

AKRON BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

RAIN GARDENS

Do you like gardening? Do you love seeing birds and butterflies at flight in your yard? Creating a rain garden offers therapeutic exercise, attracts wildlife, and helps keep stormwater runoff from overburdening sewer systems--or entering local streams.

A rain garden is an attractive landscaped area planted with wildflowers and other vegetation (preferably native to the area) that has been designed to collect water that runs off a roof, driveway, or other parts of a property, including area lawns. Rain gardens are intended to fill with water during storms and slowly filter the water into the ground. Rain gardens are an economical way of dealing with rainfall the way nature intended by infiltrating, slowing down, and reducing the volume of runoff that enters a stormwater system. During heavy rains, they can prevent storm sewer overflows that can end up in our rivers and streams. Rain gardens not only keep rainwater on your property and out of the sewer system, they offer an attractive alternative to manicured lawns, adding beauty and value to a neighborhood. And, they provide important habitat for birds, butterflies, and other beneficial insects.

<http://www.stormwaterpa.org>

<https://www.epa.gov/greeningepa/epa-facility-stormwater-management>

RECYCLE NEWS

Plastic Water Bottles: Ditch Them!

Buying bottled water not only costs money, but also generates plastic waste. In fact, enough plastic is thrown away each year to circle the Earth four times. Instead, invest in an at-home filtering pitcher or a reusable bottle made from aluminum, glass or recycled plastic.

Reusable Bags: A Must Have

Plastic bags are a huge drain on the environment, taking 15 to 1,000 years to decompose. Only 2% of

bags are recycled each year, and the rest are sent to landfills or make their way to pollute our oceans. Next time you make a trip to the grocery store, consider using a reusable bag. Washable and sturdy, reusable bags make shopping trips more convenient and ecofriendly.

Cut Back on Paper Towels

Did you know 13 billion pounds of paper towels end up in landfills every day? Investing in a few cotton cloths and some fabric napkins can help reduce paper waste significantly. When the fabric napkins get dirty, just run them through the laundry. Cloth alternatives are not only less wasteful, but more economical.

Switch to Rechargeable Batteries

According to the EPA, Americans throw away more than 3 billion batteries every year. Many of these batteries will end up in landfills, taking up land as a precious resource. Make the switch to rechargeable batteries. This will decrease your battery consumption to a fraction it was before, saving you money, and producing less waste

ORDINANCE REMINDER

§2-103. Animal Defecation.

No owner shall permit any dog or other animal (excluding, however, horses while being used for transportation) to defecate on property not owned by such person (public or private) unless the owner or keeper of animal immediately cleans up and removes the defecation and disposes of the same in a sanitary manner upon such owner's own property.

(Ord. 337, 2/11/1985, §3)

FROM OUR POLICE

We have Facebook. Like our page for all the latest events, crime stoppers, and arrests.

AKRON BOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Our current Borough Comprehensive Plan dates back to 1992. A Steering Committee has been formed to address, through a comprehensive strategic planning process, to see where we want to be in twenty years. The goal of this process is to provide Akron Borough with a plan that will help Akron to guide future policy decisions. The Steering Committee has been conducting monthly meetings at the Akron Volunteer Fire Hall on the 4th Thursday of each month since January 2017. Citizen participation is highly encouraged at these public meetings.

PAY ONLINE TWO WAYS CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

You can pay your property taxes and/or water bill without leaving your home using our online payment service. We accept MasterCard, Visa, or Discover credit cards. A convenience fee of 2.45% (\$1.50 minimum) will be charged for online payments.

ELECTRONIC CHECK PAYMENTS

We also accept electronic check payments. Payments will be charged to your checking account at your bank. You will need your 9-digit routing number and your account number from your personal checks. A convenience fee of \$1.50 will be charged for processing the check. When payment options appear, click on the "switch to pay with check" link. When paying online, please use your account number as your reference number.

HOLIDAYS

Akron Borough office will be closed Thursday, November 23, 2017 for Thanksgiving, Monday, December 25, 2017 for Christmas, and Monday, January 1, 2018 for New Years

SHOE IN 2017

Plans are underway for the annual Akron Shoe In on New Year's Eve. The event will take place at the Broad Street Park. Food and various activities will be available for all ages so please plan to join in the fun on New Year's Eve. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact chairman, Jim Kearsley at 717-330-2023.

LIONS CLUB

It's almost time again for the best spaghetti dinner in Akron. Akron Lions Club 24th Annual Spaghetti Dinner. Sunday, January 28, 2018 11:00 am until sold out. Akron Fire Hall Adults \$10.00 Children (6-12) \$5.00 Under 6 are free

POLICE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

If you have a Police Emergency, dial **911**. If you have a Police Non-Emergency, dial **859-6600**. Lancaster County Wide Communications Dispatchers answer this number 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week. **If you see something suspicious please call immediately and don't wait until you see an officer.**

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Akron Borough
www.akron-pa.com/

Akron Fire Hall
www.akronfire.org/

Ephrata Library
www.ephratapubliclibrary.org/

BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Office phone number is 859-1600. Lobby is open 24 hours a day with a night drop for bills, parking tickets, etc. Also a phone which dials directly to County Radio for police.

Council meets- 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Municipal Building, 117 S. 7th Street.

WATER BILL DUE DATES

Water bills are sent quarterly:

1st quarter
February 1 - April 30
Mailed May 15
Due June 15

2nd quarter
May 1 - July 31
Mailed August 15
Due September 15

3rd quarter
August 1 - October 31
Mailed November 15
Due December 15

4th quarter
November 1 - January 31.
Mailed February 15
Due March 15

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

The Borough will be accepting Christmas Trees beginning December 26 at LOYD ROLAND PARK. They are not using trees for the New Year's Eve bonfire this year, please do not take your trees to the Broad St Park.

FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

11/18/17 Breakfast
12/16/17 Breakfast with Santa

All Breakfasts:
Adults \$ 10
Children 3 – 12 \$ 5
Under 3 free

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

Ordinance Chapter 21 Section 202 states: All sidewalks shall be clear of ice and snow to a path at least 24" wide within 24 hours after the snow or ice has ceased to fall.

Chapter 15 Section 806 states: No person shall place, throw or otherwise dispose of snow or slush upon the travel lanes of any Borough Street.

RAIL TRAIL

T-Shirts are available at Borough Office. Only \$12 each.

The Borough also has limited Cat's Meows from our Centennial.

BOROUGH DIRECTORY

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Susan Davidson

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