

AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Fall 2015

Vol. XX No. 3

Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 2nd quarter of 2015.

Newspaper	38.31	#1 PET	6.07
Cardboard	19.15	#2 HDPE	6.70
Mixed Paper	15.32	#2 - #7 Plastic Mixed	2.55
Steel Cans	3.19	Aseptic Containers	0.64
Alum. Cans	1.28	Residuals	12.77
Mixed Glass	21.71	Total	127.69

* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

1.31 tons of various paper through the "ABITIBI Paper Retriever" program

4.58 tons of scrap metal through the dumpster program

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

"2015" Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for "Dumpster Days" in 2015:

October 1, 2, 3

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

Please note: **NO TIRES!**

NO PROPANE TANKS!

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.

Have a problem? Complaint forms are available at the Township Hall, inside the white bulletin board, or they may be downloaded from the Township's website.

Township Hall & Garage 988-5894

Fax 988-5877

Fiscal Officer **Ext. 104**

Email: amhersttwpfo@oh.rr.com

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

Email: amhersttwproads@oh.rr.com

Office (Zoning Inspector) **Ext. 103**

Office Hours for Zoning Insp.:

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

Voice Mail is checked daily

Email: amhersttwpzoning@oh.rr.com

Remi Cerrone, Zoning Inspector

Trustees

Dennis Abraham (cell) 213-6775

(Ambulance, Cemetery, Park, Water, Buildings, Land, Zoning, 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, Roads, Ditches)

Fiscal Officer

Howard Akin 233-7624

Road Superintendent

John Szeftcyk 320-7157

Amherst Twp Senior Services Office

Lynda Ashley **Ext. 101**

Email: amhersttwpseniors@oh.rr.com

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

Fire Prevention Officer

Wayne Eppley 324-3921

LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

Pete or Herb de la Porte 323-6111

Sheriff's Department 329-3710

Ohio Edison

Automated Outage Reporting Line 1-888-544-4877

TRUSTEE MEETINGS:

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

Amherst Township Trustee Meetings may be viewed on Amherst Cable Channel 12. They will air for 7 days, running Mon – Mon, following the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Air times are at 9 am, 4 pm, & 10 pm. All airings are subject to change.

Driveway Aprons

Impact of Road and Drainage Repair

The reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of Amherst Township streets and bridges have an impact upon the drive aprons of property owners. Some township road reconstruction projects require the addition or replacement of roadside drainage, while other resurfacing projects result in a change to the road elevation or direction. These types of road projects may require a profile adjustment or reconstruction of drive aprons. The Township will do its best to reconstruct the drive apron to ensure a smooth approach transition from your property to the road.

Property owners construct drive aprons with various materials, such as concrete, asphalt, stone and paving blocks. Unfortunately, the Township cannot always replace drive apron material with the material originally selected by a property owner. As a general rule when a road project requires modification of a drive apron, if the road project involves asphalt material, the drive apron modification will be completed with asphalt material. If the road project involves concrete material, the drive apron modification will be completed with concrete material. In all cases, maintenance of a drive apron is the responsibility of the property owner.

Safety Tip

When walking or riding in Hidden Valley or other areas of the Township, always wear something reflective during the dusk and evening hours.

Don't assume that drivers can see you!

For added safety, when a vehicle is passing you, move over to the edge of the road or onto the lawn if you can.

Preparing for Winter

- As a safety issue, please do not pile snow around fire hydrants. It is best to keep hydrants clear of any snow, excess mounding of soil, or plants.
- Also, when cleaning your driveways, do not plow or shovel snow onto the streets after the Township/County has plowed.
- Mailboxes should be inspected to make sure the posts are in good condition before the winter snowplowing begins.
- Be aware that the bridge decks freeze before the pavement does, causing them to be slippery even when the roads are clear.

PERMITS REQUIRED

Residents are reminded that permits are needed for pools, decks, porches, patios, gazebos, fences, ponds, signs, garages, new construction, building additions, accessory buildings, and driveways. 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 Remi Cerrone, 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. Voice Mail is checked daily.

Attention!

Hidden Valley Residents

As a reminder, please do not rake leaves onto the street as it restricts water flow into the catch basins when it rains, causing drainage problems for you and your neighbors! The township does not pick up leaves. However, you can bring leaves and other yard waste to the Township Yard Waste Recycling Center, located across the road from the Township garage, for disposal.

REMEMBER TO VOTE!

This year's general election will be on Tuesday, **November 3rd**. Polls will be open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. Remember to bring your identification with you to the polls. Please exercise your right to vote. The Lorain County Board of Elections is located at 1985 North Ridge Road East, in Lorain. For more information about voting you can call them at 326-5900 or visit their website at: <http://loraincountyelections.com>

ISSUE 15

PROPOSED TAX LEVY (ADDITIONAL)

AMHERST TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT (UNINCORPORATED PORTION OF AMHERST TOWNSHIP)

A Majority Affirmative Vote Is Necessary For Passage.

An additional tax for the benefit of the Amherst Township Road District for **the purpose of the general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads and bridges**, at a rate not exceeding 3.9 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.39 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2015, first due in calendar year 2016.

FOR THE TAX LEVY

AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

To maintain balanced budgets at the State and County government levels, revenues that were previously shared at the local township level have been reduced or eliminated. In addition, the 2008 recession negatively impacted real estate revenues and investment earnings, which have not recovered as of 2015. Some of the reduced revenue sources include State of Ohio Local Government Funds, Lorain County Solid Waste Management District, Tangible Personal Property Tax, Interest/Investment Earnings, Property Tax, and Estate Tax which varied widely between 2007 and 2012 and was eliminated as of 1/1/2013.

Amherst Township has adjusted to the reduced revenues. These adjustments include delayed equipment replacement, employee headcount reduction through attrition, delays in road maintenance activities and a shift of revenue from the Fire and EMS fund to the Road and Bridge Fund approved by the voters in November 2011. These adjustments cannot continue long-term without negatively impacting our community.

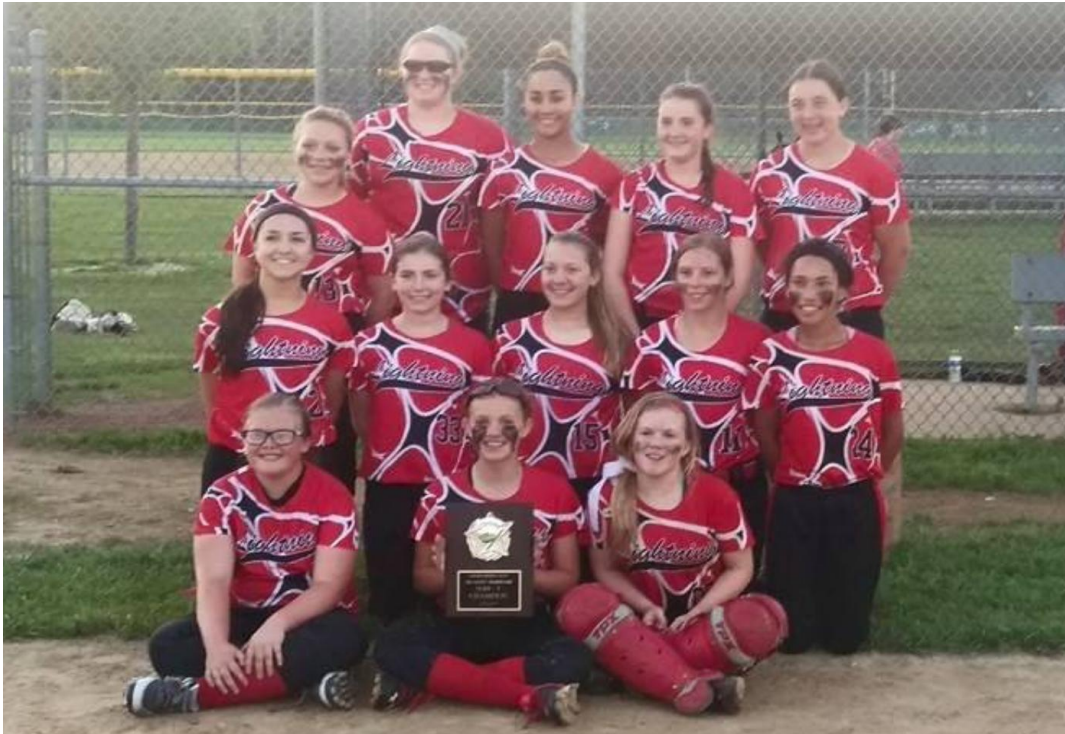
In order to offset these reductions in revenue the Township Trustees approved placing a levy on the ballot to ask voters for an increase in taxes. This

3.9 mil, 5-year levy would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$11.38 per month. These funds would strictly be used for the general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads and bridges in the Amherst Township Road District.

The last time Amherst Township residents experienced an increase in their property taxes, as a result of a levy specific to the Township, was approximately 14 years ago. Any and all tax increases since 2001 were due to school, county and/or state issues.

If a majority of the electors vote in favor of this road levy, it will be placed on the tax list and duplicate for the current tax year, beginning in 2015, first due in calendar year 2016, continuing for a period of 5 years.

All township residents are encouraged to call any member of the Board of Trustees with any question and/or concern relative to this matter. Additionally, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any Board of Trustees meetings, held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the Amherst Township Hall on Oberlin Road.



Congratulations to the “**Amherst Lightning**” team of the Amherst Fast Pitch Softball Organization!! They were first place in their regular season as well as County Champions and District Champions and they went on to finish in third place at the State Tournament!!



Pictured from left to right:

Front Row: Chloe Simko, Stephanie Bennett, Megan Knight.

Second Row: Nicole Sanoba, Jaden Szantay, Hannah Pietch, Alexis Bowen, Angelina Lopez

Back Row: Paige Sexstella, Brianna Rakar, Trinity Rivers, Sedona Wiegeier, Olivia Parson

Coaches (not pictured): Dave Parson, Chip Sanoba, Jeff Rakar, Cheryl Lindsly



Reminder From the Sheriff



Operators of snowmobiles and 4-wheelers are reminded that they need permission to be on private property. Most riders are law abiding and respectful of others’ property. However, many do not know that farmers’ fields are often prepped before winter arrives, and sometimes they are planted as well. Some criminal laws that may be charged under this negligence are Criminal Damaging, Vandalism, or Prohibited Acts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Sheriff by calling the “Community Policing Officer” Office at 329-3749. Please leave a message stating your name and a return number where you can be reached. This number is not monitored 24 hours a day. You may also contact Deputy Vansant by email at:

rvansant@loraincountysheriff.com



SNOW BAN



Parking is prohibited on all township streets and highways in Amherst Township during a snow emergency, which may be declared when snowfall exceeds 2 inches or severe snow or ice condition exists.

A fine for violation of this resolution will be **\$50** if paid within seven days of the violation and **\$100** if paid more than seven days of the violation.

To avoid having your vehicle towed or ticketed, residents are asked not to park on the street when the snow exceeds 2 inches.



2nd Annual Hidden Valley Neighborhood Watch “FUN PARADE”



Great weather drew a large group that participated in this year's parade held on Saturday, Aug 22nd.

To learn more about the Hidden Valley Neighborhood Watch group, contact them by email at:

hiddevallyneighborhoodwatch@yahoo.com





**TRICK
OR
TREAT**



**Burning
Prohibited**



“Trick-or-Treat” in Amherst Township will be held on **Halloween Day** this year. It will be held on:

SATURDAY

October 31st, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Residents that wish to pass out candy should turn on their outside lights. This newsletter will be the only notification given by Amherst Twp.

Also on Saturday, October 31st, the City of Amherst Fire Department will be sponsoring a “Costume Contest” with registration starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Sans Springs Building, located at 480 Park Ave. in Amherst. Judging for the contest will start promptly at 4:00 p.m.

The annual “Halloween Parade” will follow, from 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the parade will be cancelled and the “Costume Contest” will be held at the Amherst Fire Department located at 414 Church St. in Amherst.

The burning of leaves, grass clippings, brush, and limbs is prohibited in the township. Unnecessary tax dollars are spent when the fire department responds to a fire call that is not a true emergency.

If you have any questions, please call Fire Inspector, Wayne Eppley, at **324-3921**, or contact one of your township trustees. Yard waste may be brought to the Amherst Township Garage for disposal. For drop-off times, days, and location, see the front page of this newsletter.

Yard Waste Recycling Center
Extended Fall Hours

The Amherst Township Yard Waste Recycling Center will be open for extended hours in the Fall to accommodate the recycling of leaves and other yard waste. Beginning **October 15th**, and continuing through **December 1st**, the Yard Waste Recycling Center will open at 8:00 am and close at sunset. The Yard Waste Recycling Center is a self-service operation. Please place your empty plastic bags in the 55-gal drum at the center or take bags with you.

Printed on Recycled Paper

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

PRESORTED STD.
US POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO.179
LORAIN, OHIO

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

Fall 2015

by Lynda Ashley, Director, Amherst Township Senior Service Office (ATSSO)

Home-Delivered Meal Program

ATSSO provides home-delivered meals for those over 60 and disabled adults over 18, with a cost that is adjusted to your income.

This nutritious, hot lunch program includes your choice of an entrée, soup & sandwich, or soup & salad. A “soup only” option is also available as a choice.

If you would like to receive a home-delivered meal, please contact the Senior Service Office at **988-5894, ext. 101**.

LORAIN COUNTY SENIOR LIVING FAIR

The 10th annual Senior Living Fair will be held in conjunction with the Lorain County JVS Community Appreciation Day on Saturday, October 10, 2015 from 10 am to 3 pm.

A wide variety of organizations will be providing information, services, and demonstrations with a special emphasis on healthy senior living. There will be a free lunch and door prizes for senior citizens 60 years of age and older.

The Lorain County General Health District will be offering Flu Shots from 10 am to 3 pm.

This fun filled event will have a variety of activities for everyone in the family.

Lorain County JVS is located at 15181 St. Rt. 58 in Oberlin.

**ATSSO OFFICE HOURS:
8:00 A.M. – NOON (M-F)**

Phone: 988-5894 – Ext. 101

Email: amhersttwpseniors@oh.rr.com

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open enrollment occurs once every year from **October 15th** through **December 7th**. During this time, Medicare recipients have the opportunity to compare their current plan with plans being offered for the new year in order to decide which plan would be the most cost effective and beneficial. If your medications are covered this year, it doesn't mean the same coverage is available next year. It is very important to compare what you have with what is available next year, even if you have no intention of changing plans.

In September, Medicare Advantage Plans and Part D will send you an Annual Notice of Change. This notice will explain any changes happening to your plan and benefits in 2016.

If you receive help paying for your Medicare through the “Low Income Subsidy Program”, you may receive information from Social Security or Medicare asking for income verification or alerting you of changes.

Plan comparisons are offered free of charge to Amherst Township residents who have Medicare. Please call the Amherst Township Senior Service Office to schedule an appointment. It is **VERY** important to compare plans each year.

MEDICARE CHECK-UP DAYS

Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (**OSHIIP**) holds "Check-Up Days" in every county to update Medicare recipients of changes coming for the next year. The days scheduled for Lorain County are as follows:

Avon Senior Center

36786 Detroit Road (Avon, Ohio)

October 6th, beginning at 1:00 pm

November 19th, beginning at 10:00 am

(by appointment only, please call 934-2417)

Lorain Community Senior Center

3361 Garfield Blvd (Lorain, Ohio)

November 10th, beginning at 10:00 am

(by appointment only, please call 288-4040)

COMMUNITY SENIORS

"LUNCH BUNCH"

Free lunch for seniors 60+ will be held on October 13th and November 10th from Noon until 1:30 pm.

A speaker will be at each meeting to provide information to seniors on topics related to seniors.

The luncheon is located at:

Cornerstone UMC

2949 W. River Road, N., Elyria
(440) 324-1202



2015 Lorain County Flu Shot Locator



The Lorain County General Health District's Seasonal Flu Shot Clinics for 2015 are being held during October and November. For Amherst Township residents, the closest clinic will be held on **Saturday, October 24th**, at **Marion L. Steele High School from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.**

The LCGHD Flu Shot Clinics will accept most private insurances, Medicare, and Medicaid. Without insurance, the cost is \$25 per regular dose or \$41 per high dose (recommended for ages 65+).

For a complete list of details and other locations and times, please visit the Lorain County General Health District's website at:

www.loraincountyhealth.com

To get more flu information by phone, contact the Flu Hotline at:

440-329-7926

For other locations and opportunities to get your flu shot there is an interactive "2015 Flu Shot Locator" that will help to find a clinic or pharmacy convenient for you. The Flu Shot Locator can be found by visiting the following website at:

www.LorainCountyFlu.com

