

AKRON BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

POLICE - SCAMS

Tax season may just be getting started, but tax scammers have been hard at work. In fact, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has gotten thousands of complaints about one kind of scammer in particular — IRS imposters. Tax identity theft happens when someone files a phony tax return using your personal information, like your Social Security number, to get a tax refund from the IRS. It also can happen when someone uses your Social Security number to get a job or claims your child as a dependent on a tax return. Tax identity theft is the most common form of identity theft reported to the FTC.

Tax identity theft victims typically find out about the crime when they get a letter from the IRS saying that more than one tax return was filed in their name, or IRS records show they received wages from an employer they do not know. If you get a letter like this, do not panic, Contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 1-800-908-4490. If you are a victim of tax identity theft, visit IdentityTheft.gov to help you recover from identity theft. Another common form of identity theft occurs when scammers pose as IRS officials, who call and say you owe taxes. They threaten to arrest or deport you, revoke your license, or even shut down your business if you do not pay right away. They may know your Social Security number, or at least the last four digits of it, making you think it really is the IRS calling. They also can rig caller ID to make it look like the call is coming from Washington, DC. Before you can check out the callers, you are told to put the money on a prepaid debit card and tell them the number, something no government agency would ask you to do. Once you do it, you find out it was a scam, and the money is gone.

If you owe, or think you owe, federal taxes, call the IRS at

800-829-1040 or go to irs.gov. IRS workers can help you with your payment questions. The IRS does not ask people to pay with prepaid debit cards or wire transfers, and does not ask for credit card numbers over the phone. When the IRS contacts people about unpaid taxes, they usually do it by mail, not by phone.

PROPERTY TAXES

BOROUGH OF AKRON AND LANCASTER COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS WILL BE MAILED BY MARCH 1, 2018.

Discount amount is payable through April 30, 2018.

Base amount is payable thru June 30, 2018.

Penalty amount is payable after June 30, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact the Tax Office at 859-1600.

STREET SWEEPING

Spring Street Sweeping is scheduled to take place April 19th and April 20th beginning at 7:00 am both days. The East side of 272 will be swept on April 19th and the West side on April 20th. When possible please remove parked cars from streets on the applicable date of sweeping. In addition, a reminder regarding tree limb height. To save time and reassure safety, please make sure any tree limbs in front of your properties are at least 12 feet above sidewalks. This will assure that your street will get swept and emergency vehicles can travel the streets without accident or injury.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT LANCASTER COUNTY'S WATERSHEDS?

There are many ways residents of Lancaster County can protect the water quality of our streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. The simplest thing we all can do is let Mother Nature take care of herself. Altering a flowing stream by straitening it or constricting its flow only

creates water quality and flooding problems downstream. In addition, mowing the vegetation next to a stream increases stormwater flows and reduces the ability of filtering pollutants before they enter the water body.

A better option instead of mowing next to the stream is to plant native vegetation that will increase water quality, provide food and cover for wildlife, protect stream banks, slow stormwater runoff, and trap and filter excess nutrients and sediments.

POLICE NEWS

To submit an anonymous tip to Lancaster City-County Crime Stoppers you can call toll-free 1-800-322-1913. If this is an emergency, please call 911. Be sure to save/record your tip ID. You can use the ID to login to view feedback about your tip from the agency/group. Just enter the ID on the tip submit page and any feedback about your tip from the group will display. You can then submit additional information to the group using the tip form. To submit an anonymous tip via text message to Lancaster Crime Stoppers, text LANCS and your tip to 847411 (tip411).

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 beginning in January 2017. Citizen participation is highly encouraged at these public meetings.

COUNCIL MEETINGS-

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

HOLIDAYS

Akron Borough Office will be closed Monday February 19th for President’s Day.

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.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

As a reminder sidewalks should be cleared with at least a 2 foot pathway within 24 hours **after** the snowfall stops. Avoid additional work. Public Works plow operators have been directed to plow as close to curblines as possible. Although the drivers do their best to minimize additional snow rolling back onto sidewalks, in some cases it’s unavoidable. Give the Borough time to open the streets before clearing your sidewalk. Again you have 24 hrs after the snow has completely stopped. Also snow may not be thrown onto the street. If there is an intersection located at your property, please leave a path so school children and people walking have access to the crosswalk. In the event they are calling for a heavy snow, please remove your vehicles from the street to allow our snowplows to do a better job at clearing the streets.

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.

FROM OUR POLICE

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

BOROUGH ADDRESS

117 South Seventh Street
PO Box 130
Akron PA 17501

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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.

FIREHALL EVENTS

Breakfast 2/17/18
11/17/18
With Santa 12/15/18

All Breakfasts:

Adults \$ 10
Children 3 – 12 \$ 5
Under 3 free

Chicken BBQs 3/24/18
4/14/18
5/19/18
6/16/18
9/8/18
10/13/18

Chicken BBQ:

Half \$7
Dinner \$10

CHANGING METERS

Akron Borough has implemented a five –year program updating our current water meters to radio read meters. The new meters will be read with a radio frequency, which means the meter reader can read an entire street in the time it currently takes to read one or two houses. The Borough will do its best to systematically change the meters. **When you receive your letter with your meter change appointment, please do your best to make this time available for us to change the meter.**

BOROUGH DIRECTORY

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