

# AKRON BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

## FROM OUR POLICE DEPT

The West Earl Township Police Department has been awarded a total of \$34,900.00 in grant funding to assist the department in completing the accreditation process through the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association's Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (PLEAC). The grant award was announced by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) at their December 8th meeting. The grant funding is provided through the US. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. The Department has used the funding to hire a consulting firm to assist the agency with developing a comprehensive policy manual and to assist the agency with attaining accredited status with the PA Chiefs of Police Association.

Police Accreditation embodies the precepts of community-oriented policing. It creates a forum in which the police and the citizens can work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides a clear direction regarding community expectations.

Some of the benefits of accreditation include:

- Establishes a credible framework for evaluating agency practices and procedures
- Reduces agency risk and exposure to lawsuits
- Improves law enforcement – community relations
- Increases employee input, interaction and confidence in the agency
- Identifies and highlights the capabilities and competence of the agency
- Furnishes a solid foundation for the agency to build upon for further progress
- Extends agency accountability to the public and elected officials

- Enhances planning and innovative activities by all agency personnel
- Develops improved methods for providing services to the community
- Encourages problem-solving activities within the agency
- Brings the departments policies and procedures up to date with best practices in law enforcement.

“We’re excited to have been awarded this grant, Accreditation enhances the professionalism of the agency while improving our methods and levels of service we provide to the communities of West Earl Township and Akron Borough” said Chief Eric S. Higgins

The police department expects the process to take 12-15 months.

## BUILDING PERMITS

A building permit is required for constructing, remodeling and renovation of any building or accessory structure. Except for replacing shingles on roofs, painting (exterior or interior), carpet replacement and other improvements classified as cosmetics, Akron Borough residents are required under Pennsylvania Law,

### UNIFORMED

CONSTRUCTION CODE, to obtain a permit for all other work. The Borough Building Code Official is responsible for approving permit applications and conducting the required inspections. Permit application can be applied for and obtained at the Borough Office during normal business hours. From the time of application to obtaining the permit for the project may take up to two weeks

## BOROUGH OFFICE

Akron Borough office is open to the public Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.

## SUMMER CONCERTS

Mark your calendars for the upcoming summer concerts. All concerts will be held in Pavilion 2 in Loyd H Roland Memorial Park at 4:30 pm. We are happy to announce that the law firm of Haggerty, Silverman and Justice will be sponsoring the concerts. Randall Justice, Akron Borough Council member, had this to say about his firm's sponsorship: “This concert series is a great way for us to come together as friends and neighbors to really enjoy something that builds us all up as a community. I am proud that we have the opportunity to be a sponsor.”

Concert Dates:

June 5 - Rizzetta's Tones

June 19 – Harrisburg Mandolin Ensemble

(rain date July 3)

July 10 - Fire in the Glen

(rain date July 17)

August 21- Swing Street

(rain date August 28)

September 11- Ragtime Willi

(rain date September 18)

## TOWN MOTTO

Akron Borough Council is thinking about adopting a town motto. We would like to have suggestions for improvement or new ideas for a town motto from Akron citizens. This is the idea so far:

Akron – “Where friendly neighbors, small town values and connecting with nature thrive”.

Let us know what you think.

Please send your ideas by the end of June to Bonnie Young; byoung@akron-pa.com.

## GRASS CLIPPINGS

Please remember when mowing your grass, the clippings are not to be blown onto the roadway. Grass on the road is a safety hazard to motorcyclists and bicyclists.

These clippings will be washed into the storm drains which can create clogs and cause drainage and flooding issues.

If you blow your grass onto the roadway while mowing, please clean it up when you are done.

## **MOSQUITOS**

Just a reminder to all our citizens to help cut down on the mosquito population in Akron by dumping out any standing water on your property. Make sure you don't have anything like buckets, upside down trash can lids, or even bottle caps that can catch rain water and allow mosquitoes to breed.

## **RAIL TRAIL CROSSING**

When walking the Rail Trail, be aware of street crossings. Pedestrians have the red light when approaching the crossing, please stop and look before entering the roadway. Vehicles receive a yellow warning light when pedestrians are approaching. Drivers should slow down and prepare to stop.

## **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.**

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

(Water saving tips)

\*A leaky faucet can waste 3,280 gallons of water a year!

\*When you let the water run while brushing your teeth, gallons of water go down the drain each minute.

\*Don't use the toilet as a trash can. Every time you flush, precious water goes down the drain.

\*A running hose can use 8 gallons of water per minute.

\*Make sure you have a shut off nozzle on the end of your hose. You can use up to 5 gallons of water a minute when you shower.

## **COUNCIL MEETINGS-**

Akron Borough Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Borough Municipal Building, 117 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Office phone number is 717-859-1600. Lobby is open 24 hours a day with a night drop for bills. Also, a phone for police which dials directly to County Radio.

## **PROPERTY**

### **MAINTENANCE**

### **TALL GRASS AND WEEDS**

No, person owning or occupying any property within the Borough shall permit grass or weeds or any vegetation (not edible or planted) to exceed a height of eight inches this includes the curblin.

All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. **PROPERTIES WILL BE CITED FOR VIOLATIONS.**

## **HOLIDAYS**

Akron Borough Office will be closed Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day and Monday, 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.

## **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.**

## **WEBSITES OF INTEREST**

[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)

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

## **BOROUGH ADDRESS**

117 South Seventh Street  
PO Box 130  
Akron PA 17501

## **BOROUGH WEBSITE**

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

## **BOROUGH DIRECTORY**

**John McBeth**-Mayor

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

717-859-2655

**Nathan Imhoff** - President

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**Justin Gehman**-Vice President

Streets Committee

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

**Ryan Cochran** – Finance

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**Kleon Zimmerman** –

Public Utilities

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**Randall Justice** - Parks

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

**Bonnie Young**

Community Relations

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

**BOROUGH MANAGER/**

**BOROUGH SECRETARY**

**Susan Davidson** 717-859-1600

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

**ASSISTANT BOROUGH**

**MANAGER/ZONING**

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**Sean Molchany** 717-859-1600

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**CHIEF OF POLICE-**

West Earl Police Department

**Eric Higgins** 717-859-6600

**TREASURER**

**Pamela Musser**

**SOLICITORS**

**Nikolaus & Hohenadel, LLP**

**ENGINEERS**

**C. S. Davidson**

**EMERGENCY MGMT**

**Greg Leisey** 717-989-5474

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

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