



# ADAMSTOWN BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2016

Sam Toffy – Secretary  
Lisa Crouse – Treasurer/Bookkeeper  
Torri Esch – Assistant Bookkeeper  
Mike Palm – Public Works Superintendent  
Dean Johnson – Mayor

**Council Members:**

Randy Good, Pres.     Dave Matz, V. Pres.  
Cindy Schweitzer     Mark Bansner  
Jessica Kelly         Alex McManimen  
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Office Hours M-Th 9:00AM – 1:00PM or by appointment

*Upcoming Council Meetings: Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4. All meetings are held in the borough municipal building unless otherwise advertised beginning at 7:00PM and the public is encouraged to attend.*

**Rental Property Owners** – Please see that your tenants receive a copy of the quarterly newsletter. Extras are available at the borough office or in the information rack in the foyer. Newsletters can also be viewed on the borough website.



### Adamstown Area Library

The Library officially purchased the former VFW building at 110 W. Main Street on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. That afternoon, a 'Before the Renovations' Open House was held from 3-7PM for the public to tour the facility and get a feeling for the renovations required. Refreshments were provided and served by the 'Friends' group and Heck Construction of Denver. Renderings of the proposed floor plan and entrance were provided by Olsen Design Group of Reading and a visual 'walk through' was provided by library board member Scott Grote. The Library is gearing up for a funding campaign to begin in the near future. In the meantime, activities have been limited to general housekeeping and evaluations of current mechanical systems.

### Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The annual drinking water quality report for 2015 is now available! A copy is posted in the Borough lobby or log on to our website at [www.adamstownborough.org](http://www.adamstownborough.org) and view the online version in the Newsflash section of our Home page.

### Grove Rental

Plan ahead!!! The Adamstown grove is the perfect location to host a family reunion, birthday celebration 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.

### Property Improvements

Before beginning any home improvements, please remember to check with the Borough office or on the website to determine if building and/or zoning permits are required. Some examples of items requiring permits are: sheds, fences, decks and patios. Permit applications are available at the Borough office or they can be downloaded from the Borough website.



### Street Light Outages

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

### Protect our Watershed

Did you know that composting is a great way to save time, money and the Chesapeake Bay?! When you compost items such as kitchen scraps and leaves, you are not only creating your own free fertilizer, but you are reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfills. For more information check out this website: <http://www.howtocompost.org/>



### Summer is Here!!!

Summer has arrived and that means children playing outside. Please use caution driving vehicles and always be alert for children running or riding bicycles. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

### Adamstown Borough Rental Ordinance

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 \$35 per property. For more information or to obtain copies of the rental ordinance, please contact the Borough office.

### Traveling Abroad?

The Adamstown Area Library processes applications for new passports or renewals. Please call ahead to make an appointment at 717-484-4200.



### Complaints

The Borough investigates probable ordinance violations based on written complaints. If you feel someone is in violation of a borough ordinance, a complaint form must be completed and submitted to the Borough office prior to any investigation. All complaint forms must be signed and dated. Any anonymous complaint form submitted will not be addressed. Forms can be found in the lobby of the Borough building or online at the following link:

<http://adamstownborough.org/DocumentCenter/View/154>

### \*\*\*Tips to Look for a Water Leak in Your Home\*\*\*

The Borough receives several calls per quarter from property owners who feel their water bill is higher than normal. If you have noticed an increase in your water use but don't see any visible signs of a leak, below are a few steps to follow to help determine if there is a leak on your property. If, after following these guidelines, you still think you have a leak in your home, it is best to hire a professional plumber to come and inspect the property for you.

- Leaky faucets are a major waste of water. One slow dripping faucet can waste up to 20 gallons of water a day. Over the period of a year this can add up to 6,000 gallons of water! Check all faucets in your home for any type of leak.
- If you own a dishwasher it is suggested that you only run it when you have a full load ready to be cleaned. A typical dishwasher will use 15 gallons of water each load. Running partially filled loads is a waste of water. Check around the bottom of your dishwasher for leaks. Leave paper towels around the outside of the machine while it is in use. When the dishwasher stops running check the paper towels for signs of water. If you find water leaking you should have your dishwasher serviced immediately.
- Leaking toilets are often the culprits. If your toilet runs often, have the mechanisms in the tank completely replaced. Some toilets have slow leaks that are not noticeable. Slow water leaks in toilets can waste up to 100 gallons of water per day. Drop some food coloring in the tank of your toilet. Watch the bowl of your toilet for 20 to 30 minutes to see if any of the food coloring appears. Check again in 15 minutes. If coloring appears, this means you have a slow leak. Be sure to flush your toilet after the test to avoid any staining in your bowl.
- If you have a hose connected to an exterior faucet you should check that for leaks. The best way to avoid this is to turn off the water supply at the faucet rather than relying on the hose spray attachment to stop the flow of water. A small leak can add gallons to your daily water usage.
- You can also use your water meter to check for any hidden leaks. Turn off all faucets and make sure you are not running any appliances that use water. Check the reading on your meter and do so again in a few hours. If your meter has moved, you have a hidden water leak somewhere in your home. A good time to try this test is at night. Read your meter before going to bed, then again in the morning. Assuming that no water has been used overnight, if the meter has moved at all you have a leak somewhere.