



Presented by Ambler Borough

# Home Town News

Issue 2002-5



## Water Emergency is BAAaack

Governor Schweiker has declared another drought emergency. That means mandatory water restrictions are back in place. A partial list of prohibited water uses are lawn watering, ornamental fountains, filling of swimming pools and washing of sidewalks and driveways. Garden plants may be watered between 6-8am and 7-9pm. First offense violations include fines of \$200 or 30 days in jail. Residents are to conserve water in every way they can. This includes repairing leaking faucets and toilets and run only full washers and dishwashers. An individual may wash personally owned or leased vehicles with buckets or by hand-held hose equipped with an automatic shutoff nozzle for pre-rinse and rinse, not to exceed a total of two minutes spray time. Water use is limited to odd street addresses on weekends containing first and third Saturdays of the month and even or no street addresses on weekends containing the second and fourth Saturdays of the month.

### Inside this issue:

Environmental Corner	2
AWWTP Improvements	2
Main Street News	3
Borough Reminders	4
SAAC Visiting Speakers	4
Area Happenings	4

## Montco Assumes Health Officer Role

The Montgomery County Health Department will now assume the duties and responsibilities previously assigned to the Borough's Health Officer. In addition to sanitation safety and animal bite and wound surveillance, the county offers many clinical programs such as home safety, childhood and adult immunizations, maternal and child home health visits, lead poisoning screening, nurse visitations, rabies clinics for pets, Lyme Disease and West Nile Virus Surveillance, HIV education and breast and cervical cancer screening for under/ uninsured women. They also have educational programs on transportation safety, nutrition, tobacco control and injury prevention. For more information or to file a complaint call 610-278-5117.



## Meter Reader Installation Starts in September

In an effort to keep costs low and quality of service high Ambler Water Department had contracted with National Metering Services (NMS) to replace the aging meter reading boxes on the outside of customers homes and businesses. This is a mandatory replacement at no cost to customers. For the next quarter all bills will be estimated. Billing adjustments will be made next quarter. All National Metering employees will be in company uniform, will have proper ID and will be registered with the Ambler Police Department. In most

cases the switch will be done unnoticed by customers. Only where access to the inside meter is necessary will an appointment be scheduled. NMS installers will leave a notice if an appointment is necessary to access the water meter.

Did You Know?  
Mary Ambler was the first female physician to practice in Ambler?

**STANDARD MAIL  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
AMBLER, PA  
Permit No. 43**

**RESIDENTS &  
BUSINESSES OF  
AMBLER BOROUGH**



## Latex Paint is Non-Hazardous

I received a flyer and I thought I should share the information with you. Last year, Montgomery County spent almost \$200,000 on its regional household hazardous waste collection program. The good news is that Montgomery County wants residents to continue to dispose of Household Hazardous Waste in the proper fashion at the collection centers. The bad news is that almost half of what is collected is non-hazardous. Latex paint makes up the largest part of this non-hazardous waste. Paint stored properly can last for years in the can. But if you prefer not to store paint, leftover latex paint can be disposed of safely in several ways. First, give your paint job a second or third coat. This will make your finish last longer. Second, give paint away. Churches, charities and theatre groups are often glad to get it. Third, allow the paint to dry hard in the can and then place it in the trash. Do not put liquid paint in the trash. If you have large amount of paint, line a box with a plastic bag, put in cat litter or newspaper, pour the paint into the box and let the paint dry. Also, a waste paint hardener is available at the hardware store. Once the paint is hard, it can be placed in the regular trash. Oil-based paints are hazardous. Do not put them in the trash. Do the environmentally correct thing and wait for the next hazardous waste collection drop-off on October 26 between 9:00AM and 3:00PM at Lower Merion Public Works Facility 1300 Woodbine Ave, Lower Merion.



## AWWTP to Replace 36 year Old Cover

Reducing the amount of sludge hauled to the landfill reduces costs. This reduction is accomplished by digesting the sludge at the plant. Large tanks called digesters allow bacteria to eat the sludge, reducing solids, thus reducing hauling cost. A by-product of this digestion is methane gas. The digester cover floats on top of the sludge and gas. The downward force from the weight of the cover pressurizes the gas so it moves through the piping to the sludge heater. The sludge is heated so bacteria can do their job better. These covers usually last 25 years. Preventative maintenance has extended the life of this cover but is no longer fiscally prudent. The cost of a new 35 ton, 40' diameter cover will be \$275,000.

## West Nile Virus Found in Whitemarsh



Montco Health Department reports a positive test in a crow found in Whitemarsh Township.

This is the second confirmed case in the county and 37th in the state. The Health Dept has contracted to apply a larvacide in catch basins as part of a control and prevention program. Residents are requested to report dead birds to the Health Department at 610-278-5117 x167. For more information [www.montcopa.org/health/westnile.htm](http://www.montcopa.org/health/westnile.htm)

## Don't Leaf it in the Street This Fall

Leaf Collection– Wednesdays November 6,13,20, and December 4. The following containers may be used for leaf pick up: thirty (30) gallon brown paper bags, trash cans without plastic bags, cardboard boxes. No plastic bags! Do not blow or rake leaves into the street or inlets. Violators subject to \$300.00 fine per incident.

## St. Anthony's Zoning Map Approved

A majority vote by Council changed the zoning map for the Forest Pines Apts. lot from R-Residential to IN-Institutional. The Zoning Hearing Board listened to over 4 hours of testimony in St. Anthony's request for relief from IN requirements for parking, building coverage, impervious surface, handicap parking and front yard setback. Over 150 residents were present to listen and make comment. Is this a great country or what? ZHB has until mid-October to make its decision.



## Ambler Main Street News

P.O. Box, Ambler, PA 19002; 215-641-1070; Fax:215-628-2280; www.AmblerMainStreet.org

### Supporting a downtown for Ambler, Upper Dublin, Lower Gwynedd & Whitpain

Thirty days hath September...  
but the day we remember is 11.

What will you do one year later? Give blood; Go to church any time; Hug your spouse and kids everyday.

**Ambler Theatre** renovations are underway and a re-opening is planned sometime around Thanksgiving. Drop by and see a pictorial history of the theater beginning with its opening on New Year's Eve in 1928 up through present day. There are some interesting old photos of the theater and Butler Avenue from the 30's, 40's and 50's on display in the front entrance. Visit our Website often to keep up with the theater's progress.

**Halloween Happenings** a New Event Comes to Ambler... Window Painting, Scarecrow Making, Costume Parade and Ghost Walk Events are Planned in October. Kicking off the weekend will be a window-painting contest. From 9:00 a.m. until noon on Saturday, October 26th, participants will be able to paint either a Halloween or fall theme on an assigned merchant's window. Also from 9:00 a.m. until noon, participants may enter a scarecrow-making contest to be held in the Ambler Savings Bank parking lot. The wooden cross and the hay will be provided, entrants need only supply old clothing and items to help decorate/ personalize their scarecrow. The "Halloween Happenings" weekend will close with a Ghost Walking Tour, conducted by the Wissahickon Valley Historical Society. The Ghost Tour will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. and leave from the Cavalier lot. Visit the "What's Happening" page for details if you wish to enter the competitions.



### Stuff to do in Ambler

- Attend a community meeting to discuss a possible BID in Ambler September 23 at Act II Playhouse 5:30 PM
- 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Art Show and Sale at Artman October 4,5,6
- 1<sup>st</sup> annual Halloween Happenings Weekend Saturday October 26 window painting and scarecrow making; Sunday October 27 "Ghost" Walking Tour 7 PM



### Main Street Manager at Work

- Meet with developers and new entrepreneurs
- Attend lots of meetings
- Encourage the work schedule on the renovations of Ambler Theater
- Work on revising Shoppers' Guide
- Plan and facilitate special events
- Meet with Steering Committee members concerning a possible BID for Ambler
- Organize the development of an Ambler Comcast commercial

Your **support** in September is 'specially appreciated!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership; Resident \$25; Landlords \$165**

**Send to: Ambler Main Street**

**PO Box 36, Ambler, PA 19002**

**Business membership based on number of employees**

0-5    \$165    16-20    \$330

6-10    \$225    21+    \$550

11-15    \$275

Presented by Ambler Borough

122 East Butler Avenue  
Ambler, PA 19002  
Phone 215-646-1000  
Fax 215-641-1355  
Email: HomeTownNews@borough.ambler.pa.us  
Web: www.ambler.pa.us  
Councilman Louis D. Orehek, Editor & Publisher



## Reminders from the Manager

- BBQ grills are not permitted in the parks
- Trash may be placed at the curb no sooner than 6pm the day before pickup.
- Bulk trash pickup is Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>. There is a limit of three furniture items per household for all who receive the residential trash pickup. As always, no tires, auto parts, batteries or paint are permitted in the trash. Do not place bulk trash in Wednesday trash pickups.
- Building numbers must be visible from the roadway.

## What's at SAAC?

All events are at 11am; 45 Forest Ave; 215-619-8863

Sept 16—Free Hearing Evaluations

Sept 18—"Why are Medications so Expensive?" by Lauren Townsend

Sept 25—"Happy Thoughts for Difficult Times" by Judy Campanal

Sept 27– 10:30am "Project Linus"  
Learn what you can do for this wonderful cause.

## Baptist Temple Hosts Flea Market

October 5 is the day the Baptist Temple will host their annual flea market and community day.

Fire and Police vehicles from local municipalities will be in display. Donations for the flea market will be accepted. Baptist Temple is located at Lewis Lane and Skippack Pike in Blue Bell. 215-628-2077.



## At the Library

- September 24— Pizza Night. Read 10 books for your invitation.
- October 29—Halloween Party & Magic Show.
- Nov 5—David Smith Magician and Juggler.
- Nov 12—Astronomy for Kids by Steve Willis.
- Dec 18 Holiday Story Time with Songs.

All events start 7:00pm



## Help Get Our Kids to School Safely

Ambler Borough is looking for substitute school crossing guards. These positions are on an "as needed" basis for guards who are sick or otherwise unable to stand their post. Contact Ambler Borough Police Chief Rocco Wack at 215-646-1000. Ambler Borough residents are especially encouraged to call.



## Abstract Oils in Storefront

Ambler "Art in the Storefront" will open a new exhibit with an outdoor, sidewalk reception with the artist on Fri., Sept. 20, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., at 41 E. Butler Ave. Nobuaki Nakashima, of Roslyn and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, will show his large, colorful, abstract oil paintings, through Nov. 20. For information call 215-654-9106.



## ASO has Coupon Books Available

Ambler Symphony Orchestra is selling the 2003 Entertainment Coupon Books as a fund raiser. These books will be available at their Ambler Oktoberfest booth on Sunday, September 15 as well as at their first concert on Wednesday, November 13. These books make great gifts. ASO was founded in 1951. Their November concert will feature Beethoven - Concerto for Violin, Cello and Piano in the Wissahickon High School at 8pm. Organizations such as this help make Ambler a wonderful place to live. Please support your symphony!