

AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Spring 2023

Vol. XXVIII No. 1

Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 4th quarter of 2021 through curbside pickup.

Bold represents yearly total.

Newspaper	0.00	0.00	#1 PET	5.59	21.58
Cardboard	25.70	116.91	#2 HDPE Natural	1.12	4.49
Mixed Paper	39.10	155.54	# HDPE Color	1.12	4.49
Steel Cans	2.23	8.66	#3 - #7 Plastic Mixed	0.00	0.39
Alum. Cans	2.23	8.23	Residuals	18.99	83.58
Mixed Glass	15.64	67.72	Total	111.72	471.59

*Above quantities are all listed in tons.

4.161 tons of various paper through the “ABITIBI Paper Retriever” program (**14.728 tons** = Yearly Total)

3.63 tons of scrap metal through the dumpster program (**8.29 tons** = Yearly Total)

3,200 cu/yds of yard waste ground-up and hauled away

For questions concerning the “Curbside Recycling Program”, contact **RUMPKE** at **1-800-828-8171**.

“2023” Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for “Dumpster Days” in 2023.

April 20, 21, 22

October 19, 20, 21

Hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Please note: **NO FREON or PROPANE TANKS!**

***NO TIRES or HAZARDOUS WASTE!**

*Take these items to LC Collection Center & Tire Sites!

For a list of their acceptable and prohibited items visit:

www.loraincountyohio.gov

Drop-Off Hours for Yard Waste!!

Brush, limbs, grass clippings, and leaves may be brought to the Amherst Township property located on the **EAST** side of Oberlin Road (directly across from the Township Garage which is located at 7530 Oberlin Road) at the following times:

- 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Mon – Fri
- 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Saturday
- **8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays**

- Amherst Township Residents only
- I.D. may be checked
- No Commercial
- **No Plastic Bags** – place bags in 55 gal drum

➔ **Yard Waste Pile** is located at the far back of the property on the east side of Oberlin Road.

Township Hall & Garage 988-5894

Fax..... 988-5877

Fiscal Officer **Ext. 104**

Email: amhersttwpfo@gmail.com

Road Superintendent (garage)..... **Ext. 111**

Email: amhersttwproads@gmail.com

Zoning Inspector **Ext. 103**

Sam D’Ambrosio, Zoning Inspector

Email: amhersttwpzoning@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon., Wed., & Sat. – 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Trustees

Dennis Abraham(cell) 213-6775

(Ambulance, Cemetery, Park, Water, Buildings, Land, Roads, Ditches, Neighborhood Watch, Enterprise Zones, County Health Rep.)

Neil Lynch 988-7681

(Sewer, Fire, Equipment, Personnel, Senior Services, Phase II Storm Water/ Environmental Strategy, LORCO, Facility Security, NIMS Primary Contact, Lorain County Community Alliance Rep, Lorain County Joint Police District Rep.)

David C. Urig..... 385-0333

(Lighting, Solid Waste, Zoning,)

Fiscal Officer

Chris Kish(cell) 213-0659

Road Superintendent

Kevin Smarsh..... (work cell) 370-5242

Twp Administrator/Senior Service Office

Lynda Ashley **Ext. 101**

Email: amhersttwp@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon thru Fri – 8am to 12 Noon

Fire Prevention Officer

Chris Niehart.....(cell) 597-0005

Email: amhersttwpfire@gmail.com

LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

Kim Mason or Michelle Skinner..... 323-6111

Sheriff’s Department 329-3710

A.T. Community Policing Officer: **Neil Hocking**

Dpt. Hocking’s Non-Emergency/Voicemail 329-3800

Email: nhocking@loraincountysheriff.com

Ohio Edison

(1-888-LIGHTTS)

Automated Outage Reporting Line..... 1-888-544-4877

TRUSTEE MEETINGS:

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month at **7:00 p.m.**

•Trustee Meetings are viewable online on the “Meetings” page of the Township website or through the “Amherst Township” channel on YouTube.

2023 AMHERST TOWNSHIP GRANTS

Amherst Township personnel continue to seek grant opportunities for the betterment of your community.

Grants are sought for improvements in your Parks, Roads, Cemeteries, Stormwater Management, Yard Waste Management, and Energy Management. Every dollar of grant money received is one less dollar of local tax money spent, allowing the township to leverage available resources.

Not all grant applications are successful, but Amherst Township personnel continue to apply for grants on your behalf.

OPWC

Construction of Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) **Round 36** is anticipated to take place between March and September of this year. This project is a cooperative agreement with the City of Amherst for paving and improvements of Middle Ridge Road. The Lorain County Engineer's Office is also included in this project. They will be replacing Bridge #0423 which is 0.4 miles east of Pyle S. Amherst Road. Amherst Township also received Round 36 grant funds for the resurfacing of South Dewey Road from Park Avenue to North Ridge Road, which was completed in 2022.

Amherst Township submitted two projects for OPWC **Round 37** grant funding, but anticipates funding for only one of the projects. This project is for the resurfacing of Oberlin Road between North Ridge Road and Middle Ridge Road. Final approval is expected in early July of 2023. The township has also applied for ARPA Grant funds from the Lorain County Commissioners who have committed to provide funding to assist the township in matching funds for this project. The repaving of Oberlin Road should happen in 2023.

LC Solid Waste Management District:

Community Incentive Grant

This grant will no longer be offered by the county. In 2022, the township received \$7,831.25 which went towards partial funding of the fall newsletter and the grinding of the yard waste in December.

LC Storm Water District:

LCSWD Community Grants

Over the past (7) seven years, Amherst Township has applied for these grant funds to be used for the improvement of drainage to the Battenhouse and Engle Ditches. Amherst Township has applied for \$80,000 in grant funding for 2023. This phase of the project is estimated to cost \$100,000 with Amherst Township providing the remaining 20% in cash and in-kind labor, equipment, and materials.

LCSWD Mini Grants

For 2023, Amherst Township has applied for two Storm Water Mini Grant projects. Each grant application is for \$7500. The first project is for the repair / replacement of 3 catch basins in Hidden Valley at an estimated cost of \$9440, leaving the township to pay \$1940. The second project is for the replacement of storm sewer main at the intersection Rosedale and Oaknoll. The estimated cost of this project is \$10,220, leaving the township to pay \$2720.

NOPEC NEC & CES

Amherst Township will receive approximately \$12,458 in 2023 of NOPEC Energized Community (NEC) grant funds. These funds will be held in escrow and must be spent by November 2025. The township has various energy saving projects to consider for the uses of these funds.

Amherst Township received \$1500 from the 2023 NOPEC Community Event Sponsorship (CES) program. These funds must be used for a free event that is open to the community. Amherst Township will use these funds to help offset the cost of their "Dumpster Days" event in April.

LC Engineer's Chip & Seal Bid

While this is not a grant, this partnership program provides for a more competitive bid pricing, and reduces the administrative, inspection, and logistic costs for Amherst Township. For 2023 the township plans to resurface Broadway Street, Tenney Avenue, and Taylor Avenue at an estimated cost of \$11,913.

Amherst Township
Senior Service Office Hours:
8:00 A.M. – NOON (M-F)
Ph: 440-988-5894 – Ext. 101
Lynda Ashley, Director
 Email: amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com

Callers are strongly encouraged to leave a message with your name, number, and a brief description of the reason for the call. All messages will receive a call back.

OBERLIN ROAD
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

This is a reminder that the Lorain County Engineer's Office will be replacing the Oberlin Road Bridge No. 0644 in Amherst Township. The bridge is located approx. 0.55 miles north of SR113 on Oberlin Road. Updates will be posted on the Township's website.

Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2023 and will involve detours to facilitate the work. Additional right of way will not be required to construct the project. The estimated cost of the improvement is \$500,000 of which 100% is being funded through a grant from the federal highway administration.



No Tires



As a reminder, Amherst Township no longer collects tires during the "Dumpster Day" events. You can dispose of tires at the "Lorain County Collection Center" on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays during their business hours. Additionally, tires can be dropped off in **Lorain** at 114 East 35th Street on Tuesdays from 9am to 1pm and in **Grafton** at 17109 Avon Beldon Road on Saturdays from 9am to 1pm.

From the Sheriff's Office

Amherst Township's new Community Policing Officer is **Deputy Neil Hocking**. His contact information is now listed on the front page and is for non-emergency communications. (This contact information is also on the township's website under Depts/Emergency Services.) Residents can send an email or leave a voice mail for Deputy Hocking to report issues or problem areas in your community. Sharing of this information may have an impact in solving some of their open cases. If you prefer anonymity, you can leave a message for Deputy Hocking by calling his office voicemail at 329-3800.

Please note that if you need immediate police response you should dial "911". You can contact the sheriff's dispatch at 329-3710 or call 323-1212 from your cell phone without being charged for the call.

Safety Tip

When walking or riding along roadways, always wear something reflective during the early morning, dusk and evening hours. **Don't assume that drivers can see you!** Carrying a flashlight will also make you more visible to drivers. For added safety, when a vehicle is passing you, move over to the edge of the road or onto the lawn.

Lorain County Collection Center

The "Lorain County Collection Center" is located at 540 S. Abbe Road in Elyria. The new entrance is located in the south parking lot. Their hours of operation are:

- Mondays** from 9am to 3pm
- Wednesdays** from 12pm to 6pm
- Saturdays** from 9am to 3pm

They can be reached by phone at 440-329-5440. For guidelines and a list of acceptable and not acceptable materials, visit:

www.loraincountyohio.gov

➔From the menu select Government > Departments > Solid Waste Management District > Lorain County collection Center

2023 Zoning Boards

Zoning Commission Board

Lonnie Dillon – Chairman
 Jim Conrady – Vice Chair
 Hank Harsar – Member
 Remi Cerrone – Member
 Darryl Saladin – Member
 Colin Serne – Alt I & Sec.
 Geno Taliano – Alternate II

Board of Zoning Appeals

Bill Latrany – Chairman
 Steve Ostrolencki – Vice Chair
 Ron Friend – Secretary
 Randy Haring – Member
 Bruce Hills – Member
 Esther Arroyo – Alternate I
 Jeremy Watson – Alternate II

DOWNED TREES

If residents notice a fallen tree that is impeding or blocking the roadway, they should first call the Sheriff's non-emergency number at **329-3710**.

The Sheriff's dispatch will be able to contact the appropriate entity to address the issue, be it township, county, city, and/or utility.



Amherst Fire Dept's Response To Amh Twp	4 th Quarter 2022		
Fire Calls (N of Turnpike):	15	23.1%	
Fire Calls (S of Turnpike):	6	9.2%	
EMS-First Responder (N):	34	52.3%	
EMS-First Responder (S):	10	15.4%	
Total Calls:	74	100%	
Amherst Fire Dept's Response To Amh Twp	2020 Yearly	2021 Yearly	2022 Yearly
Fire Calls (N of Turnpike):	55	48	54
Fire Calls (S of Turnpike):	35	28	23
EMS-First Responder (N):	127	170	170
EMS-First Responder (S):	66	70	69
Total Calls:	283	316	316

Lorain Soil & Water Conservation District

The LSWCD provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain and improve the natural resources and environment in Lorain County. Highlights from their 2023 Winter/Spring newsletter include:

- The Joel McRoberts Memorial Scholarship is available to any student in Lorain County who will be majoring in an agriculture or natural resources management related field at any two or four year college. Deadline for this application is April 21, 2023.
- Annual Contests include the NACD Poster Contest open to student grade K-12, submissions due May 1st; the 6th annual Photo Contest with details forthcoming; and the 8th annual "Big Tree Contest", Sycamore this year.
- 2023 Seedling Sale – Order Pick-up date is Friday, April 14th from 11am to 6pm at Grobe's Fruit Farm.
- 2023 Spring Fish Sale – Order deadline is Wednesday, April 26th. Distribution date is Thursday, May 14th from 10-11:30 am at the AG Center parking lot located at 42110 Russia Road.

For more information and to view their latest newsletter, visit their website at: www.lorainswcd.com



FOOD TRUCKS

Mobile Food Vending Units, (aka Food Trucks) that wish to do business in Amherst Township are required to be inspected by the Amherst Township Fire Inspector, **Chris Niehart**. These permits are only good for one year and must be renewed annually.

He can be contacted by phone at **440-597-0005** or by email at amhersttwpfire@gmail.com.

PERMITS REQUIRED

As Springtime arrives, residents are reminded that permits are needed for the items listed below. When a permit is obtained before the start of construction, the fee will be reduced by 50%. Be sure you or your contractor has obtained a permit. **Payments must be made by check only. Cash is not accepted.**

Please contact Sam D'Ambrosio, Amherst Township Zoning Inspector for these permits. Office hours for the Zoning Inspector are from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. He can be reached at **988-5894 (ext 103)**.

Pools	Patios	Porches
Decks	Fences	Gazebos
Ponds	Signs	Garages
Accessory Buildings	Driveways	
Building Additions	New Construction	

*Building Inspections are not required. It is recommended that residents hire their own inspectors.

DRIVEWAY APRONS

Residents are also reminded that when a road project requires modification of a drive apron, as a general rule, the drive apron modification will be completed with the same material as the road project. In all cases, maintenance of a drive apron is the responsibility of the property owner.



Planting in Road Right-of-Way



Residents should not landscape or plant near road intersections or inside the road right-of-way. Generally, the road right-of-way is 30 feet on either side of the centerline of the road. If planting occurs in this area, homeowners should not be disappointed if plants are destroyed or removed due to maintenance or repair. Trees should not be planted in this area. If storm sewers run across your property, it is better not to plant trees, shrubs, or other vegetation too close to these lines in order to minimize the chance of any roots penetrating these lines and causing a blockage. Please be aware of any visibility issues that may be caused due to trees and shrubs growing near an intersection or the road right-of-way. Property owners are also responsible for removing dead branches of a tree that overhangs the road.

Fees To Increase

We've all experienced the affect of inflation. As costs have increased to the township, the Board of Trustees have evaluated and made adjustments to the fee schedule. The fee schedule may be viewed on the Amherst Township website under Zoning > Fees – Zoning & Cemetery. The new fees will be in effect starting on:

Friday, March 31, 2023

Zoning Permit Applications

Zoning Permit Applications are available to download and print from the Amherst Township website at www.amhersttownship.us under Zoning > Permits & Applications. After completing the application, they may be dropped off at the Township Hall:

Mon-Fri from 8am to 12noon
Saturdays from 8am to 11am

They may also be left in the “Green Box” located next to the office area entrance door.

★ Please allow 3 business days to process permits.

The Zoning Inspector will contact you after your Zoning Permit Application has been reviewed. He will then let you know the amount required to pay for your permit. **CHECKS ONLY.**

If you have previously downloaded an application, make sure you are using the most current revision.

Lots Available

Cemetery lots are available at Kendeigh Cemetery, located at the intersection of Quarry Road and Middle Ridge Road.

Lots may be purchased by contacting the Township Road Superintendent at 988-5894 x111.

\$482 – Resident
\$803 – Non-Resident

AMHERST TOWNSHIP **PARK REMINDERS**

Residents are reminded that as of March 1, 2003 animals are not permitted in the Amherst Township Park. Whoever violates this resolution is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and shall be prosecuted (ORC Section 511.32).

Also as a reminder, vandalism at the Amherst Township Park is prosecutable. Violators will be charged with Criminal Vandalism according to ORC 2909.05. This is a felony offense and carries a fine of \$2500. This will be strictly enforced. The township park is being patrolled by the Sheriff's Department.

Park Pavilion Reservations

To avoid a scheduling conflict, please contact **Lynda Ashley**, Township Administrator, to reserve the park pavilion. Current reservations can be viewed on the Township's website under "Depts/Park".

Lynda can be reached at the township Mondays through Fridays between 8 a.m. and 12 noon by calling **988-5894 (ext 101)**.

LIFECARE

Amherst Township, as a member of the Sandstone Joint Ambulance District, has chosen "LifeCare" to be their ambulance provider. LifeCare is owned and operated by its employees. They can be reached by calling 323-6111. To learn more about their services, visit their website at:

www.lifecareambulance.com

Contact Sheriff's Dept.

Residents are reminded that they can help deter crime by keeping home and car doors locked, as well as keeping garage doors closed. If residents know of, or see, any suspicious activity in the township or at the Amherst Township Park, please contact the Sheriff's Dept. at **329-3710**. To contact the sheriff's dispatch from your cell phone without being charged, call **323-1212**. These are not "911" emergency lines.

Curfew

Please be aware that a curfew exists in Amherst Township for minors age 16 and under between the hours of Midnight and 5 a.m. This curfew will be enforced by the Lorain County Sheriff's Dept.

Printed on Recycled Paper

Amherst Township
7530 Oberlin Road
Elyria, OH 44035
www.amhersttownship.us

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LORAIN, OHIO

Monthly Meeting	<u>Trustees:</u> 2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Dates & Times:	<u>Zoning Commission:</u> 1 st Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.