



ADAMSTOWN BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

4TH QUARTER 2020

Sam Toffy – Secretary
Lisa Crouse – Treasurer/Bookkeeper
Mike Palm – Public Works Superintendent
John Schmidt – Mayor

3000 N. Reading Road, P.O. Box 546 Adamstown, PA 19501
Phone: 717-484-2280 Fax: 717-484-1131
E-mail: office@adamstownborough.org
Website: www.adamstownborough.org
Office Hours M-Th 9:00AM – 1:00PM or by appointment



Council Members:

Randy Good, Pres. Dave Matz, V. P.
Alex McManimen Mark Bansner
deLyn Alumbaugh Randell Weaver
Jerry Thomason

Upcoming Council Meetings: Nov 3, 12/1 & 1/5. All meetings are being held at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, 235 E. Swartzville Road, Denver unless otherwise advertised beginning at 7:00PM. The public is encouraged to attend.

Rental Property Owners:

Please provide your tenants with a copy of the quarterly newsletter. Extra copies are available at the borough office or it could be viewed on the borough website.

Grove Rental

2021 dates are filling up!!! The Adamstown grove is the perfect location to host a birthday celebration, family reunion or picnic. The cost is \$100 per day (non-refundable) plus a \$10 key deposit (refundable when keys are returned). There is no fee for Borough non-profit organizations. To reserve the grove or for more information, contact the Borough office.



Trick-or-Treat Night

Trick-or-Treat night will be held on Friday, October 30th from 6PM to 8PM rain or shine. To ensure your child's safety during this unpredictable time, please follow these important safety tips:

- Wear a mask (not just the costume kind).
- Limit the group size.
- Limit the houses you visit.
- Social distance.
- Practice good hand hygiene.
- **STAY HOME** if you might be sick.

Water/Sewer Bills

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 situation, the borough has not issued shutoff or lien notices for delinquent water/sewer accounts. If you are behind on paying your water/sewer bill, we strongly recommend that you make an effort to minimize or eliminate your past due balance. Once we resume with issuing shutoff/lien notices, the entire past due balance will be due in order to avoid a water shutoff or lien on your property. No exceptions will be made.

Rental Properties

Adamstown Borough has a rental ordinance which mandates that any property owner who rents their property must register that property with the Borough office. There is an annual Rental License fee of \$25 as well as rental inspections which are required every 3 years. Rental inspections are \$70 per property and re-inspections are \$60. A 2021 Rental License Application will be mailed in the near future to all rental property owners for your convenience. For more information or to obtain copies of the rental ordinance, please contact the Borough office.

Protect our Watershed

There are many things that you as a property owner could do to help protect our watershed. Below are 6 great ways to protect our watershed:

- Garden smartly – create green spaces
- Be mindful and conserve water when possible
- Reduce impermeable pavement
- Maintain good-working plumbing
- Enhance riparian habitats
- Spread the word and teach others!!!



Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony 2020

Borough personnel will be hanging the lights on the tree this year in anticipation of the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony which is scheduled for November 29th at 6PM. The Adamstown Fire Company will escort Santa to the grove and cars are welcome to participate by driving by. Letters will be collected and given to Santa. The Adamstown Area Library will help with live streaming the tree lighting event and Santa reading stories on YouTube for all to enjoy!

Higher than Normal Water Bill?

The borough office occasionally receives calls from property owners who feel that their water bill is higher than normal. Often the spike in usage may be caused by a leaking toilet or faucet. Be proactive and, even if there is no increase in usage seen, check your faucets for leaks and test your toilets every quarter by dropping dark food coloring in your toilet tank and do NOT flush. Check the toilet bowl after about 20 to 30 minutes for traces of the food coloring. Check again in another 20 to 30 minutes. If coloring appears in the bowl, this means you have a slow leak which needs to be repaired. By being proactive you could avoid a costly water bill by catching the problem early.



New Library Building Update

The Adamstown Area Library is excited to announce that they plan on moving into the new building between October 16th and the 23rd!!! Reopening for curbside will begin on October 26th, with browsing appointments beginning on November 2nd.

Fire Prevention Month

October is fire prevention month. Is your family fire safe and savvy? Many of us are spending more time within our homes, so it's more important now than ever to make sure your family is well prepared for emergencies. Be sure to have working smoke detectors in your home. Smoke detectors should be checked on a regular basis to ensure they are in working order. Don't forget the general rule of thumb; if your smoke detector has batteries that are accessible, be sure to change them when you change your clocks in the Spring and Fall. Also remember to have a family meeting spot that is away from your home. Since more family members are home right now, take the time to practice home fire drills to ensure your family knows how to navigate your home if there would be a real fire; always knowing two ways out of your home and getting to your meeting spot. We can't forget about fire safety in the kitchen. Families are spending a lot more time in the kitchen, especially teens who may be schooling from home during the day. Remember to keep appliances away from water sources, and remind adolescents to closely monitor items they are microwaving. Keep a safe zone around your cooking area where younger children are not permitted to enter unless assisting an adult in meal preparation. This will keep children out of harm's way of sharp cooking utensils, hot pots and pans, hot liquids, and hot cooking surfaces. Handles of pots and pans should be turned to the sides of the cooking surfaces to reduce the risk of bumping handles and spilling hot liquids. Fire extinguishers should also be easily accessible to the kitchen, garage, and near fireplaces. Your family may choose to have a fire extinguisher on each level of the home. Make sure your family is knowledgeable on the location of the fire extinguisher(s) and how to use the extinguisher. For more fire safety tips please visit www.nfpa.org/public-education.



Street Light Outages

If you see a street light out or blinking in your neighborhood, please make note of the series of numbers on the pole and approximate address of the location and contact the borough office with that information. We will report the outage/issue with MetEd or PPL and repairs are usually made within 3 business days.



Winter Maintenance

The Public Works Department crew works tirelessly to keep our roadways open and clear through the winter months. Residents and property owners are required to remove snow and ice from sidewalks within 24 hours after precipitation stops. A shovel-width path is all that is required to be cleared so that pedestrians could walk easily. Snow or ice that cannot be removed without injury to sidewalk should be treated with sand or other abrasive material. Please do your part by piling shoveled snow at the curb line where it will not impede clearing operations or traffic movement – don't shovel it back into the street. Residents could also help avoid street flooding and freezing by clearing snow from on top of catch basins and away from gutters. A great tip...shovel driveway aprons last to avoid having to re-shovel after the snowplow passes by.

