Recycling Report
Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 3rd quarter of 2019 through curbside pickup.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>13.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>20.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Paper</td>
<td>42.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Cans</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alum. Cans</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Glass</td>
<td>16.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 PET</td>
<td>2.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 HDPE</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 - #7 Plastic Mixed</td>
<td>1.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aseptic Containers</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residuals</td>
<td>14.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>117.59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

- 1.51 tons of various paper through the “ABITIBI Paper Retriever” program
- 3.51 tons of scrap metal through the dumpster program

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

“2020” Dumpster Days
Amherst Township has set the following dates for “Dumpster Days” in 2020:

April 23, 24, 25
October 1, 2, 3

Hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Please note: NO TIRES!
NO FREON!
NO PROPANE TANKS!

Drop-Off Hours for Yard Waste!!
Christmas Trees, 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 (Voicemail checked daily) ...... Ext. 103
   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 ............................. 370-5242

Amherst Twp Senior Services Office
Lynda Ashley ............................... Ext. 101
   Email: amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com
   Office Hours: Mon thru Fri – 8am to 12 Noon

Fire Prevention Officer
Chris Niehart .............................. 988-4117
   Email: amherstwpfire@gmail.com  (Ext. 509)

LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.
Pete or Herb de la Porte ............ 323-6111

Sheriff’s Department ............... 329-3710
   A.T. Community Policier: Matthew Lawson
   Dpt Lawson’s Non-Emergency/Voicemail ....... 329-3752
   Email: mlawson@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.

• COMING SOON: Amherst Township Trustee Meetings will be viewable online on the “Meetings” page of the Amherst Township website or through the “Amherst Township” channel on YouTube.

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.
STORMWATER: SPREAD IT OUT – SINK IT IN

What is Stormwater?
It's any natural precipitation that doesn't soak into the ground where it falls. When rain hits the hard, impervious surfaces associated with modern life (driveways, sidewalks, streets, rooftops, parking lots) it is channeled toward stormwater drainage systems or streams.

Stormwater Runoff Problems
• Large volumes of water can overwhelm storm drains and cause localized flooding.
• Runoff gathers sediment and pollutants, which can wind up in natural waterways.
• Water that doesn't soak into soil can't recharge local groundwater sources.

The EPA mantra for stormwater runoff management is: slow it down, spread it out, soak it in.

Don’t Drip and Drive
Fix car leaks to keep oil and gas from entering storm drains and flowing into our streams, rivers, and Lake Erie.

Gas Stain Removal
If the stains are fresh, pour an absorbent material on them, such as clay-type cat litter, sand, baking soda, or commercial absorbents found at auto-supply stores.

Carefully remove and dispose of the gas or oil-soaked material in an old coffee can with a lid.

Scrub any remaining stains with a paste of liquid or powdered dishwasher detergent and water, let stand for a few minutes, then rinse.

NEW REGULATIONS
FOR ON-LOT “SEPTIC SYSTEMS”

Beginning in 2022, all household sewage treatment systems (or “septic systems”) will be required to obtain an “Operation Permit” through Lorain County Public Health (LCPH) as part of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Program required by the State of Ohio. The O&M program protects local water quality by tracking and monitoring the proper operation and maintenance of these sewage treatment systems. The Operation Permit fee (currently $25.00 annually) covers water sampling activities, homeowner education, response to sewage nuisances in the community, tracking of pumping and service record data, quality assurance of local contractors, and the administration of the program.

Some sewage treatment systems are already enrolled in this program (new, replaced, altered, and inspected systems), and remaining existing systems will receive an “Operation Permit” application in the mail in 2022. Homeowners with a household sewage treatment system, or septic system, not connected to a municipal sewer are required to complete the application and submit the fee. Longer permit periods and electronic billing and permitting are being researched to make this process easier. Town hall meetings will be offered in locations across Lorain County in 2020 and 2021 prior to the full implementation of this program.

If you have questions regarding the O&M Program or the “Operation Permit”, please call Lorain County Public Health at (440)-322-6367.

Visit their website at: www.LorainCountyHealth.com

Contact them by e-mail at: contact@loraincountyhealth.com
NEW FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER

The Amherst Township Board of Trustees has approved the appointment of Chris Niehart, a member of the Amherst City Fire Department, as the Amherst Township Fire Prevention Officer (FPO). Because the township has contracted with the City of Amherst to provide firefighting services, the Trustees deemed it prudent to have an employee of the Amherst City Fire Department act as Fire Prevention Officer for the township.

The Ohio Revised Code requires townships to appoint a Fire Prevention Officer. An FPO must have fire safety knowledge, be available to answer resident’s questions and perform fire safety inspections of businesses, group homes, foster homes, etc. Duties of an FPO encompass those of a fire chief and include fire protection services.

As the Township’s Fire Prevention Officer, Chris is able to regulate acceptable open burning that is allowable by the Ohio EPA and Ohio Fire Codes. Many types of allowable fires in the past are now banned by those two agencies. It is best to contact Chris if in doubt. Illegal burning can be very expensive to the township due to fire department responses. Chris can inspect new and existing commercial construction and remodeling to assist if proper code regulations are being followed. He also assists in the investigation of fires in the township, when needed.

We would like to welcome Chris to the township. For any fire safety related questions, please feel free to contact him by phone at the Amherst Fire Department at:

988-4117 (Ext. 509)

or by using the township’s FPO email at:

amhersttwpfire@gmail.com

A Note from Sr. Service Director, Lynda Ashley…

In reference to the Sr. Gazette article about “Social Security Scams”, I receive the most phone calls on this very issue, asking “if it’s true” or “if it’s a scam”. They are repetitive calls and the elderly get scared.

If you receive any phone call requesting your information, no matter how basic – DO NOT divulge any information over the phone UNLESS you have initiated the call to your physician, insurance company, or pharmacy.

Please do not call back numbers left on a phone message from solicitors, even those that claim to be from Social Security or the IRS. These numbers are NOT the numbers associated with the actual IRS or Social Security.
Many thanks to Amherst Township Road Superintendent Kevin Smarsh for taking these photos during the Stang Road Bridge Replacement Project!! The new bridge will improve the flow of storm water, minimize localized erosion and improve safety for those that travel over this bridge.

Watch for next quarter’s newsletter that will have an article about the bridge replacement and resurfacing of Stang Road.
HOLIDAY RECYCLING GUIDE

Not all paper belongs in your recycling bin. Paper towels, napkins, plates, and cups should be disposed of in trash cans.

Placing the wrong items in recycling is a big problem. It prevents the correct material from being recycled and increases maintenance, downtime, and landfill disposal, driving up the cost of recycling.


Recent audits at Rumpke recycling facilities show that nearly one out of every four items placed in recycling containers isn’t accepted in Rumpke’s recycling programs. For information about Rumpke and their recycling service, visit their website at: www.rumpke.com

Also see the article “Tips to Better Recycling” in the Summer 2018 edition of the Amherst Township Newsletter. Previous newsletters can be viewed on the Amherst Township website.

The following “Holiday Recycling Guide” was taken from the Lorain County Solid Waste Consortium December Newsletter. The Lorain County Trash and Recycling Consortium is a group of twelve (12) communities that work together to keep trash, recycling, and yard waste services affordable and fair to both residents and their communities. Amherst Township is part of this Consortium.

Reuse or Donate (or Trash)

Trash

Recycle

Wrapping Paper with lamination, glitter, metallics, velvet, texture

Cards with lamination, glitter, metallics, velvet, texture

Tissue Paper

Plastic Wrap, Bubble Wrap, Plastic Envelopes, Plastic Bags

Single-use Dishware

Wrapping Paper and Bags with NO glitter, metallics, velvet, texture

Cards and Envelopes with NO glitter, metallics, velvet, texture

Cardboard Boxes
**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.

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**Christmas Tree Disposal**

Amherst Township residents may bring their live Christmas Trees 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) Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Residents may also leave live trees on their lawn near the road. The township road crew will be picking up these trees **Thur., Dec 26th thru Fri., Jan 17th**.

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**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.**

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Amherst Township
7530 Oberlin Road
Elyria, OH 44035
www.amhersttownship.us
Clarification on Reissuance of Medicare Numbers

Many of you have heard that a group of Medicare beneficiaries recently received new Medicare numbers from CMS because of a “breach” of some sort. **This was not a breach of data.** It was actually a proactive step that CMS took after recent enforcement actions and a great example of the benefit we gain from the new cards. It is nice to see CMS using their ability to issue new cards in a proactive manner such as this. Here is the note from CMS providing more details:

“As the result of recent fraud takedowns, CMS identified a group of beneficiaries whose Medicare numbers were being fraudulently used to bill Medicare for unnecessary medical equipment and services. To protect them from Medicare fraud, they received new cards with new Medicare number with an accompanying letter that explained the situation and next steps.”

The majority of beneficiaries should have received their new cards by the end of last week. This should not impact their access to care or ability to enroll in Medicare plans during Open Enrollment. People who have concerns or experience a problem should call **1-800-MEDICARE** for assistance.

When people with Medicare receive their new card in the mail, it is important that they:

- Securely destroy their old card with the compromised Medicare number.
- Share their new Medicare number with their health care providers.
- Start using their new Medicare card right away.
- Protect their Medicare number just like a credit card.

*Part B premium is based on income, some may pay more.*

ATSSO OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 A.M. – NOON (M-F)  
Phone: 988-5894 – Ext. 101  
Email: amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com

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**MEDICARE CHANGES**

Medicare Part A and B deductibles will increase beginning January 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part:</th>
<th>For 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inpatient deductible</td>
<td>$1408.00 per benefit period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Co Pay:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-90 days</td>
<td>$352.00/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-150 days</td>
<td>$704.00/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Premium:</td>
<td>$144.60*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deductible:</td>
<td>$198.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co pays:</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled Nursing Co pay:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days 21-100</td>
<td>$176.00/day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Home-Delivered Meal Program**

ATSSO provides home-delivered meals for those over 60 and disabled adults over 18, with a cost that is adjusted according your income. This nutritious, hot lunch program includes your choice of an entrée, soup & sandwich, soup & salad, or soup. If you would like to receive a home-delivered meal or need more information, please contact the Senior Service Office at 988-5894, ext101.
Beware of Social Security Scams!!

Social Security phone scams are the #1 type of fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission and Social Security. Over the past year, these scams — misleading victims into making cash or gift card payments to avoid arrest for Social Security number problems — have skyrocketed. Social Security encourages you to use the new online form (see box) to report Social Security phone scams to disrupt the scammers and help us reduce this type of fraud, and reduce the number of victims.

“We are taking action to raise awareness and prevent scammers from harming Americans,” said Andrew Saul, Commissioner of Social Security. “I am deeply troubled that our country has not been able to stop these crooks from deceiving some of the most vulnerable members of our society.”

Social Security employees will occasionally contact you by telephone or mail for business purposes if you have ongoing business with the agency. However, Social Security employees will not:

- Tell you that your Social Security number has been suspended.
- Contact you to demand an immediate payment.
- Ask you for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Require a specific means of debt repayment, like a prepaid debit card, a retail gift card, or cash.
- Demand that you pay a Social Security debt without the ability to appeal the amount you owe.
- Promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money.

Remember that Social Security employees will never threaten you. If there’s a problem with your Social Security record, Social Security will mail you a letter. If Social Security needs you to submit payments, the agency will provide instructions in the letter, including options to make those payments.

“Awareness is our best hope to thwart the scammers,” said Gail Ennis, Inspector General for Social Security. “Tell your friends and family about them and report them to us when you receive them, but most importantly, just hang up and ignore the call and protect their Medicare number just like a credit card.

To report a Social Security phone scam go to the “Office of the Inspector General’s” website at:

www.oig.ssa.gov

Once there look under:

“Report Fraud, Waste, or Abuse”

Then select “Submit a Report” and click on the box that says:

Report Social Security Phone Scams