

## 2021 Year in Review

The Ben Avon Borough Council, staff and partners are proud of our accomplishments in 2021. We continue to identify and implement programs, policies and procedures to maintain and improve the community in which we live. We look forward to continuing to move the Borough in a positive direction in the upcoming year.



As part of a free program offered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Ben Avon Borough has developed a greenhouse gas inventory and Climate Action Plan. Using free technical assistance from PA DEP, the Borough is currently working with Wilson Engineering Services on an Energy Audit of our buildings as well as the Community Presbyterian Church.



2021 was another busy year for Ben Avon Re-Paving and Sewer Inspections. The Borough contracted with Mele & Mele & Sons to complete the paving of Dalzell Avenue, McCurdy Place, Breeding Avenue, Forest Avenue, Irwin Avenue and Berringer Place. This included constructing ADA curb cuts.



The Centennial Building Project launched in 2021 with the goal of ensuring the viability of the Ben Avon Municipal Building for the next 100 years. This year the committee completed an initial building inspection, applied for development grants and partnered with Rothschild Doyno Collaborative on initial project designs.



Ben Avon reached a 5-year agreement with Ohio Township Police Department to provide police services to the Borough. The Department consists of fifteen full-time and twenty part-time officers serving Ohio Township, Sewickley Hills Borough, Emsworth Borough, Neville Township, Ben Avon Borough, Aleppo Township, Ben Avon Heights Borough and Kilbuck Township.



Ben Avon Reached a 5-year agreement with the Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company to provide emergency services to the Borough. The Fire Company was established in 1905 and provides Fire, Emergency and Rescue Services to Emsworth Borough, Ben Avon Borough, Glenfield Borough, Kilbuck Township and other surrounding communities



In cooperation with the municipal members of the QVCOG, Ben Avon reached a new 5-year agreement for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection with Waste Management. The joint bidding process saved Ben Avon and the other participating member communities time and resources and helped provide a more competitive price point for refuse service. Starting in January of 2022 both garbage and recycling will be collected on a weekly basis.



Partnering with Zero Waste Wrangler, Ben Avon Borough is providing the opportunity to participate in weekly food scraps and compostable collection services. To sign-up for the program visit: [zerowastewrangler.com/ba-compost](http://zerowastewrangler.com/ba-compost)

## BEN AVON BULLETIN

The Borough released the first edition of the Ben Avon Borough Newsletter. The bi-annual newsletter will be used to share important information and dates with all residents. Look for the next edition in the Spring of 2022!



In partnership with the Pennsylvania Resources Council, QVCOG and Owens-Illinois, Inc and CAP Glass, Ben Avon was able to participate in 7 Glass Recycling Events from May to October in neighboring communities. This resulted in over 20 tons of glass being collected and sustainably resourced away from landfills. We are working with the QVCOG membership on a permanent glass recycling solution for 2022.



Ben Avon participated in the selection of a new Executive Director for the Quaker Valley Council of Governments (QVCOG). Mr. Patrick M. Conners was appointed to the role in May and will lead the 15-member COG in multi-municipal efforts to implement efficient, cost-effective programs on behalf of its members



The Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT) brings together the City of Pittsburgh and surrounding municipalities to identify common public-policy challenges. Members of Council participated in several Working Group sessions related to Environmental Development, Public Safety, Health and Human Services



Council applied for and received internship funding through the Local Government Academy. Our intern, Jaclyn Karolski, was integral in the development of our Climate Action Plan, provided grant research for our Centennial Building Project and assisted with many administrative tasks.



Ben Avon Council was happy to support Avon Club in hosting the Annual Ben Avon Fall Festival. For the first time, Council sponsored a booth to provide information to residents on our programs and answer questions.



The Ben Avon Street Sweeping program collected 5 tons of debris from our streets this year. This program is vital for keeping our storm drains clear and ensuring water runoff does not enter our sewer lines.



At the request of residents, Ben Avon Borough Council approved a process for reserving the Pavilion at Avon Park. Residents may now contact the Borough Office to reserve the pavilion for events and parties. Reservations require a small fee to cover ongoing maintenance.



A new lease agreement with Anchor & Anvil was established in 2022. The popular coffee shop and meeting place has been an important part of the Ben Avon Community since its inception and we are happy to work with the Anchor & Anvil ownership to continue its operation.



The Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) hosted a Hard to Recycle Collection Event at the Quaker Valley High School. 379 vehicles responsibly disposed of materials including electronics such as televisions, computer monitors, printers and other items such as tires and glass. It is anticipated that a similar event will be scheduled for 2022 at the same location.

### The Year Ahead

With each new year comes new opportunities for the Ben Avon Borough Council to provide answers and solutions for ongoing challenges in our community. The following topics have been identified as priorities in the coming year:

- Develop a 5-year plan to direct the efforts of our Council and Committees
- Continue our Road Paving program to maintain and improve our infrastructure
- Implement our Climate Action Plan and Sustainability Programs
- Avon Park Enhancements using grant money provided by Buckeye Partners