

AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Summer 2025

Vol. XXX No. 2

Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 1st quarter of 2025 through curbside pickup.

Newspaper	0.00	#1 PET	6.25
Cardboard	28.76	#2 HDPE Natural	1.25
Mixed Paper	43.77	# HDPE Color	1.25
Steel Cans	2.50	#3 - #7 Plastic Mixed	0.00
Alum. Cans	2.50	Residuals	21.26
Mixed Glass	17.51	Total	125.05

* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

There were no dumpster days in the 1st quarter, therefore no scrap metal.

3,000 cu/yds of yard waste ground-up and hauled away

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

“2025” Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for “Dumpster Days” in 2025.

October 2, 3, 4

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 (6” max dia.), 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 Tree Stumps
- **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.

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

Township Hall & Garage 988-5894

Fax..... 988-5877

Fiscal Officer **Ext. 104**

Email: amherstwpfo@gmail.com

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

Email: amherstwproads@gmail.com

Zoning Inspector **Ext. 103**

Ryan Valentin, Zoning Inspector

Email: amherstwpzoning@gmail.com

***NEW* Office Hours:**

Mon. Tue. Wed. – 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Other hours available by appointment only

Summer hours may vary – Verify on twp’s website

Trustees

Dennis Abraham(cell) 213-6775

(Cemetery, Park, Water, Buildings/Land, NBHD Watch, Enterprise Zones, County Health Rep.)

Neil Lynch 988-7681

(Ambulance, Roads, Ditches, Sewer, Fire, Equipment, Personnel, LORCO, Facility Security, Senior Services, Phase II Storm Water/ Environmental Strategy, NIMS Primary Contact, L.C. Comm. 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: amherstwp@gmail.com

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

Fire Prevention Officer

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

Email: amherstwpfire@gmail.com

LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

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

Sheriff’s Department..... 329-3710

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.**

“Transient Vendors”

Any transient vendor (aka Door-to-Door salesperson) seeking to sell or offer for sale goods or services, or solicit orders for future delivery of goods, in the unincorporated areas of Amherst Township, is required to make written application for and obtain a “Certificate of Registration”. An organization shall obtain a “Certificate of Registration” to cover each individual vendor for the organization.

All business done under an issued Transient Vendor “Certificate of Registration Permit” shall be conducted during daylight hours, Monday through Saturday. The hours shall be:

9:00am – 8:30pm April through September

9:00am – 6:00pm October through February.

While canvassing or soliciting in the township under this policy, each registered transient vendor will have in his or her possession their “Certificate of Registration Permit” and photo identification in the form of one of the following: a valid driver’s license, a passport, or an identification placard that depicts a current picture of the registered vendor. Please feel free to ask to see an “Amherst Township Vendor’s” permit.

A “Transient Vendor” does not include any person who represents any entity exempted from taxation under section 5709.04 of the Revised Code. While these non-profit type organizations do not need to obtain a “Certificate of Registration”, they still need to notify the township that their representative(s) will be present in the township.

Current vendors who are registered with Amherst Township are listed on the “Home” page of the township’s website. If residents have any questions or concerns, please contact Township Administrator, Lynda Ashley, at **440-988-5894 ext. 101**.

AED’s in Amherst Township Athletic Fields

Ohio’s 135th General Assembly House Bills HB47 and HB315 “*Automated External Defibrillator (AED’s) in Schools*” alters Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Sections 755.13 and 3701.85, became effective October 24, 2024, and requires all townships and municipalities, with a population over 5000, to have an AED accessible at each athletic field within their community, along with training a sufficient number of staff at each field, if hosting organized athletic events.

The township currently owns a spare AED and estimates an additional \$3,000 in expenditures to ensure AED access for both the Middle Ridge Road Park facilities as well as the 7491 Oberlin Road soccer/football field facility which is across from the Amherst Township Hall & Garage. The

MANAGEMENT OF STREET SWEEPINGS

Street sweepings are solid waste.

Street dirt and debris are included in the definition of solid waste (ORC 3734.01 and OAC Rule 3745-27-01). They are materials such as sand, salt, leaves, broken glass, small pieces of metal, and other litter and debris removed from streets, parking lots, and sidewalks. While it may not seem that the earth-like materials contained in street sweepings pose a threat to the environment, these sweepings are not nearly as “clean” as one might think. Street sweepings usually contain low levels of chemical compounds such as arsenic, zinc, copper, and lead. It is also not uncommon to find sodium and compounds associated with asphalt and motor oils in street sweepings. As a result, these materials can impact the environment and should be disposed of properly.

A component of the Storm Water Management Plan required for municipalities to minimize pollution of rivers and streams sometimes requires the removal of accumulated street dirt and debris from roadways, storm sewers, and catch basins.

This solid waste must be disposed in a licensed solid waste landfill unless a municipality requests and receives authorization for the beneficial use of street dirt and debris. Street dirt and debris may not be used as backfill, as daily cover at a landfill, or any other use without the authorization required by Ohio EPA. Municipalities that wish to consider beneficially using street sweepings are encouraged to contact their Ohio EPA district office.

AED’s will be placed in a weatherproof box that will be available to coaches prior to using the Amherst Township athletic facilities.

The Board of Trustees has determined that a portion of the AED access cost should be shared equally among the organized sports organizations and a fee will be included in the lease agreement with the various sports teams using the fields. The athletic team coaches and personnel will be made aware of the appropriate training requirement specified in Lindsay’s Law and ORC 755.13.

Complying with these AED requirements will improve the health, safety and welfare of the organized athletic participants and spectators.

New Zoning Inspector

On April 28, 2025 Amherst Township Trustees hired a new Zoning Inspector, **Ryan Valentin**.

As the Zoning Inspector Ryan is responsible for writing permits for buildings and structures, enforcing zoning resolutions, accepting applications for Zoning Amendments and Variances, and in general helping people to understand zoning and zoning areas in the township.

Ryan was raised in Lorain Ohio, graduating from Southview High School. He also received a Bachelor's of Science degree from DeVry University, majoring in network and communications. Ryan served in the U.S. Army for 6 years. He was a "Multiple Rocket Launch Operations Specialist" with a highest ranking of E-5, Sergeant. During his service he was deployed to Kuwait and Dubai. Ryan is now retired from the military. For his hobby, he enjoys being a youth baseball coach.

Ryan is looking forward to working with and for the Amherst Township Community.

The new office hours for the Zoning Inspector are:

Mon. Tue. Wed. – 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Please call for an appointment to ensure the Zoning Inspector is in the office. Other hours are available by appointment only. Summer hours may vary. Residents can check the township's website to verify the current hours.



The Zoning Inspector can be reached by phone at:
440-988-5894, ext 103

or by email at amhersttwpzoning@gmail.com

Permits require **5-7 business days** for processing. Please make sure you apply in advance of your need.

During off hours, Permits & Applications may be left in the "Green Box" to the LEFT of the Office Entrance. Personal items or sensitive information should be left in the "Black Secure Drop Box" to the RIGHT of the Office Entrance.

Tips for Residents located in Developments

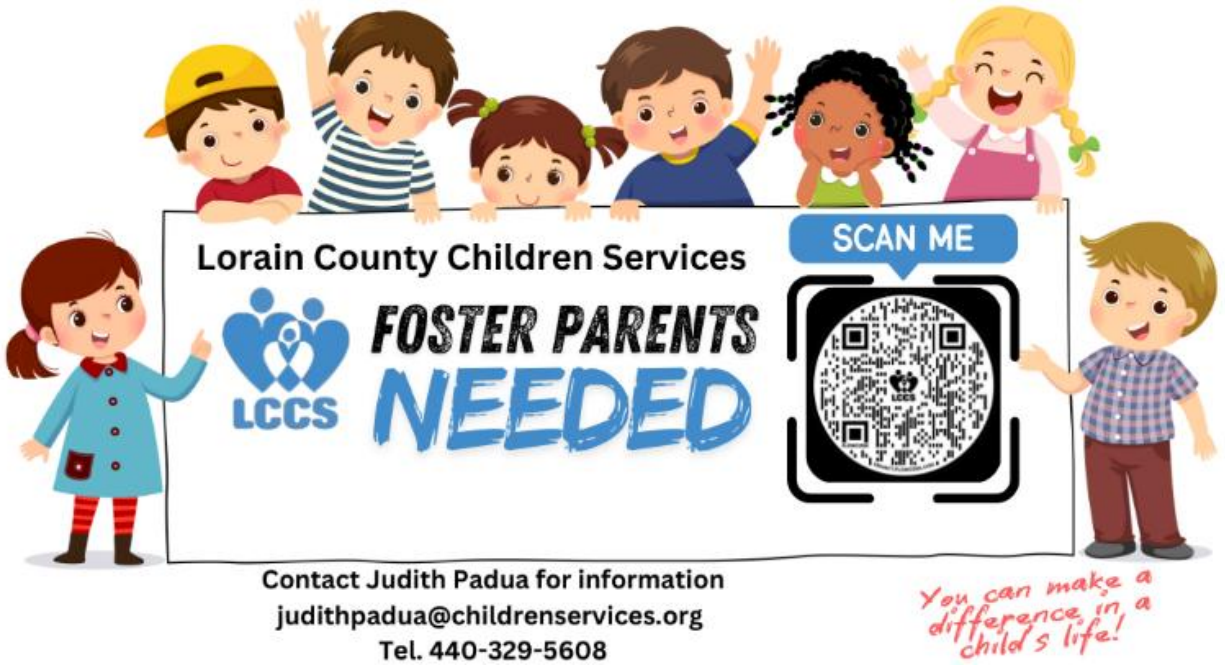
Keeping Catch Basins Clear

Residents are encouraged to check and clear road drains located near them, especially when heavy rains are predicted. The township road crew works to keep up with this task, but vegetation, litter, and yard debris can quickly overwhelm storm drains.

Clearing road drains is important to prevent flooding and reduce the risk of water damage. Clogged drains can lead to water accumulating on roads, creating hazardous driving conditions and potentially damaging property. Additionally, clearing drains helps maintain water quality by preventing contaminants from entering waterways.

Street Parking

Residents are asked to be observant when parking their vehicle on the street. They should be mindful not to inhibit the view at intersections and curves in the road. Do not park immediately across from another vehicle, creating a narrow one-lane passage between the two vehicles, as this restricts the passage of emergency vehicles and township road equipment.



PROTECTING LORAIN COUNTY'S CHILDREN: HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you, or someone you know, has thought about becoming a foster parent, today is a great day to take the next step and learn more about the needs of children and families from Lorain County. Scan the QR code (above) or visit [Lorain County Children Services.org](https://LorainCountyChildrenServices.org) to learn more. Find them on facebook at "LCCSFosterParents".

Foster Care Overviews

Learn about the foster care process, licensing requirements, and what it means to be a foster parent.

Virtual Overview: June 12, 2025

In-person: August 19, 2025

Virtual Overview: September 18, 2025

In-person: October 22, 2025

Preservice Training

This training is for those ready to take the next step. Once you decide to foster, this training prepares you for the journey ahead. For training details, visit their website at:

www.childrenservices.org

↳ then select "foster parenting"

↳ then select "future foster parents"

Keeping Children Safe in Lorain County

Every child deserves a safe and stable home. At Lorain County Children's Services, we work to protect children and assess their safety, well-being, and permanency. In 2024, we received 5,333 reports of alleged child abuse and neglect, with 1,752 cases requiring further assessment by social workers.

When necessary, we intervene to ensure a child's safety. Last year, 325 children were separated from unsafe situations, with 145 placed with kinship caregivers and 170 placed in foster care.



Contact Us
(440) 329-5608



Visit Our Website
www.childrenservices.org



Our Location
226 Middle Ave. Elyria, OH

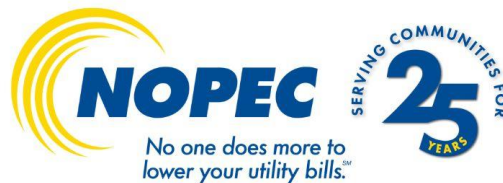
Natural Gas Aggregation Update

We recently worked with NOPEC, our community's energy aggregator, to make it even easier for residents and small businesses to return to NOPEC's natural gas aggregation if they had previously opted out.

Prior to this change, if someone opted out of NOPEC's natural gas aggregation and then changed their mind, it could take up to 2 years for them to be eligible to rejoin the aggregation. Now, residents have the option to easily and quickly re-enroll in the aggregation program.

If you previously opted out, but would like to return to NOPEC, contact their 24/7 Customer Care Center at 855-667-3201.

NOPEC is Ohio's largest governmental electric and natural gas aggregation, serving over 240 communities in 20 counties. For more information about NOPEC, visit nopec.org.



At the May 13, 2025 Trustees Meeting, Kyla Presto, NOPEC Relationship Manager, gave a presentation on the new "NOPEC Opt-In Gas Aggregation Program". This presentation can be viewed through the "Meetings" tab on the township's website or on the "Amherst Township" YouTube channel.



Compare ***Apples to Apples...***

Anytime, Anywhere.

With the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's (PUCO) innovative tool, the differences between supplier plans, costs, and contract terms are always right in front of you. Visit them online at:

www.energychoice.ohio.gov



Call NOPEC's Customer Care Center at **855-667-3201** to report aggressive or deceiving door-to-door energy solicitors.

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

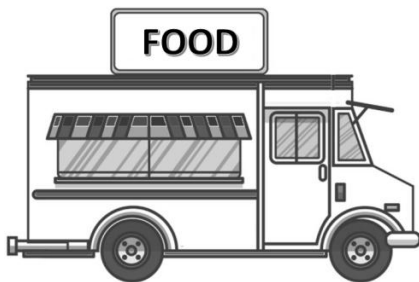
Email: amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com

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.



Amherst Fire Dept's Response To Amherst Township	1st Quarter 2025	
Fire Calls (N of Turnpike):	8	12.9%
Fire Calls (S of Turnpike):	8	12.9%
EMS-First Responder (N):	36	58.1%
EMS-First Responder (S):	10	16.1%
Total Calls:	62	100%
MVA's in Amherst Township (N&S):	9	

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 amhersttwfire@gmail.com.

RUMPKE Recycling

Rumpke is committed to make recycling easy and convenient for their customers. To ensure that your recycling efforts are put to good use, they ask that you follow their guidelines. Placing the wrong material into your recycling bin can cause big problems. Some items damage machines at the recycling center, while other materials, such as batteries, pose serious hazards to employees.

1. **Place Items Loosely in the Bin.** Don't place recyclables inside plastic bags. Plastic bags cause damage to the sorting equipment and interrupts the recycling process.
2. **Avoid "Tanglers".** "Tanglers" are items that can tangle or wrap around the automated sorting equipment and cause damage. These items include clothing, bed sheets, garden hoses, chains, ropes, dog leashes, Christmas lights, and plastic bags.
3. **Use Rumpke's List – Not Product Label.** Having a recycling symbol does not mean an item can be recycled everywhere. The latest Rumpke flyer is viewable on the Township's website under "Depts" then to "Solid Waste & Recycling". Starting November 1, 2024, Amherst Township residents are also able to recycle clear plastic "Clamshell" containers.
4. **Cans Can be Recycled.** When it comes to metal, only place aluminum and steel cans in your recycling container.
5. **Container Shape – Not Number.** Examine the shape of plastic containers – not the recycling number. Rumpke only accepts plastic bottles with a small mouth and wider base, plastic tubs, and plastic cups.

Having items loose in the recycle cart is an industry wide standard for every waste and recycling company. Rumpke cannot control the high winds, but they do their part to minimize its effects. Each recycle truck running in Amherst Township is equipped with a net system on the bucket of the truck. When the driver empties the bucket of the truck the net system is engaged to stop material from fall out of the bucket and missing the inside of the truck. This system has proven to drastically reduce the amount of cycle material blown out of the truck.

All garbage and trash should be bagged properly and placed in the trash cart with a closed lid.



Lorain County Launches New Emergency Alert System



Lorain County is now using a new Emergency Alert System, CodeRED. CodeRED replaces the WENS Emergency Alert System. CodeRED is trusted by more than 10,000 counties, cities, villages and townships, various utilities and more than 50 federal agencies.

The CodeRED system offers an app-based product which residents can download to their phone for messaging. This app is available on both iPhone and Android.

Residents can register for the new system on the sign-up portal at:

<https://accountportal.onsolve.net/loraincountyoh>

or by texting **LORAINCO** to **24639**

Registration can also be completed by scanning the QR Code → → →

CodeRED Sign Up



For more information, visit the Lorain County Emergency Management Emergency Alerting page at:

<https://www.loraincountyohio.gov/777/Emergency-Alerting-Information>

or on Facebook at:

<https://222.facebook.com/profile.php?id100094661719181>

LCSWD Mini Grants

In 2025, Amherst Township has been approved for two Storm Water Mini Grant projects. Each grant application is for \$7500.

The first project is for the repair / replacement of a catch basin located near 207 Rustic Hill Lane. This repair is part of the OPWC Round 39 “Rustic Hill Lane Concrete Replacement” project, using this Mini Grant as part of the local resources to leverage OPWC Round 39 funding.

The second project is to go towards the cost of the grinding and hauling of the yard waste material that was collected by the Township since January 2024. This grant will help offset the funding loss the Township has experienced from the elimination of the Solid Waste funding. In late January of 2025, there was approximately 3,000 cu/yards of yard waste material ground up and hauled away by Barnes Nursery at a cost of \$16,750.

Yard Waste Recycling Center Extended Summer Hours

As a reminder to residents, the “Yard Waste Pile” that is located on the east side of Oberlin Road, directly across from the Township Hall, will be open until 8pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, which coincides with the Trustees Meeting nights. These extended hours will continue through the summer and early fall.

Please, **YARD WASTE ONLY!!!**

The yard waste pile is for disposing of your limbs, brush, lawn clippings, and leaves, **only!** Acceptable limb size is **6” max.** diameter.

NO TREE STUMPS!

Prohibited items would include siding, wood, stone, junk, and construction material as well as any other material that does not grow in your yard.

Residents are reminded to please place your empty plastic bags in the 55-gallon drum at the center, or take bags with you.

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

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

**Monthly Meeting
Dates & Times:**

Trustees: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Zoning Commission: 1st Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

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/sheds (includes Prefab), 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.** (Permit forms available on twp's website.)

Please contact Ryan Valentin, Amherst Township Zoning Inspector for these permits. Office hours for the Zoning Inspector are from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Verify office hours on twp's website as summer hours may vary. He can be reached at **440-988-5894, ext. 103**.

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.

Park Pavilion Reservations

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

A \$50.00 non-refundable permit fee per pavilion is required. Fees must be paid in full 30 days prior to reservation. Check or Money Order only made payable to Amherst Township.

Please note that reservations are not available for Sundays or holidays that occur on a Monday. These days are on a first-come first-serve basis.

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

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.