

# AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Fall 2018

Vol. XXIII No. 3

## Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2018.

Newspaper	14.22	#1 PET	3.12
Cardboard	22.37	#2 HDPE	1.73
Mixed Paper	45.62	#2 - #7 Plastic Mixed	1.62
Steel Cans	2.38	Aseptic Containers	0.59
Alum. Cans	0.33	Residuals	15.97
Mixed Glass	17.38	Total	125.32

\* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

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

4.45 tons of scrap metal through the dumpster program

•For questions concerning the "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. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwpfo@gmail.com)

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

Email: [amhersttwproads@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwproads@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: [amhersttwpzoning@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwpzoning@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: [amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com)

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

## Fire Prevention Officer

Wayne Eppley ..... 324-3921

Email: [amhersttwpfire@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwpfire@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:

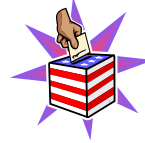
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at **7:00 p.m.**

Amherst Township Trustee Meetings may be viewed on Spectrum Cable Channel 1025. They will air for 7 days, running Mon-Mon, following the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Air times are at 9 am, 4 pm, & 10 pm. All airings are subject to change.

## 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.



## REMEMBER TO VOTE!



This year's general election will be on Tuesday, **November 6<sup>th</sup>**. 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>



### 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.

## 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.

## 2018

### FLU SHOT CLINICS

The Lorain County General Health District's Seasonal Flu Shot Clinics for 2018 will be held from Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. For Amherst Township residents, the closest clinic will be held on **Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Amherst VFW on 165 Cleveland St.**

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](http://www.loraincountyhealth.com)

To get more flu information by phone, contact the Flu Hotline at: [440-329-7926](tel:440-329-7926).

For other locations and opportunities to get your flu shot there is an interactive "2018 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](http://www.LorainCountyFlu.com)

## 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.

# **ISSUE 35**

## PROPOSED TAX LEVY (REPLACEMENT)

### AMHERST TOWNSHIP

A Majority Affirmative Vote Is Necessary For Passage.

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of Amherst Township for the purpose of Ambulance and Emergency Medical Service in the Unincorporated area of Amherst Township at a rate not exceeding 0.5 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to \$0.05 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2018, first due in calendar year 2019.

FOR THE TAX LEVY

AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

## **Ambulance and Emergency Medical Service**

### **0.5-mil Replacement Levy**

The First Responder and Emergency Medical Services in Amherst Township are funded through a 0.5-mil levy passed in 1988, and renewed in 1991 as a continuous levy. This levy no longer covers the cost of ambulance and emergency medical service, so a replacement 0.5-mil levy has been placed on the November 2018 ballot for voter consideration. The Lorain County Auditor has estimated that approval of the replacement levy would increase your **annual** property taxes by \$10.37 per \$100,000 in home value.

The City of Amherst and Amherst Township formed the Sandstone Joint Ambulance District in 1996. The ambulance district was formed to provide emergency medical services, quality care and quick response times for residents of the district. In December of 1999, South Amherst Village joined the district. The SJAD contracted with “North Central Emergency Management Services” for emergency medical service from 1999-2003. “LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.” has served as the contracted emergency medical service provider since 2004. The Amherst Fire Department provides First Responder medical assistance service to the township area north of the Ohio Turnpike, and the South Amherst Fire Department provides First Responder service south of the Turnpike.

The Sandstone Joint Ambulance District is represented by a board of trustees with appointees from the three political entities including: 2-Amherst Township appointees, 2-Amherst 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.

LifeCare Ambulance, and Amherst or South Amherst fire departments, respond to emergency calls when dispatched by 911 operators. Two ambulances are dedicated to serving the Sandstone Joint Ambulance District and are housed at LifeCare’s Amherst Park Avenue location.

The Sandstone Joint Ambulance District is of great benefit to township residents. Approval of the replacement levy will ensure continued fast, efficient, consistent, and excellent emergency services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from LifeCare and your Fire Department First Responders when you call 911.

# ROAD & DRAINAGE PROJECTS

## LCSWD MINI-GRANT

In 2017 Amherst Township applied for and received Lorain County Solid Waste District (LCSWD) “Mini-Grant” funding of \$5000 which was used to repair catch basins in Hidden Valley. The “Mini-Grant” funding was first available in 2017 and is to be used for storm water management projects, such as drainage, detention, and improvement of storm water system projects.

In 2018 Amherst Township once again applied for and received \$5000 of LCSWD “Mini-Grant” funding. The funding was used to clean and remove all debris on the north and south side of a Stang Road culvert as well as an additional 960 feet of ditch on the north side. This ditch is a tributary to the Engle ditch. The cleaning and clearing of this ditch and culvert will reduce erosion issues for adjoining properties, flooding of properties and roadway, on-lot wastewater treatment system overloading, loss of agricultural use, and sediment flow into the Beaver Creek watershed.

North side / looking East • North side / looking south/east • South side / looking North



↑ Before Photos ↑ • ↓ After Photos ↓



North side / looking East • North side / looking North • South side / looking East

LCSWD also offers “Community Grant” funding. Amherst Township was awarded partial funding for cleaning, clearing, and profiling of the Battenhouse and Engle ditches north of Stang Road. Work started in 2016. The work north of Stang Road should be completed by 2021. The work will then commence along the Battenhouse

Ditch south of Stang to the township’s southern border. The township continues to work with the property owners, the Lorain County Engineers office and the LCSWD on this multi-year flooding abatement project. Once completed, major flooding on the east side of the township should be greatly reduced.

## OPWC ROUND-32 (2018)



Aspen Drive



Deepwood Lane



Rice Road



Amherst Township received partial funding for its two 2018 road projects from the OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) Round-32 program. These projects included Hidden Valley concrete replacement and Rice Road resurfacing.

Funding details for these projects were listed in the Winter 2017 edition of the newsletter.

The Hidden Valley concrete replacement project consisted of 508 linear feet of roadway being replaced at a total cost of \$50,000.

The Rice Road project consisted of 3550 linear feet of roadway being repaired and resurfaced at a total cost of \$107,000.

## OPWC ROUND-33 (2019)

Amherst Township requested financial assistance for two road projects in 2019 from the OPWC Round-33 funding program. If approved, this financial assistance will include a combination of OPWC grant funds and 0% interest loan financing. Matching funds will be provided by Amherst Township and Lorain County. These projects include concrete replacement in Hidden Valley and repaving approximately half of Stang Road.

The Hidden Valley concrete replacement project will replace approximately 510 feet of roadway located on Hidden Tree Lane near the intersection of Graybark Lane. The estimated total cost of this project is \$60,000.

The Stang Road repaving project will be done as a joint project with the county and will include replacement of a bridge on Stang Road. Repaving of Stang Road will begin at the Oberlin Road intersection and continue easterly for approximately 3300 linear feet. The township and the county will see significant cost efficiencies and savings by combining the road resurfacing and bridge

replacement into one project. The estimated total cost of this project is \$344,000. Township and county matching funds will support this project.

### FUTURE PLANS

The township intends to apply for OPWC Round-34 grant funds for 2020 to be used to repave the remainder of Stang Road from West Ridge Road westerly for approximately 3400 linear feet.

Oberlin Road, north of Middle Ridge, was originally scheduled for resurfacing in 2019, but this project has been postponed, as the county might extend the sanitary sewer line northerly from the Kay Drive intersection to the SR2 overpass. Funding limitations might require resurfacing of this section of Oberlin Road in two phases. The first phase would include approximately 3600 feet from the Middle Ridge Road intersection northerly to the SR2 overpass. The second phase would include approximately 1300 feet from North Ridge Road southerly to the SR2 overpass. The township anticipates these projects to be constructed in 2021 and 2022 at a preliminary estimated cost of \$146,000 and \$48,000, respectively.



# TRICK OR TREAT



# Burning Prohibited



“Trick-or-Treat” in Amherst Township will be held on **Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 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 Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 4:00 – 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.

Please note that residents of Westwood Mobile Home Park will be observing “Trick-or-Treat” on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. They should check with management for the time. Residents of Amherst Trail Mobile Home Park will be notified by management of their date and time.

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 15<sup>th</sup>**, and continuing through **December 1<sup>st</sup>**, 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

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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.



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

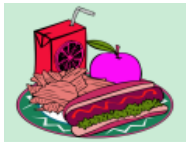
# Senior GAZETTE

Fall 2018

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



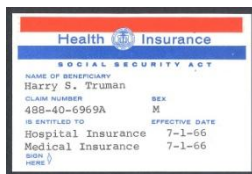
## Home-Delivered Meal Program



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**.

## 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.

**ATSSO OFFICE HOURS:**  
**8:00 A.M. – NOON (M-F)**  
**Phone: 988-5894 – Ext. 101**

Email: [amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com)

## MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

It's that time of year again! Open enrollment is October 15 thru December 7, 2018. ALL seniors who are on Medicare A and B should look at their prescription plan during open enrollment. It is the one time a year that you can make a change.

Information for 2019 should be arriving at your home any time now explaining the changes for next year. Prescription plan premiums, out of pocket costs and co pays change year to year. Medication classifications may change causing you to pay more for your maintenance medications. It is important to compare plans and see if simply changing plans and/or pharmacies can save you money. A simple change can possibly save you hundreds of dollars per year!

If you would like to have a comparison done, please call the office at **988-5894 ext. 101** for an appointment.

## LOW-INCOME SUBSIDY

Low Income Subsidy (LIS) is a Medicare program for individuals on limited incomes. This program helps to pay for your Medicare Part D prescription plan's premium, deductible, and co pays.

You will automatically qualify for "Extra Help" if you have one of the following:

- Both Medicare and Medicaid
- Medicare Part B premium help from the state
- Medicare and Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

You should apply for LIS if you have the following income and resources:

- Yearly income equal to or less than \$18,210 for individuals or \$24,690 for married couples living together.

If you already receive LIS please be aware that if your income or resources change, you may not automatically qualify for help next year.

## FRAUD ALERT

With Medicare Open enrollment approaching, seniors have been targeted with calls from companies trying to sell them "Medigap Insurance". If you are approached or called by a sales representative or insurance agent who tries to convince you to purchase a "Medigap" while you are already a Medicare Advantage client, this is a clear sign that the company is not reputable.

These companies will pressure you to buy a policy or lie in order to get you to switch to a new company. If you are considering changing policies, either contact the policy company directly or make an appointment with an insurance agent.

If you have come across a "Medigap" insurance provider who is dealing the policies in an illegitimate manner, be sure to report the issue to The Ohio Department of Insurance Fraud Hotline [at:](https://www.ohio.gov/insurance-fraud-hotline)

**1-800-686-1527**

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## CHOLESTEROL

Cholesterol is a waxy substance found in every cell of your body. It has important natural functions when it comes to digesting foods, producing hormones, and generating vitamin D. There are two types of cholesterol; **LDL** (bad) and **HDL** (good). Your body needs some cholesterol; however, it can build up on the walls of your arteries and lead to heart disease and stroke.

The American Heart Association recommends limiting saturated fat to 5 to 6 percent of total daily calories. Limiting red meat, full fat dairy, sugary foods and beverages can help lower your cholesterol.

A healthy diet of fruits, vegetables, poultry, fish, whole grains, and nuts is recommended. By increasing the fiber in your diet, it may be possible to lower bad cholesterol levels by 10% or more.

Switching out unhealthy foods for heart-healthy options and exercising a minimum of three times a week can help to keep cholesterol levels down to enhance heart health.

As you age, the development of chronic conditions and illness increase as does the need for individualized care.

As always, be sure to consult with your doctor to find the best course of treatment for you.