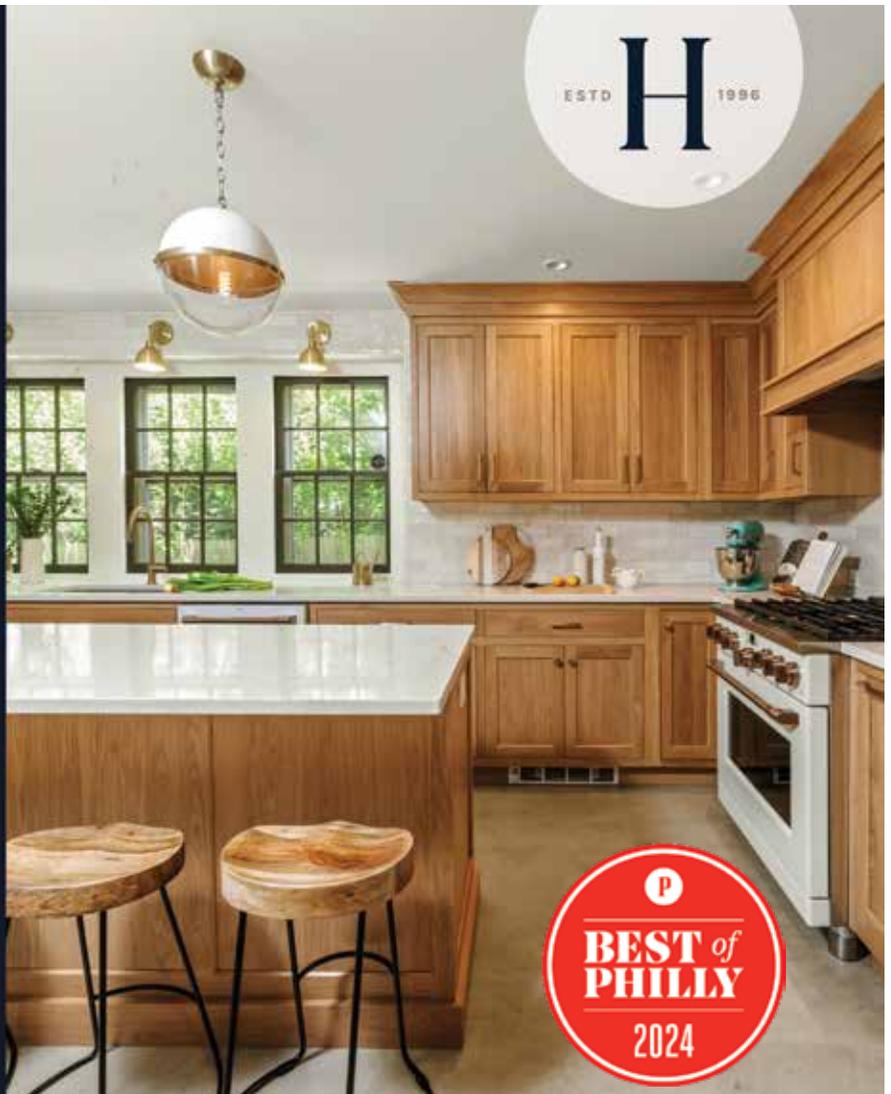
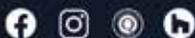
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215-646-1072



**LIBRARY HOURS AND SERVICES:**

Monday through Thursday – 10 AM to 8 PM

Friday and Saturday – 10 AM to 5 PM



**Friends of the Ambler Library FALL BOOK SALE**

THURS., NOV. 6 - preview sale for Friends members 5 to 7:30

FRI., NOV. 7 - book sale from 10 to 4:30

SAT., NOV. 8 - book sale from 10 to 4:30 (fill a bag specials start at noon)

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS & TEENS**

- Babytime sing-a-long and free play ages 0-24 months Mondays at 10:30 in the library
- Preschool Storytime and Craft ages 2-4 Tuesdays at 10:30 in the library
- Reading to the Dogs - 3rd Saturday of every month at 11am (Oct. to June)
- Kids Chess Club - First Thursdays 6-7pm

**SPECIAL EVENTS FOR KIDS & TEENS**

- Thurs. Oct. 16 - Teen Painting Class 5 to 7:30
- Sat., Oct. 18 - Teen Painting Class 1 to 3
- Thurs., Oct. 23 - Art Workshop 3:30 to 5:30
- Thurs., Oct 30 - Halloween Show (evening - call for details)
- Sat., Nov. 15 - Ozobots Workshop - 1 to 3



**ONGOING ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS - registration required for most of these groups**

- Ambler Book Group –2nd Thursday each month at 2:30
- Beginner & Intermediate ESL Classes. Contact Anne at ahall@wvpl.org to register
- Cookbook Club - Every other month on 2nd Monday at 6:30
- Conversation Cafe’ - 1st Wed of each month at 3:30
- Friday Artists Group at 10am. Enjoy the company of other artists and crafters while working on your projects (knitting, painting, drawing, etc.)
- Memory Cafe’ - 3rd Thursday each month. For people impacted by memory issues and those caring for them
- Photography Club - meets weekly on Tuesday evenings at 6
- Trauma Sensitive Yoga - Mondays at noon Oct 6 to Dec 1



**ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

- Fridays at 12:30pm: 1st Friday craft, 2nd Friday social, 3rd Friday bingo, 4th Friday social

**SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ADULTS - registration required for most of these groups**

- Wed., Oct. 1 at 6:30pm - Sundance and Etta. Learn about Sundance the Kid’s local roots.
- Wed., Oct. 15 at 6:30pm - The Paranormal Room - ghostly sightings, UFOs and more!



## NOTES FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR

Jennifer Stomsky, Tax Collector

The deadline for paying the face value of your school tax bill is October 31st. I do accept postmarks during discount and face periods. However, I cannot accept face value after the deadline, so if you are mailing your bills, please consider doing so at least two days before the deadline. After October 31st, there will be a 10% penalty added to the face value of your bill.

My hours for in-person payments are Tuesdays from 9am-1pm. I am located at 262 N. Spring Garden St (between Mount Pleasant and Tennis Ave). For other times or special needs accommodations, please call me at 215-367-5663 or email me at [amblerborotaxcollector@gmail.com](mailto:amblerborotaxcollector@gmail.com) and I will be happy to set up a time and place that works for you. Please note that I am closed on weekends, evenings, and holidays. This includes primary and election days.

My hours for in-person payments are Tuesdays from 9am-1pm. I am located at 262 N. Spring Garden St (between Mount Pleasant and Tennis Ave). For other times or special needs accommodations, please call me at 215-367-5663 or email me at [amblerborotaxcollector@gmail.com](mailto:amblerborotaxcollector@gmail.com) and I will be happy to set up a time and place that works for you. Please note that I am closed on weekends, evenings, and holidays. This includes primary and election days.

**CASH PAYMENTS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED.** Payments should be in the form of a personal check or certified funds (unless paying online).

I am closed on weekends, evenings, and holidays. This includes election days.

Other methods of paying include mail (P.O. Box 3087, Ambler, PA 19002), lockbox located on the porch of 262 N. Spring Garden St., online using a credit card or e-check, or in person using a credit card. Please note that credit card payments include a 2.65% fee and e-checks have a flat \$1.50 fee. The link to the online system is available on the Borough website, [boroughofambler.com](http://boroughofambler.com). If you pay online, a receipt will be emailed to you. If you want a receipt when paying by mail or lockbox, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope and BOTH copies of the bill.

**DO NOT SEND OR DROP OFF PAYMENTS TO BOROUGH HALL.** They do not collect payments and sending them to the wrong place could result in my either not receiving the payment or the payment being late, regardless of postmark.

Many people like to pay their taxes using their bank's online bill payment. Please be careful when doing this as the payments are not automatic. It can take 3 to 5 days for me to receive your payment and, if you are close to the end of discount or face, you risk the payment being late and missing the deadline, which will result in you owing more.

As we come to the end of the year, please remember that any bills not paid in full by December 31st will be delinquent and subject to additional penalties. Personal checked WILL NOT be accepted after December 15th. From December 16th to 31st payments must be made by certified check, money order, cash (exactly amount only), credit card (online or by phone), or online by e-check.

If you are on Facebook, please follow my page, **Ambler Borough Tax Collector Jennifer Stomsky** for news, updates, changes in my office hours, or general information. I can also be found on X at **@AmblerBoroTC**. You can also sign up for email notifications. The link to sign up can be found on the borough website, or you can email me for more information.

Please always feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions or concerns.



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## Water Line Protection Program Application

What is the Water Line Protection Program? It is a lateral water line protection plan offered by Ambler Borough to our residential customers. Why do we offer this? Because the pipe that carries water from the curb to your house is on your property and the pipe is owned by you. If a leak or break in this line occurs (this is called the 'lateral line'), it is your responsibility – and your expense -- to make the repair.

With the Water Line Protection Plan offered by the Borough of Ambler, if anything happens to your water service line from the point at which it crosses the outer vertical wall of the residence to the point at which it reaches the property boundary, we'll take care of it.

This protection plan is offered to residential customers, specifically single-family dwelling & residential properties with four or fewer units on the same water meter with 5/8" to 1" water service lines. The cost is \$100 for a one-year protection plan and covers the cost to repair or replace allowing up to two repairs per year, \$3,500 per break maximum, capped at \$7,000 per year. Please be aware this Contract is held by you and not by the property. Therefore, should you sell your property, the plan is not transferred to the new property owner. Should you sell your property you may apply in writing for a pro-rated refund.

### Water Line Protection Program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Water Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed WLPP Application with check for \$100 payable to "Ambler Borough" to:  
Ambler Borough ~ Attn: **Water Line Protection Plan**, 131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002



## Ambler Rotary Club Marks 100 Years with Record-Breaking Community Support

The Rotary Club of Ambler is celebrating its 100th anniversary by doubling down on its mission of service and charitable giving. In 2025 alone, the club awarded \$65,500 in grants to local nonprofits and organizations—its largest annual distribution to date.

Recipients include Mattie Dixon Community Cupboard, Wissahickon Valley Boys & Girls Club, Wissahickon Trails, Wissahickon Public Library, Family Promise Montco PA, GMU Catherine's Cupboard Food Pantry, and the Senior Adult Activities Center (SAAC), among others.

"We're thrilled to commemorate our 100th year by investing directly in the work of local change makers," said Anne M. Frank, a representative of the club's Grant Committee. Club President Tara Bevivino added, "This grant symbolizes our long-standing mission of 'Service Above Self' and our dedication to building a stronger community together."

The Ambler Rotary Club has been a familiar presence at community events for decades, known for its service projects and its popular beer tents at the Ambler Arts & Music Festival and Oktoberfest. Every dollar raised from these events goes directly back into the community, supporting scholarships, food banks, youth programs, and other local initiatives.

In addition to grantmaking, the club recently gifted a new pavilion to Ambler Borough at Knight's Park as a thank-you to a community that has supported Rotary for generations.

Founded in 1925, Rotary International is a global network of neighbors, friends, and leaders dedicated to creating lasting change in local communities and around the world. The Ambler chapter has long been a driving force for volunteerism, charitable giving, and civic engagement in the Wissahickon Valley.



Those interested in joining or attending a meeting can contact Club President Tara Bevivino at tarabevhomes@gmail.com.

# Thank you

...to our Ambler Main Street  
Platinum and Gold Members

[AmblerMainStreet.org](http://AmblerMainStreet.org)



Allison Wolfe, Realtor



Tara Bevino, Realtor



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# AMBLER BOROUGH FALL SERVICE CALENDAR TRASH & RECYCLABLES

January 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					H	2
						3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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■ Trash / Recycle / Bulk item    
 ■ Yard Waste Collection

■ Holiday

**SOLID WASTE COLLECTION:** All trash, recyclables and yard waste should be placed curbside no later than 6 A.M. the day of your scheduled pickup. Solid waste is to be placed in the gray roll cart provided by Ambler Borough. No hazardous or E-waste collected. Litter and debris can attract unwanted pests and can clog storm drains. Keep trash and recyclables covered. **DO NOT LITTER.**

**RECYCLABLES COLLECTION:**

Recyclables are to be placed in the blue roll cart provided by Ambler Borough. All recyclables 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 (colored paper), box board (cereal, cake & cracker boxes); waxed cartons (milk, juice & soup containers); 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. Clean and Rinse please.

**PUT FLEXIBLE PLASTICS IN YOUR RECYCLING CART.**

Flexible plastic packaging can now be placed in your recycling carts. Flexible packaging is any plastic packaging that is able to flex or wrap such as plastic pouches, wraps, and bags. For example: Grocery Bags, Retail Bags, Pet Treat Pouches, Detergent Pouches, Case Wrap, Shrink Film, Food Storage Bags, Snack Food Pouches, Salad Bags, Wipes Pouches, Candy Pouches, Baby Food Pouches, Bread Bags, Diaper Wrap Packaging (No Diapers New or Used), Air Pillows, Bubble Wrap, Pet Food Bags, Cereal Bags, Paper Towel Overwrap, Chip Bags, Meat Bags, Cheese Bags and Drink Pouches. Additional information regarding curbside collection of flexible plastics can be found at [www.jpmscaro.com](http://www.jpmscaro.com)

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

**BULK COLLECTION:** One bulk item (mattress, desk, etc.) per household is permitted per week. **No Tires, No TVs or Computers.** Call J.P. Mascaro & Sons at 1-800-432-1616 for "white" item pickup.

Items containing Freon (refrigerators, etc) visit Montgomery County's website [www.montcoparecycles.org](http://www.montcoparecycles.org) or 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 (888-573-2672) for collection of working frigs & freezers (10-30 cuft). Residents must be on site at time of scheduled pick-up. Mattresses and box springs must be bagged and sealed in plastic mattress bags when placed curbside. Items may be set out on your regularly scheduled bulk service day. All mattresses and box springs must now be **wrapped in plastic** before collection. Recent infestations of bed bugs have spread from mattresses to employees as they make curbside pickups. You can find mattress disposal bags at most major retailers and home improvement stores, such as Home Depot, Lowe's, Walmart, Amazon.com, etc.

**YARD WASTE COLLECTION:** 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 and branch materials, twig material, vine and hedge trimmings. No grass clippings. Residents may also bring yard waste to Barnside Farm Compost Facility, 991 Haldeman Rd, Schwenksville, contact at 610-287-8880.

**HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

Trash and recycle collection is on Monday. Only when a holiday lands on a Monday your trash and recycling will be collected on Tuesday and yard waste collection will be collected on Wednesday. Observed holiday(s): New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day. If the Holiday falls on Sunday, collection will resume on regular collection day!

## Code Enforcement – Helping Beautify the Township One Property at a Time.

Code Enforcement plays an important role in preserving the attractive appearance of neighborhoods in Borough of Ambler. The mission of Code Enforcement is to provide fair and comprehensive enforcement of Borough Codes, which include junk, debris, trash, nuisance, weeds, zoning, and rental/leased property maintenance.”

The Borough of Ambler encourages its citizens to become community minded. You are encouraged to get to know your neighborhood and meet your neighbors. Working together we can provide and maintain safe, clean and attractive neighborhoods.

Some common complaints include abandoned (unregistered) vehicles, accumulation of junk or trash, high grass or weeds above (6) inches, and work without permits.

Citizens and neighbors are encouraged to cooperate with one another in a friendly manner to resolve minor concerns before contacting Code Enforcement for assistance. But if the problem persists and communication has got you nowhere, please feel free to contact the Code Department at [code@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:code@borough.ambler.pa.us) with any and all property maintenance, rental, zoning, or permit related questions. All complainant information is held with the utmost security as not to create retaliation or just bad feelings between neighbors.

### ARE YOUR SIDEWALKS A HIDDEN HAZARD? PROPERTY OWNER TIPS FOR MAINTAINING AMBLER'S WALKABILITY AND CHARM

**Maintaining Safe Sidewalks** In order to reduce the risk of slip, trip, and fall incidents, property owners should routinely inspect and repair damage to their sidewalks, parking lots, and other walkways.

Walking surfaces should be regularly inspected to help ensure that problems are discovered and repaired as soon as possible. Inspections should be performed at least annually, but high-traffic areas near daycares, bus stops, business districts, and other areas frequented by the general public should be audited every other month.

Use the following sidewalk safety checklist to assist you in assessing the safety and liability exposure of your sidewalk and walkways.

You should note and make repairs or replacement to any condition displaying:

- Vertical displacement greater than ½”
- Cracks greater than ½” across
- 50% or more of the surface chipped away or uneven
- Sections sunken more than 2” below normal grade across 8’ length
- Divots or holes/pits greater than 1” in diameter and ½” deep
- Chunks of loose concrete or slabs that move or rock
- Hoses, downspouts routed across walkway
- Utility plugs, valves, or other objects that protrude ½” or more above the walking surface
- Low hanging tree limbs, bushes, or other plants growing into the walking sidewalk and/or posing obstruction
- Wet leaves, rocks, sand, dirt or other debris accumulating on the walking surface
- Areas of pooling water that may turn to ice in cold weather or become slick algae growth during warm weather.
- Any other situation that creates the potential for a slip, trip or fall.

If you are in doubt of a hazard, feel free to contact the Borough Code Department to perform a safety inspection to assist in what would need to be replaced. Please note that the Borough has recently enacted a resale home inspection certificate which includes a sidewalk / curb safety inspection. Walkable communities such as Ambler led to both economic and natural benefits, more social interactions, and encourage physical fitness. Maintaining these resources is a community wide effort. If you see any of the above violations, feel free to contact the Ambler Borough Code Department to investigate. Working together we can all do our part to provide and maintain safe, clean, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods.

### WINTER IS COMING....

As winter approaches snow is not far behind. Residents are reminded to shovel the snow off all sidewalks as soon as possible to avoid possible fines or pedestrian injuries. In addition, if there is a fire hydrant on your property be sure to clear a 3ft radius around the hydrant and a clear path to the street. When removing snow off your sidewalk, driveway, or vehicle do not throw the snow into the street. This makes it difficult for passing plows and possible re-freezing. As always remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance – the elderly and those with disabilities. Working together property owners and the Borough can get life back to normal as possible after a snow event.

### Don't Blow It Into the street

Keep clippings in your yard... NOT in the street

Blowing or leaving grass clippings and other debris such as leaves in the street doesn't just look bad it is also illegal and violators could face possible fines. Besides being a Code Violation, grass clippings and leaves can also clog the Borough's storm water drainage system. When drains are clogged with yard waste the storm water can back up and potentially cause flooding during a rain event. In addition, during snow events please do not shovel snow into the street. This may create a dangerous situation for drivers.

# Carbon Monoxide Safety



Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel declare that it is safe to re-enter the home.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

## HOME HEATING EQUIPMENT



Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in. When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation. Never use your oven to heat your home.

## FACTS

- ! A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- ! In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine calls per hour.



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Being 85 years old is hard!

Founded in 1941 we are moving into our 85th year!

Although none of us have been around the whole time, we are still striving to provide Excellence in Pre-Hospital Care! Things have changed quite a bit since 1941. We now utilize Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT-B) to provide Basic life support to our patients (think- anything external: bandaging, splinting, CPR, etc.). Our Paramedics, of course are the Advanced life support providers (think-anything internal: IV's, Intubation, drug administration, etc.). Over the past few years, we've added Advanced EMT's (A-EMT) to our staff who can do all the basic, and some of the Advanced stuff! We are grateful for each and every provider you help support.

It's crazy to think there are STILL 'post-COVID' supply chain issues that affect us. We find ourselves waiting on a new ambulance (ordered awhile back) and now a new ambulance chases to move an ambulance 'box' onto! We'll shortly need to order an additional unit as well!

That's exciting, but we cannot survive on just insurance and Private pays for our service and that's why we send out our annual subscription mailing. This year's subscription drive will be going out soon. It'll be the envelope with the ambulances on the front! Checks (and credit cards) will be applied to our "2025 Subscription Drive" happening now; and lasting through December 2026! You should know that if you don't subscribe until June, you are NOT covered January-June.

#### WHAT DO YOU GET?

Hopefully you have insurance that covers 100% of your Emergency Ambulance bill, but most do not. If you are a subscriber, we bill your primary insurance company (and secondary) then send the remaining balance of the bill to you (your copay, coinsurance, deductible or what have you). When you are a subscriber to CAAA we write off ½ of that balance.

To be clear: we bill Insurance (Medicare Part B for example) and then write off ½ of the balance after Medicare Part B covers their portion. You get the benefit of reducing the bill for services, we get the benefit of a monetary donation! Win – Win!

#### WHAT DOES IT COST?

It is a minimum of \$40 per Senior Individual (65+) or \$60 per Senior Couple. If you are single and under age 65 we charge \$75. We also have a Family Membership for \$110 (only family at the same residence).

Unlike the big city's ambulances, we are not tax-based. We appreciate the Borough and Township donations we receive, but CAAA receives no steady income from taxes. If you have been in Ambler for any length of time, you know that we only respond to 9-1-1 calls. That means we can't guarantee a steady flow of insurance payments. As a matter of fact, we hope you don't see us every Monday – Wednesday – Friday (unless it's when a crew is getting food, or coffee...).

We know times have been hard. Thank you for considering a subscription, or a donation of any size. They are not received lightly. Please respond to the mailing you receive, and if we somehow missed your address, please send us a note and a check to:

Community Ambulance Association of Ambler  
PO Box 119  
Ambler, PA 19002-0119

**The Ambler Borough Gym is now a regular community site for American Red Cross Blood Drives.  
A blood drive is scheduled for December 30th from 2PM-7PM.**

**To make an appointment to give go online to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (keyword: ambler)  
or call 1-800-Red-Cross. Walk-ins are welcome.**





# BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM



**FEMA**

FEMA V-1014/June 2018

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.

Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.



Greater risk



Can last a few hours or several days



Can knock out heat, power, and communication services

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING, FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

Stay off roads.



Use generators outside only.



Stay indoors and dress warmly.



Listen for emergency information and alerts.



Prepare for power outages.



Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.



Check on neighbors.



# Proper Mulching Techniques

Mulching is one of the most beneficial practices a homeowner can use for better tree health.



Mulches are applied to the soil surface to maintain moisture and improve soil conditions. However, if misapplied, mulch may have little, or even negative, impact on trees.

## Benefits of Proper Mulching

- Reduces soil moisture loss through evaporation.
- Controls weed germination and growth.
- Insulates soil, protecting roots from extreme summer and winter temperatures.
- Improves soil biology, aeration, structure (aggregation of soil particles), and drainage over time.
- Increases soil fertility as certain mulch types decompose.
- Inhibits certain plant diseases.
- Reduces the likelihood of tree damage from string trimmers and lawn mowers.
- Gives planting beds a uniform, cared-for look.

Trees growing in a natural forest environment have their roots anchored in a rich, well aerated soil full of essential nutrients and soil microorganisms. The soil is blanketed by fallen leaves and other organic materials that organisms break down to release nutrients into the soil. This environment is optimal for root growth and mineral uptake.

Urban landscapes and new developments, however, are typically harsher environments with poor-quality soil, reduced organic matter, and large fluctuations in soil temperature and moisture. Many benefits of the natural environment can be replicated, while maintaining a formal appearance, with the application of organic mulch.

## Types of Mulch

### Organic Mulch

- Examples include wood chips, pine needles, hardwood and softwood bark, cocoa hulls, leaves, compost mixes, and a variety of other products usually derived from plants.
- Decomposes in the landscape at different rates depending on the material, climate, and soil microorganisms present.
- Requires more replenishing depending on how fast it decomposes.

### Inorganic Mulch

- Examples include various types of stone, lava rock, shredded rubber, and other materials.
- Does not decompose or need to be replenished often.
- Does not improve soil structure or provide nutrients.

## Not Too Much!

Too much mulch can be harmful. The recommended mulching depth is 2–4 inches (5–10 cm). Unfortunately, many landscapes are falling victim to a plague of over mulching.

“Mulch volcanoes” are excessive piles of mulch materials applied around the base of trees.

While organic mulches must be replenished over time, buildup can occur if reapplication outpaces decomposition or if new material is added simply to refresh color.

Deep mulch can be effective in suppressing weeds and reducing maintenance, but it often causes additional problems.



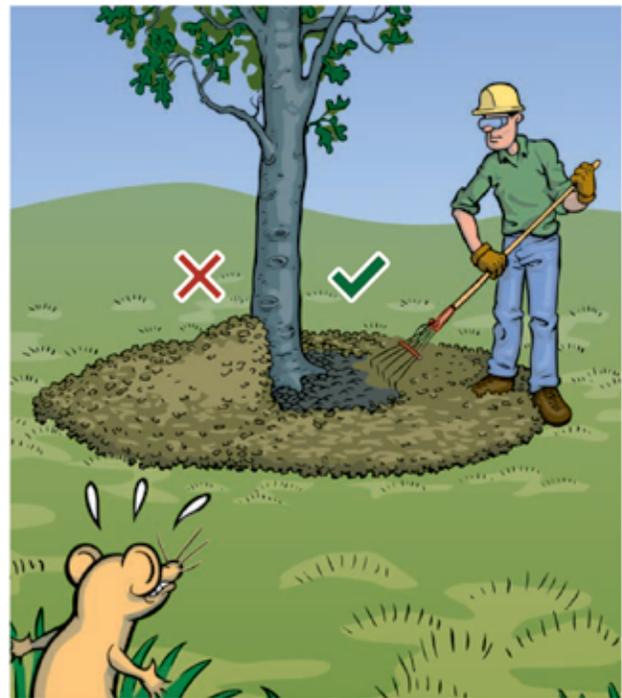
## Problems Associated with Improper Mulching

- Applying mulch against the trunk or stems of plants can soften the tissues, making them more susceptible to the development of insects and diseases (see figure top right).
- Mulch against the trunk can also lead to the growth of stem girdling roots. This type of root growth can reduce tree growth or eventually kill the tree.
- Thick blankets of fine mulch can become matted and may reduce the penetration of water and air.
- On wet soils, applying more than 2 inches (5 cm) of organic mulch can reduce soil drying, which can lead to excess moisture in the root zone, which can stress the plant and cause root rot. In these cases, it may be best to leave bare ground exposed or to use a thin layer of inorganic mulch.
- Some mulches, especially those containing fresh grass clippings, can affect soil pH and may eventually lead to nutrient deficiencies or toxic buildups. Anaerobic “sour” mulch may give off pungent odors, and the alcohols and organic acids that build up may be toxic to young plants.

## Guidelines for Applying Mulch

The choice of mulch and the application techniques are important to the health of landscape plants. The following are guidelines for applying mulch:

- For well-drained sites, apply a 2–4 inch (5–10 cm) layer of mulch. Fine mulches, such as composed materials, should be applied in a 2–3 inch layer and coarse mulches, such as arborist wood chips, should be applied in a 3–4 inch layer.
- Apply mulch near, but not touching, the trunk and extend to the drip line, if practical. If it is not practical to apply mulch to the drip line, apply as far out as you can. Generally, a 3 foot (1 meter) radius ring is the minimum for most trees.
- If the species you are mulching has symptoms related to a pH problem, select a mulch that can aid in correcting.
- If mulch is already present, check the depth. If sufficient mulch is present, break up any matted layers and refresh the appearance with a rake. Some landscape maintenance companies spray mulch with a water-soluble, vegetable-based dye to add color to faded material.
- If mulch is piled against the stems or tree trunks, pull it back several inches/centimeters so that the base of the trunk is exposed (see figure top right).
- Fresh arborist wood chips, especially those that contain bark and leaves, are an excellent material to apply around trees and large shrubs.



## What Is a Certified Arborist?

ISA Certified Arborists® are individuals who have proven a level of knowledge in the art and science of tree care through experience and by passing a comprehensive examination developed by some of the nation's leading experts on tree care. ISA Certified Arborists must also continue their education to maintain their certification. Therefore, they are more likely to be up to date on the latest techniques in arboriculture.

## Finding an Arborist

Visit [TreesAreGood.org](https://www.treesaregood.org) for free tools and to all brochures in this series.

- The “Find an Arborist” tool can help you locate an arborist in your area.
- The “Verify a Credential” tool enables you to confirm whether an arborist has an ISA credential.



[www.isa-arbor.com](https://www.isa-arbor.com) • [www.treesaregood.org](https://www.treesaregood.org)

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Through research, technology, and education, the International Society of Arboriculture promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees.



# AMBLER BOROUGH HALL

131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002  
215-646-1000

Fax: Administration 215-641-1355 Fax: Water 215-641-1921  
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (closed Federal holidays)

**Web site : [www.boroughofambler.com](http://www.boroughofambler.com)**

Mayor Jeanne Sorg [jsorg@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:jsorg@borough.ambler.pa.us)  
Borough Manager Kyle Detweiler [manager@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:manager@borough.ambler.pa.us)  
Council President Glynnis Siskind [gsiskind@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:gsiskind@borough.ambler.pa.us)

### AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL 2025

<b>WARD 1</b>	<b>WARD 2</b>	<b>WARD 3</b>
Lou Orehek Karen Sheedy Amy Hughes Kelly	Glynnis Siskind, President Jennifer Henderson Redmond Brubaker	Elizabeth Iovine, Vice President Nancy Roecker-Coates David Hui

### AMBLER COUNCIL COMMITTEES 2025

<b>Finance &amp; Planning:</b>	Ms. Iovine (Chair), Ms. Sheedy, Mr. Brubaker
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation:</b>	Ms. Henderson (Chair) Ms. Roecker Coates, Mr. Brubaker, Mr. Hui
<b>Public Safety:</b>	Ms. Hughes Kelly (Chair), Ms. Henderson, Ms. Roecker-Coates, Mr. Orehek
<b>Public Utilities:</b>	Mr. Orehek (Chair), Mr. Hui, Ms. Sheedy, Ms. Hughes Kelly
<b>Salary &amp; Personnel:</b>	Ms. Sheedy (Chair), Ms. Siskind, Ms. Henderson, Ms. Iovine

### STATE/CONGRESSIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION 2025

**Rep. Madeleine Dean (4th Cong. District):** PH: 215-884-4300 WEB: [dean.house.gov](http://dean.house.gov)  
**Sen. Maria Collett (12th PA Sen. District):** PH: 215-368-1429 WEB: [www.senatorcollett.com](http://www.senatorcollett.com)  
**Hon. Melissa Cerrato (151st PA Assembly):** PH: 267-282-6695 WEB: [www.pahouse.com/mcerrato](http://www.pahouse.com/mcerrato)

### PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE – Ambler Borough Hall

[Meeting schedules and meeting agendas are posted on the Borough website]

<b>1st Tuesday</b>	<b>Borough Committee</b> –7:00 pm
<b>1st Thursday</b>	Zoning Hearing Board (call for specific dates/times)
<b>3rd Tuesday</b>	<b>Borough Council Meeting</b> – 7:00 pm
<b>3rd Wednesday</b>	Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) – 7:00 pm
<b>3rd Thursday</b>	Ambler Junior Baseball – 7:00 pm
<b>4th Tuesday</b>	Planning Commission – 7:00 pm
<b>Last Monday</b>	Ambler Main Street – 3:00 pm
<b>As Advertised</b>	Civil Service Commission (call for specific dates/times)
<b>As Advertised</b>	Human Relations Commission (call for specific dates/times)

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

### NON-EMERGENCY & STAFF PHONE NUMBERS

**Ambler Police** (Chief Jeffrey Borkowski) 215-646-1000 (8:00-4:00pm)      **Ambler Police** 215-643-6444 **after hours**  
**Wissahickon Fire Co.** 215-646-1266      **Fire Marshall** Rick Lockhart 215-646-1000 ext. 122  
**Community Ambulance Association of Ambler** 215-643-4111  
**Water Department Superintendent** Steve Smallberger 215-646-1000 ext. 124 [[ssmallberger@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:ssmallberger@borough.ambler.pa.us)]  
**Water Billing** – 215-646-1000 (Brit ext. 110 or Ruth ext. 111)      **Water Emergency** – 215-646-1000 **follow prompts**  
**Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent** Jarrett Evans 215-628-9457 [[Awwtpsupt@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:Awwtpsupt@borough.ambler.pa.us)]  
**Code Enforcement Officer** Glenn Kucher 215-646-1000 ext. 112 [[code@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:code@borough.ambler.pa.us)]  
**Public Works Superintendent** Vito Pagano 215-628-9409 (leave message or call 215-646-1000 ‘0’ Receptionist)  
**Finance Manager** 215-646-1000 ext. 107 [[Finance@borough.ambler.pa.us](mailto:Finance@borough.ambler.pa.us)]  
**Borough Receptionist** Melissa Reale 215-646-1000 dial “0”

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Fall/Winter 2025



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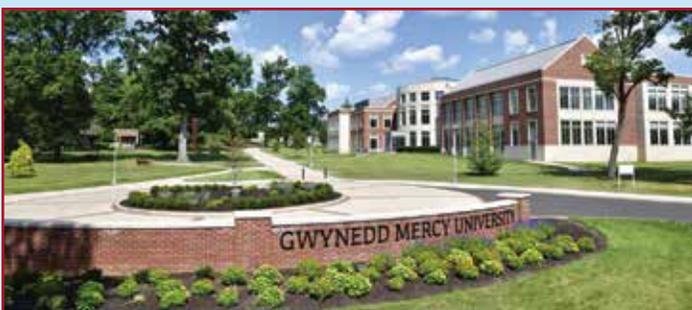
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