

BEN AVON BULLETIN



A Message from the Mayor

Preservation, protection and progress are the themes in this spring newsletter. Our local police, fire and EMS services expand and gain support. Our Borough Hall and local greenspace are being preserved for future generations. Glass recycling is back (yes it's true, I promise!) and green energy options abound. As spring sunshine encourages us to go outside, take a walk through Vinegar Hollow, play in Avon Park, stroll to the Bookmobile, please be safe as you drive or bike, and remember our annual Memorial Day parade among your spring activities. Welcome new neighbors and reconnect with old friends. Enjoy your Ben Avon neighborhood, it's a wonderful place to live. Thank you for all that you do to help keep it that way.

- Mayor Melanie Holcomb

BOROUGH CONTACTS

Mayor

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Council

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Borough Office

(412) 766-7704
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Federal and State Elected Officials

U.S. Senator Bob Casey
casey.senate.gov
(202) 224-6324

U.S. Senator John Fetterman
fetterman.senate.gov
(202) 224-4254

U.S. Rep. Chris Deluzio
deluzio.house.gov
(724) 206-4860

State Senator Wayne Fontana
senatorfontana.com
(717) 787-5300

State Rep. Arvind Venkat
repvenkat.com
(412) 348-8028

Borough Hall Centennial Project



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. In January 2022, the Borough was awarded a \$200,000 state grant. Construction on this first phase of improvements is slated to begin in May 2023 and includes the replacement of the windows and roof along with improved insulation. Subsequently the Borough has been awarded a \$300,000 Keystone Grant. Phase 2 will be focused on ADA access to the second floor of the building. This will provide more options for public and private use of the space. A special thank you to State Senator Wayne Fontana for his support in this effort!

Waste & Recycling Information

Curbside (Glass is back!)

Trash & Recycling: Waste Management collects trash and recyclables every Wednesday. Recyclable items include paper, flattened cardboard, metal cans; plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs; and (NEW!) **glass bottles and containers.**

Household hazardous waste pickup may be scheduled for items such as household cleaners, compact fluorescent bulbs, batteries, electronics, and more. For more information, call 1-800-449-7587 or e-mail atyourdoor@wm.com.

Composting: Ben Avon residents can participate in weekly collection of food scraps and compostable items with Zero Waste Wrangler. To sign up for the program visit: zerowastewrangler.com/ba-compost.

Drop-Off

Glass Recycling is available at Sewickley Borough Riverfront Park (300 Chadwick St, 15143) and Avalon Borough Public Works (629 New Brighton Road, 15202). Hours of operation are dawn to dusk each day. Containers must be rinsed; labels are ok. Products such as mirrors, porcelain dishware, and light bulbs will not be accepted.

Yard Waste: Ben Avon residents can dispose of grass clippings, leaves, brush, wood chips, concrete chunks, dirt, and small logs at Michael Brothers' facility at 408 Hoffman Road, Reserve Township. Proof of residency required; no commercial use. Hours are 7am-4:30pm Tues-Fri; 7am-12:30pm. Sat. For more information call 412-835-6428.

Hard-To-Recycle Items: Check www.benavon.com for information on Hard-to-Recycle collection events this summer.

Tree Adoption - May 13

Hundreds of young trees will be available for free adoption by local residents from Tree Pittsburgh at the Sewickley Civic Garden Council's annual May Mart event, May 13, 9am-2pm on Broad St. in Sewickley.

Primary Election Day is Tues May 16

7am-8pm at 7219 Church Avenue

For information visit www.vote411.org.

Memorial Day Observances

Avonworth American Legion Post #866 will have a Memorial Day parade and service on

Monday, May 29th. The parade will begin in Emsworth at 10 am and follow Church Ave. into Ben Avon, turn on Forest and then on Brighton as it makes its way down to Memorial Drive and the Lance Corporal Patrick B. Kenny Memorial Field for an 11:00 am service of remembrance and recognition. All are welcome; veterans are encouraged to contact the Legion post to participate.



Police & Fire Depts Receive Grants

Our newly elected State Rep. Arvind Venkat hit the ground running by securing funding for first responders serving our community. "I am happy to help deliver these grants for our communities. First responders directly impact the well-being of our communities, meaning that any investment that I can garner for them is a direct investment into our community at large," Venkat said.

- \$20,000 to the Ohio Township Police Department - serving Ohio Township, Kilbuck, Emsworth, Ben Avon and Ben Avon Heights - for new laptop computers in police vehicles.
- \$20,000 to the Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company - serving Emsworth, Ben Avon and Kilbuck - for new turnout gear for firefighters.

The funds are sourced from a grant program administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Planning Construction?

Don't Forget A Permit!

Typical projects that require a permit include decks, pools, fences, and accessory structures. It's a good idea to check with the Borough Secretary if you are planning a project. Call (412) 766-7704 or email benavon@benavon.com. Forms for zoning permit applications, dye tests*, and rental inspections**, can be found in the **Forms Commonly Requested** section of benavon.com.

*Dye tests are needed when selling a home.

**Rental properties need to be inspected every three years.

Public Works Construction 2023

Road repaving that was originally scheduled for 2022 will occur in 2023. Mele & Mele Inc. will be performing the construction work. The roads planned for resurfacing are:

- Walnut Road (top and bottom)
- Virginia Avenue (Walnut to Avalon Line)
- Maple Avenue (Walnut to Dead End)
- Forest Avenue (Brighton to Western)
- Belle Riviere Court
- Laurel Avenue
- Perrysville Avenue (Dickson to Dalzell)

The list of road projects will be posted on Ben Avon's website and affected residents will also be notified in advance by mail. For questions contact the Ben Avon Public Works department at benavonpw@benavon.com or call 412-761-5311.

Go Green This Spring!

Switch to Clean Electricity

Visit papowerswitch.com and select "renewable energy" to source your electricity from wind and solar. The company who delivers your electricity (Duquesne Light) will stay the same. They will still maintain the power lines, address outages, and will send you your monthly electric bill.

Get a Home Energy Assessment

Duquesne Light residential customers can receive a home energy audit with suggestions on how to reduce energy usage and save money. Participants can receive up to \$275 in rebates for the cost of the audit fee and LED bulbs, LED nightlights, advanced powerstrips, and other qualifying energy-saving products. You may be eligible for up to an additional \$400 in rebates for the installation of air sealing and insulation products. Call 1-888-998-9478 or contact DLC.REEP@clearesult.com to learn more and schedule an appointment. More info at <https://www.dlcwattchoices.com/wholehouseaudit/>.

Take Advantage of Electric Vehicle Incentives

- Federal tax credit: up to \$7,500 - <https://fueleconomy.gov/feg/taxevb.shtml>
- State rebate: up to \$3,000 - <https://bit.ly/3JolqQ4>
- Duquesne Light rebate: \$50 per vehicle - <https://ev.duquesnelight.com/incentives/>

Vinegar Hollow Now Protected!

Hollow Oak Land Trust has acquired four parcels of undeveloped greenspace known as Vinegar Hollow. Comprising more than 46 acres mostly in Kilbuck Township, the property was purchased with a grant of \$329,000 from the Allegheny County Trail Development Fund and \$200,000 from the Colcom Foundation. This new conservation area will benefit the surrounding communities including Ben Avon. Hollow Oak will be working with community members and volunteers to improve and add more trails to the greenspace.



The Stewardship Fund is accepting donations to boost improvements and management of Vinegar Hollow by Hollow Oak Land Trust; for more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/HOLTDonations>.

7th Annual Brewhaha - March 25th

Hollow Oak Land Trust will host the 7th annual Brewhaha fundraising event on March 25th at Mayernik Center at Avonworth Community Park. The Brewhaha features ten of Pittsburgh's finest craft breweries, along with a 5-Course Tasting Menu by Chef Chaz Smith of the Culinary Artists. For more information and tickets visit <https://hollowoak.org/event/brewhaha/>.

NorthWest EMS Expands in Ben Avon

Northwest EMS has expanded its operations in their Ben Avon facility. "The goal is to provide the best service possible to Ben Avon and the boroughs we serve," says Brian O'Connor, District Chief. He would also like to expand their involvement in the community by possibly offering CPR and safety classes, as well as participating in Borough activities throughout the year.

Reserve the Avon Park Pavilion

Email benavon@benavon.com or call (412) 766-7704 for more information.

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SIX WAYS TO STAY INFORMED

- Visit www.benavon.com.
- Sign up for the Savvy Citizen app.
- Follow Ben Avon Borough on Facebook.
- Contact the Borough Secretary,
or (412) 766-7704.
- Check out the bulletin board outside of the Borough Hall.
- Attend a Borough Council meeting, virtually or in person, held on the third Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

Contact Info:

Ben Avon Borough Office

Hours: 8am-4pm Mon-Thurs (except holidays)

Address: 7101 Church Ave., Ben Avon, PA 15202

(412) 766-7704

Upcoming Events

March 4, 18	Bookmobile
March 21	Council Meeting
March 27	Joint Planning Commission Meeting
April 1, 15, 29	Bookmobile
April 18	Council Meeting
April 24	Joint Planning Commission Meeting
May 2	Council Working Meeting
May 13, 27	Bookmobile
May 16, 7am-8pm	Primary Election Day
May 16	Council Meeting
May 22	Joint Planning Commission Meeting
May 29	Memorial Day Activities
June 10, 24	Bookmobile
June 20	Council Meeting
June 26	Joint Planning Commission Meeting
July 1	North Boroughs Community Day
July 8, 22	Bookmobile
July 18	Council Meeting
July 24	Joint Planning Commission Meeting
August 5, 19	Bookmobile
August 15	Council Meeting
August 28	Joint Planning Commission Meeting