

# AKRON BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

## WATER CONSERVATION

### **What is storm water runoff?**

Storm water originates from rain or snow/ice that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, streets, construction sites, lawns and fields. Storm water runoff can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it makes its way to storm drains and natural waterways.

### **Why should you care?**

Storm water from your home and from the public streets goes into a storm sewer, which goes directly into streams and bodies of water used for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. This water is not cleaned in any way and does not go to the waste water treatment plant. We all drink water, so we are all affected when our water is polluted. Streams and creeks feed into rivers, lakes and the ocean. If you like to fish, swim or boat, pollutants will affect you. When we pollute our water, everyone is affected.

### **What can you do to help?**

- Plant native trees & plants
- Clean up after your pets
- Use fertilizers properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff
- Store gasoline, oil, or other chemical materials indoors
- Monitor storm water inlets near your property
- NEVER dump anything down the storm drain, in a stream, or other body of water.

### **Rain Barrels**

A rain barrel collects and stores stormwater runoff from rooftops. By detaining (temporarily holding) the stormwater runoff during a rain event, you can help add capacity to the borough's sewer system and reduce sewer overflows to our creeks and rivers. Also, the collected rain water can be reused for irrigation to water lawns, gardens, window boxes or street trees.

For more information about stormwater visit PA Dept of Environmental Protection at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us) or the US Environmental Protection Agency at: [www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater).

## NEW WATER RATES

Effective February 1, 2017, our water rate was reduced from \$7.20 per 1000 gallons to \$6.50 per 1000 gallons. Sewer rates were increased from \$7.75 per 1000 gallons to \$9.55 per 1000 gallons.

## PARK VOLUNTEERS

Akron residents that are interested in volunteering to help clean and beautify our parks should call the Borough Office at 859-1600.

## POLICE NEWS

**Section 3314** of the Pa Vehicle Code Prohibits the Use of Hearing Impairment Devices while operating a vehicle. This includes wearing one or more headphones or earphones. This does not prohibit hearing aids or headsets in conjunction with cellular telephones that only provide sounds through one ear. This **DOES** include wearing a device for the sole purpose of listening to music either in one or both ears.

**Section 3701.1** of the Pa Vehicle Code makes it illegal for any person to leave a child under the age of 6, unattended, in a vehicle, when the vehicle is out of the driver's sight.

**Section 4525 a/ 175.65** of the Pa Vehicle Code/Inspection Code, makes it illegal for anyone to operate a vehicle with any tire that projects beyond the body line.

## RECYCLE NEWS

### WHY YOU SHOULD PROPERLY DISPOSE OF UNWANTED PRESCRIPTIONS

- Prescription drugs involved in overdoses are almost all originally prescribed by physicians
- In the past 10 years, prescription drug abuse has quadrupled; it now results in more deaths than all illicit street drugs combined
- 2 percent of 12th graders have misused or abused prescription narcotics, five percent tranquilizers, and 10 percent stimulants (e.g. Adderall and Ritalin).
- Improper disposal of prescription drugs can create environmental hazards impacting groundwater, rivers, and harming wildlife.

### HOW TO PREPARE ITEMS FOR DISPOSAL

- All pharmaceutical drugs to be disposed must be placed in a sealed container such as the original bottle or zip-lock bag
- Liquid pharmaceuticals should remain in the original container
- Personal information should be removed or marked out with a permanent marker

### YOU CAN DISPOSE OF:

- Prescription and over-the-counter solid medications
- Tablets and capsules
- Pet medicines

### YOU MAY NOT DROP OFF:

- Intravenous solutions
- Injectables, syringes, and needles (i.e. EpiPens)\*; these need to be taken to a health care professional's office or to a hospital for disposal
- Hydrogen peroxide

- Compressed cylinders or aerosols (e.g., asthma inhalers)
- Iodine-containing medications
- Thermometers
- Alcohol & illicit drugs (i.e. marijuana, heroin, LSD, etc.)

A prescription box is available at  
**EPHRATA POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
 124 S State Street, Ephrata  
 Monday – Friday 8:30-4:30

**LAWN & GARDEN CARE**

Use fertilizers sparingly. Lawns and many plants do not need as much fertilizer or need it as often as you might think. Test your soil to be sure.

Consider using organic fertilizers; they release nutrients more slowly.

Never fertilize before a rain storm (the pollutants are picked up by stormwater during rain events).

Keep fertilizer off of paved surfaces – off of sidewalks, driveways, etc. If granular fertilizer gets onto paved surfaces, collect it for later use or sweep it onto the lawn.

Let your grass clippings lay. Don't bag the grass. Use a mulching lawn mower to cut one-third of the blade length each week and naturally fertilize your lawn in the process.

**YARD SALES**

A permit is required for yard sales. The permit is \$5 and includes 5 signs. The Borough ordinance allows for 2 one-day sales or 1 two-day sale per year. **SIGNS MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF SALE.**

**COUNCIL MEETINGS-**

Akron Borough Council meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Municipal Building, 117 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

**HOLIDAYS**

Akron Borough Office will be closed Monday May 29<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day and Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day.

**WATER & SEWER**

**BILLING NEWS**

*You need to use PO Box 130 when mailing items to the Borough Hall.*

Also, for non-payment of a water and sewer bill, a second notice is sent 15 days after the due date giving the resident an additional 10 days to pay the bill before service is terminated. Please pay attention to your notices to avoid this happening.

**BOROUGH ADDRESS**

117 South Seventh Street  
 PO Box 130  
 Akron PA 17501

**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 for police which dials directly to County Radio.

**SCHOOL NEWS**

Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school for students. Keep an eye out for children when driving.

**WEBSITES OF INTEREST**

[www.Akron-pa.com](http://www.Akron-pa.com)

[www.gofundme.com/colonial-park-access-path-to-trail](http://www.gofundme.com/colonial-park-access-path-to-trail)

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

[www.co.lancaster.pa.us/](http://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/)

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

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

**BOROUGH DIRECTORY**

**John McBeth**-Mayor

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 859-2655

**COUNCIL**

**John Williamson**-President

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**Justin Gehman**-Vice-Pres./

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**Monica Hersh** –

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**BOROUGHMANAGER/**

**BOROUGH SECRETARY**

**Susan Davidson** 859-1600

[sued@akron-pa.com](mailto:sued@akron-pa.com)

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

**Thomas Zell** 859-6600

**TREASURER**

**Robert Ober**

**TAX COLLECTOR**

**Ann S. Nolt** 859-1600

**SOLICITORS**

**Shirk Law Assoc.** 733-7997

**ENGINEERS**

**Arro Consultants** 569-7021

**EMERGENCY MGMT**

**Greg Leisey** 989-5474

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Sam Baughman, II

Robert Rollman

John Williamson

Ryan Cochran

John Taylor

**ZONING HEARING BOARD**

Christine Burkholder

Thomas Bender

Kay McEllhenney

**BOROUGH AUTHORITY**

Terry Reber

Jeff Shirk

Pam Musser

Robert Stauffer

Susan Davidson

**CIVIL SERVICE**

Kirby Smith

Joseph Mikos

Donald Reese