

AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Summer 2018

Vol. XXIII No. 2

Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 1st quarter of 2018.

Newspaper	32.50	#1 PET	5.15
Cardboard	16.25	#2 HDPE	5.69
Mixed Paper	13.00	#2 - #7 Plastic Mixed	2.17
Steel Cans	2.71	Aseptic Containers	0.54
Alum. Cans	1.08	Residuals	10.83
Mixed Glass	18.42	Total	108.34

* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

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

-----There were no dumpster days in the first quarter, therefore no scrap metal.

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

"2018" Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for "Dumpster Days" in 2018:

October 11, 12, 13

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: amherstwpfo@gmail.com

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

Email: amherstwproads@gmail.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: amherstwpzoning@gmail.com

Remi Cerrone, Zoning Inspector

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

Howard Akin 233-7624

Road Superintendent

Kevin Smarsh 370-5242

Amherst Twp Senior Services Office

Lynda Ashley **Ext. 101**

Email: amherstwpSeniors@gmail.com

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

Fire Prevention Officer

Wayne Eppley 324-3921

Email: amherstwpfire@gmail.com

LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

Pete or Herb de la Porte 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.**

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.



Tick-Tock: Time to Check for TICKS

Media Release by "Lorain County Public Health":



Humans aren't the only creatures that like to enjoy picnics in the summertime. Ticks are bugs that like to turn humans into a snack. Tick bites can be more than bothersome, they can spread disease to people and dogs. The most common disease ticks spread is Lyme disease, which can cause headache, fatigue, and rash, and might spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system. There have been no cases of Lyme Disease reported in Lorain County this year.

"By taking some simple precautions, you can prevent tick bites and Lyme disease and still enjoy time outdoors," says David Covell, MPH, RS, health commissioner at Lorain County Public Health. "Many people in areas of the country make tick checks a daily habit, and it's time for people across Ohio to get into the same routine."

Prevent tick bites by following these steps:

For humans:

- Stay out of areas with tall grass and lots of plants, where ticks like to hide, and walk in the center of trails to avoid contact with ticks.

- Wear light-colored clothing to make it easier to find ticks, and tuck pants into sock tops or boots.
- Use bug repellants - follow instructions carefully.
- Check yourself, children, and pets for ticks after spending time outside.
- Bathe or shower after walking through tall grass or plants to wash off ticks and help you find them easier.

For dogs and cats:

- Check dogs and cats for ticks since they can get sick with a tick borne disease, and because pets can carry ticks into the house as a risk to people.
- Ask your veterinarian about tick control treatments for pets.
- Mow the yard and other places where pets and people play so ticks won't like to hide there.

For more information on how to live healthy, contact "Lorain County Public Health" at **440-322-6367** or visit their website at:

www.LorainCountyHealth.com



PROPERTY MAINTENANCE



It's that time of year again and residents are reminded to maintain their property by keeping their lawns mowed as well as removing junk and debris from the yard. Taking pride in your property reflects a positive image of the community and has a positive impact on property values.

Properties that are in violation of this may receive a Public Notice stating that:

"This property constitutes a nuisance as determined by the Amherst Township Board of Trustees per ORC 505.87. Removal of debris and vegetation will begin on or after (date). All expenses incurred will be assessed to the property owner."

Vehicles parked on your property must have a valid license plate, be in running condition, parked in the driveway, and have all 4 tires (no flats and no cars on blocks). Owners of a junk vehicle may receive a Public Notice stating that:

"The Board of Trustees of Amherst Township has determined that junk motor vehicles are parked /

stored upon your property located at (address) within the Township. You are ordered to immediately remove said items. If you fail to comply with this Order within fourteen (14) days, the Township Trustees will provide for the removal of said items and any expense incurred by the Township in the performance of such removal task will be entered upon the tax duplicate as a lien upon your property and shall be collected as other taxes."

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Amherst Zoning Inspector Remi Cerrone at **988-5894 ext. 103**. Office hours are from 8 am to 11 am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Voice Mail is checked daily.

NOTICE: Do not blow grass and debris (such as tree seeds) into the street!! This causes a hazard for motorcycles as well as clogging storm sewers. Residents can help prevent flooding by keeping storm sewers grates near their property clear of debris.

Sandstone Joint Ambulance District

The Sandstone Joint Ambulance District was formed in 1996 and was originally comprised of the City of Amherst and Amherst Township. The ambulance district was formed for the provision of emergency medical services to assure quality care and quick response times for residents of the district. In December of 1999, South Amherst Village also joined the district. Today, the three political subdivisions are still a part of the district. The first contracted emergency provider was “North Central Emergency Management Services” from 1999-2003. “LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.” was the second contracted emergency provider and still services residents to this day.

The Sandstone Joint Ambulance District is represented by a board of trustees with appointees from the three political entities including: 2-Amherst City appointees, 2-Amherst Township appointees, and 2-South Amherst appointees. Additionally, the fire chiefs from Amherst and South Amherst also serve on the board for the district. Board members are chosen for appointment by the mayors and

township trustees in the district. University Hospitals’ Amherst Campus also has an appointee serving on the board.

Currently, the Amherst and South Amherst fire departments will also respond to emergency calls if the 911 dispatch process deems it necessary. The Sandstone Joint Ambulance District ambulances are housed at LifeCare’s Amherst Park Avenue location. There are two ambulances that are dedicated to serving the district.

The ambulance district is funded through a 0.5-mil levy originally passed in 1988, and renewed in 1991 as a continuous levy. The current levy will be on the November 2018 ballot to be replaced at the same millage.

The Sandstone Joint Ambulance District is of great benefit to our township residents. Residents can be assured that anytime they call 911, they will receive LifeCare’s fast, efficient, consistent, and excellent emergency services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



ADDRESS MARKINGS

The township recently spent time updating their address list for mailing this newsletter and noticed many houses/mailboxes with illegible markings or no markings at all. Residents are encouraged to update or add address numbers to their house and their mailbox. This is also important from a safety viewpoint if emergency services are required.

Green reflective mailbox markers (6” x 18”) with reflective numbers may be purchased from the Elyria Township Fire Department for \$15. Payments may be made with a check (to Elyria Township) or cash (exact change preferred). To purchase these markers contact the Elyria Township Fire Department, 41416 Griswold Road, Elyria, at **324-2973**.



After several delayed delivery dates, Kevin and Red waste no time getting out to use the township’s new 2-ton Hot Mix Asphalt Hot Box Hauler. The equipment was purchased through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program and will be used for patching pot holes and small asphalt repairs. This equipment will not only save time and money but will provide a better, longer lasting patch and allow the road crew to fill pot holes even during inclement weather.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Amherst Township is looking for volunteers to help with a few tasks that will enhance the township's service. Volunteers can be either individuals or groups that are interested in performing community service. These tasks include:

- GPS location of township signs
- Scanning of cemetery documents
- Spreadsheet Data Entry

If interested, please contact Lynda Ashley between the hours of 8am and noon, Monday thru Friday, at **988-5894 (ext 101)**. A voicemail message may also be left.

NEW HOURS For Collection Center

Please note that the Lorain County Collection Center located at 540 S. Abbe Road, Elyria, has changed its hours of operation. Hours for Mondays and Saturdays have been reduced. Also note that the Center is closed on Holidays. Current hours of operation are:

Mondays – 12 noon to 4 pm (*was 6 pm*)

Wednesdays – 12 noon to 6 pm

Saturdays – 9 am to 3 pm (*was 6 pm*)

For more information please contact the District at 329-5440 or visit their website at:

[www.loraincounty.us/
commissioners-departments/
solid-waste-management/
collection-center](http://www.loraincounty.us/commissioners-departments/solid-waste-management/collection-center)

A portion of the cost to print and mail the Amherst Township Newsletter is paid for with funds received from the Lorain County Solid Waste Management District Community Incentive Grant Funding provided through the Lorain County Commissioners.



The 8th Annual "Wine Tasting Party" fundraising event held this year at the Amherst Township Hall was once again successful. It was a fun and enjoyable evening.

Past Wine Tasting events provided \$2100 in mulch for the park, the Veterans War Memorial at the Township Hall, and \$500 towards lighting for the Veterans Mural in downtown Amherst. Proceeds from this fundraising event will be used for Amherst Township Park improvements.

The Amherst Township Board of Trustees would like to thank the F.A.C.E. Board Members who planned this event along with the businesses and individuals that donated their time, talent and treasure to this event. Also, many thanks to all those who attended.

F.A.C.E. is looking for individuals who would be interested in serving in a voluntary capacity on the F.A.C.E. Board. The Board meets about 4 times a year for a short meeting. The biggest event to plan and work on is the Wine Tasting event held in April and after eight events requires very little effort. If you would be interest in joining the board, please contact **Tom Hupman** at **440-487-6876** or you may contact one of the Amherst Township Trustees.



HIRING FIREFIGHTERS

The South Amherst Fire Department is hiring volunteer firefighters. The South Amherst Fire Department will pay for all training. You must be at least 18 years of age, have a valid Ohio drivers license, live within 5 miles of the Fire Station, and be able to pass a background check, physical and drug test. The Fire Station is located at 105 W. Main Street in South Amherst.

For more information call the South Amherst Fire Department at **440-986-5901**.

TIPS TO BETTER RECYCLING

Following are some guidelines to help better choose what to put in the “Recycling” container. Food and beverage containers should be given a quick rinse before recycling.

What to Recycle:

Plastic Bottles & Jugs with a base wider than the top of the bottle. Lids may be left on the container.

For Plastics, think “SHAPE” as opposed to the number on the bottom

Glass Bottles & Jars, all colors and clear.

Metal Cans made of aluminum, tin, and steel. Aerosol cans with lids & tips REMOVED.

Cartons such as those used for juice, milk, and broth. *Caps and straws should be REMOVED.

Paper & Cardboard. Rule of thumb: if you can tear it, or if it breaks down under running water, recycle it. NOTE: Pizza boxes should be free of food and grease. Cardboard should be flattened to 2’ x 3’.



What NOT to Recycle:

Plastic items such as containers without a bottle neck, toys, bikes, tubs, trays, buckets, bags, plastic wrap, and 6-pack rings are not acceptable.

Glass items such as drinking glasses, dishware, ceramics, porcelain, light bulbs, window glass, and mirrors are not acceptable.

Metal items such as pots, pans, pipes, coat hangers, and metal wire are not acceptable. Needles and sharps are not acceptable as well.

Paper items that are flimsy or contaminated (such as paper towels, tissues, toilet paper) and specially treated paper (such as photographs, photo paper, and laminated paper) are not acceptable.

Other Miscellaneous Items include: Styrofoam, batteries, wood, yard waste, garden hoses, rope, string, gas/oil or any container it has touched, hazardous or flammable material, electronics, car parts, clothing and textiles.



Residents are also reminded that “Bulk Pickup” can be left out on any of the normally scheduled pick up days. Residents should call RUMPKE at **1-800-828-8171** prior to disposing of large items or when they have an excessive amount of trash. Mattresses and upholstered furniture must be completely sealed in disposable plastic!!

Amherst Township residents may place bulky items out for collection on **one** day per calendar month at no charge. There will be a charge for collection of bulky items on additional days in the same month. Please call Rumpke with any questions.

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.

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 Amherst Township Senior Service Director, **Lynda Ashley**, to reserve the park pavilion.

She 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.

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

**PRESORTED STD.
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LORAIN, OHIO**

**Monthly Meeting
Dates & Times:**

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

Senior GAZETTE

Summer 2018

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, soup & salad, or sandwich and salad. A “soup only” option is also available as a choice. There is no minimum amount you need to order, the schedule is flexible. Meals can also be provided for short term coverage such as vacations.

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

IRS CALLS

United States Senate Special Committee on Aging, August 2, 2017

Beginning in April 2017, the IRS began doing something taxpayers had been long told the IRS would never do – call taxpayers.

A provision in the “Fixing Americas’ Surface Transportation (FAST) Act” (Pub. L. 114-94) passed by Congress in 2015, enabled the IRS to begin using private debt collectors to collect overdue tax debts. Under the new law, the IRS will first notify a taxpayer in writing that their account is being transferred to a

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

Phone: 988-5894 – Ext. 101

Email: amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com

private collection agency. Once the IRS sends its letter, the private company will send its own letter and then may begin calling the taxpayer. The IRS released the following tips to help taxpayers identify suspicious calls that may be associated with the IRS imposter scam: The IRS will NEVER call a taxpayer to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed a bill to the taxpayer.

- The IRS will never demand that a taxpayer pay taxes without giving him or her the opportunity to question or appeal the amount claimed to be owed.
- The IRS will never threaten to send local police or other law enforcement to have a taxpayer arrested.
- The IRS will never require a taxpayer to use a specific payment method for taxes, such as prepaid debit card.
- Once the IRS sends its letter, the private company will send its own letter and then may begin calling the taxpayer.

*from ProSeniors Ohio SMP,
“The IRS Can Call You”
Published: April 2018



BLOOD PRESSURE



Blood Pressure is defined as the force of blood pushing against artery walls as it goes through your body. Similar to the air in a tire, too much air pressure can cause damage to the tire; high blood pressure can cause damage to your arteries. High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, usually has no signs or symptoms, but it can lead to a higher risk of heart disease, stroke, and kidney failure.

Some risk factors leading to hypertension (high blood pressure) include obesity, drinking too much alcohol, smoking, and family history.

It is important for you to know your current blood pressure numbers, even when you're feeling fine. Next time you are at your local pharmacy, take your blood pressure, and write it down in a journal. Take the journal with you on your next visit to your primary care physician and show him your numbers. When some people visit

their physician, they experience "White Coat" anxiety and immediately their pressure increases. By taking your BP more regularly during your normal routines you will get a better picture of your blood pressure.

A few ways to reduce high blood pressure include:

- **Slow breathing exercises**
- **Meditation**
- **Incorporating more vegetables and fruits, less saturated fats, and switching to low-fat dairy**
- **Reducing your weight if overweight**
- **Daily exercise – walking**
- **Limit sodium in your diet**

If you think you may have high blood pressure or have any questions, it is advisable to discuss this with your physician.

You're Getting a New MEDICARE CARD!



Between April 2018 and April 2019, Medicare will be removing Social Security numbers from Medicare cards and mailing each person a new card. This will help keep your information more secure and help protect your identity. You'll get a new Medicare Number that's unique to you, and it will only be used for your Medicare coverage. The new card won't change your coverage or benefits.