

# AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Winter 2020

Vol. XXV No. 4

## Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020 through curbside pickup.

Newspaper	13.97	#1 PET	3.07
Cardboard	21.98	#2 HDPE	1.70
Mixed Paper	44.82	#2 - #7 Plastic Mixed	1.59
Steel Cans	2.34	Aseptic Containers	0.58
Alum. Cans	0.32	Residuals	15.69
Mixed Glass	17.08	Total	123.12

\* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

- 1.29 tons of various paper through the “ABITIBI Paper Retriever” program
- There were no dumpster days in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, therefore no scrap metal.

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

## “2021” Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for “Dumpster Days” in 2021.

**April 15, 16, 17**

**October 14, 15, 16**

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. 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)

Zoning Inspector (Voicemail checked daily) ..... **Ext. 103**

Remi Cerrone, Zoning Inspector

Email: [amhersttwpzoning@gmail.com](mailto: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**..... (work cell) 370-5242

## Twp Administrator/Senior Service Office

**Lynda Ashley** ..... **Ext. 101**

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

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

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

## Fire Prevention Officer

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

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

## LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

**Dave Richards**..... 323-6111

## Sheriff’s Department ..... 329-3710

A.T. Community Policing Officer: **Matthew Lawson**

Dpt Lawson’s Non-Emergency/Voicemail .....329-3752

Email: [mlawson@loraincountysheriff.com](mailto:mlawson@loraincountysheriff.com)

## 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.**

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

# CARES ACT – CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (**CARES**) Act was passed by Congress with overwhelming, bipartisan support and signed into law by President Trump on March 27th, 2020. Small local governments like Amherst Township received federal CARES funds through Ohio HB481 and SB357. Amherst Township received a total of \$329,929 in CARES Act funding through four separate distributions from the middle of July through late November, the largest distribution of \$207,314 being received in the middle of October. The Ohio legislation required these funds to be encumbered by late November and spent by the end of December 2020 for eligible materials, services and projects. The majority of these funds were used for Fire and First Responder Emergency Medical Services.

The CARES Act required that the payments from the Coronavirus Relief Funds (**CRF**) only be used to cover expenses that:

- Were necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19;
- Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020; and
- Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

The Trustees sought direction from these sources to ensure compliance with the above 3 requirements:

- Lorain County Prosecutor, obtaining written opinions;
- Ohio Office of Budget Management; and
- U.S. Treasury Guidelines

It took a tremendous amount of effort with a very short timeline to create and define these projects. It was challenging finding contractors that would be able to complete these projects on short notice as well as being able to obtain the supplies for these projects. Many of the supplies were in high demand due to COVID-19 as well as having the supply chain negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Residents should be proud of the work that their township employees and elected officials did to ensure all allotted **CRF** tax dollars were used for the benefit of Amherst Township residents. If these funds had not been used in our township, or spent by the legislative deadlines, the funds would be

either redistributed to other Lorain County communities or returned to the U.S. Treasury.

Following is a summary of the **CRF** projects:

**Fire and First Responder Services:** U.S. Treasury presumed work performed by these employees to be a substantially different use than accounted for in the most recent budget and all costs of these employees may be covered using CRF from March 1 to December 30, 2020.

**Ambulance Subgrant:** This subgrant to LifeCare will be used for equipment to decontaminate, disinfect and sanitize equipment and areas. It also includes a Lucus heart CPR machine and K95 masks. Amherst City and South Amherst are part of this sub grant which was portioned by population.

**Park Pavilion, Walk/Bike Path, & Parking Lot:** To encourage social distancing and outdoor activity, a pavilion was constructed and 2 concrete pads were poured to allow for an additional 8 picnic tables at the MRR Township Park. For safety issues, the leveling, crack sealing, and overall seal coating of the trail and parking lot were expedited due to increased usage.

**Yard Waste Surveillance System:** To allow for non-contact monitoring of the Yard Waste Drop Off area. Cameras will be equipped with a sound system to facilitate verbal communication as well as visual observation.

**Video/Audio Equipment for Meetings:** To allow for public viewing and/or participation in Public Hearings and at Public Meetings.

**Telework:** To give employees the ability to work remotely from home.

**Generator Installation:** Amherst Township has been designated as an Emergency Shelter by the Red Cross. NOPEC grant funds have paid for ¾ of this project. The remaining ¼ was paid with CRF in order to complete this project in 2020.

**Cleaning and No Touch Equipment:** This project included alternate cleaning source, deep cleaning of the Township Hall, and No-Touch Soap & Towel Dispensers, Faucets, and Light Switches.

**Air Cleaner for Township Hall**

**Internal Labor & Administrative Costs**

# CARES ACT – CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS



To protect the health of our residents and employees, an outside contractor handled the October “Dumpster Days” event. Residents were asked to remain in their vehicles and allow the outside service to move their scrap items.



Repair and repaving of the Walking/Biking Path and parking lot at the Township Park.

## **Distribution Summary of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF)**

<b><u>Date</u></b> <b><u>(Approx)</u></b>	<b><u>Authorizing</u></b> <b><u>Ohio Legislation</u></b>	<b><u>Distribution</u></b> <b><u>Formula</u></b>	<b><u>Total Available</u></b> <b><u>Funding</u></b>	<b><u>Funding to</u></b> <b><u>Amherst Twp</u></b>
July 14	Ohio HB481	Local Gov	\$350-million	\$ 77,532.45
Sept. 1	Ohio Controlling Board	Local Gov	\$175-million	\$ 38,766.22
Oct. 13	Ohio HB 614 (formerly SB357)	Population	\$650-million	\$207,313.64
Nov. 25	<u>County</u> Redistribution of Returned CARES Funds	Population	\$443,153.63	\$ 6,316.87
<b>Total Funding Amount:</b>			\$1,175,443,154	\$329,929.18



# CARES ACT – CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS



**Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** – Two large Maple Trees removed and one tree trimmed



**Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>** – Gravel base constructed



**Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Holes dug and posts set



**Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>** – Framing & roof done  
Shingles started



**Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>** – Concrete poured, including two 10'x12' pads for picnic tables in shaded areas of the park →



**Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Installation of siding on gables; headers, posts, & angle braces covered with Azek & VersaWrap



# CARES ACT – CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS



**Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>** – Ribbed, steel barn siding installed on ceiling



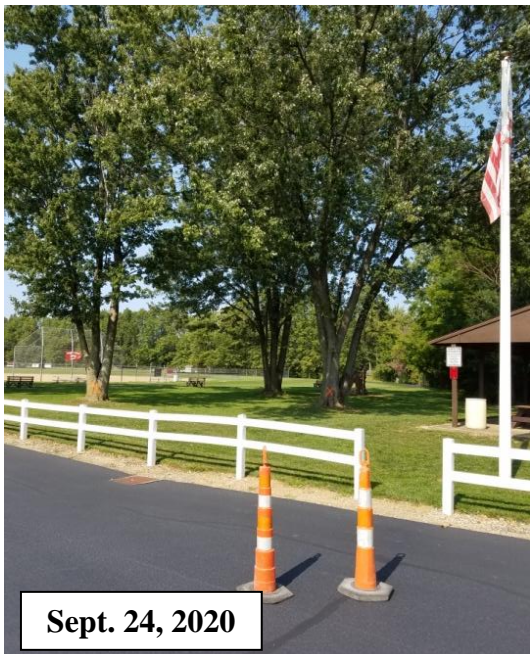
**Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Painting is complete



**Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Gutters installed;  
**Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>** – Topsoil spread, seeded, and covered



**Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>** – Picnic tables added to the Pavilion (left) and on two pads (right)



**Sept. 24, 2020**

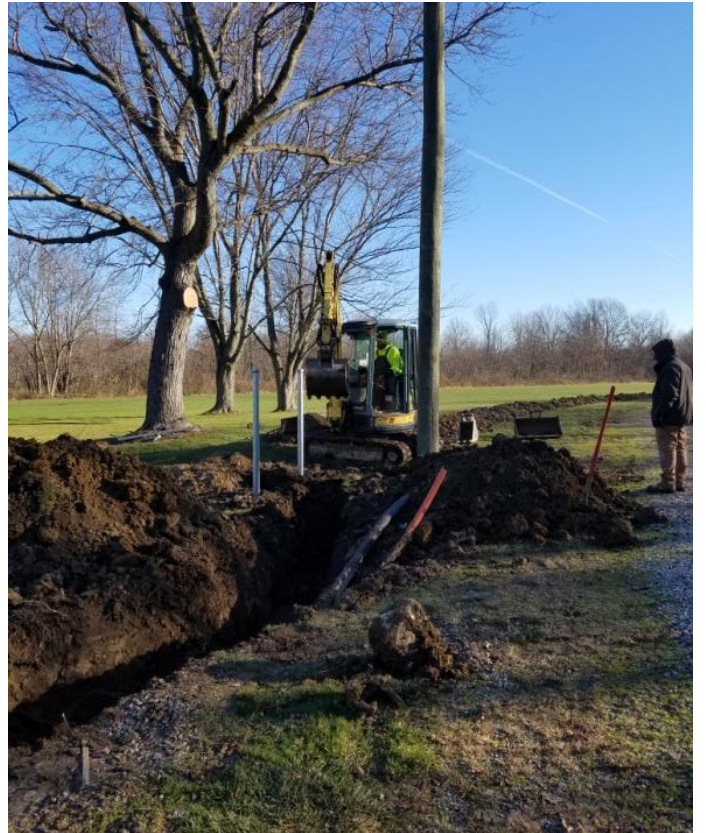


**Dec. 9, 2020**

“Before and After” pictures of the 28’ x 40’ x 9’ Open Air Shelter at the Township Park. It was a monumental feat to accomplish this project considering the short funding notice and deadlines, in addition to the late start date with the potential of inclement weather. Fortunately the construction company had an open time period and they were able to procure highly sought after supplies. The availability of all the various contractors and the cooperation of the weather allowed this project to be completed.



# CARES ACT – CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS



New lighting and cameras are being installed at the Township “Yard Waste” Recycling Center. The cameras will be equipped with a sound system so employees can safely communicate with users remotely, verifying their residency and drop off of only acceptable materials. Recorded video will be stored for a period of time and can be accessed and reviewed if needed.





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

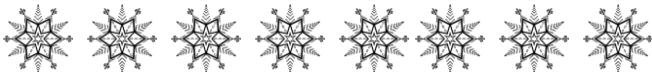
Email: [amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com](mailto:amhersttwpseniors@gmail.com)

## 2021 MEDICARE CHANGES

Medicare Part A and B deductibles will increase beginning January 2021.

Part:		For 2021	
<b>A</b>	Inpatient deductible	\$1484.00 per benefit period	
	Hospital Co Pay:	61-90 days	\$371.00/day
		90-150 days	\$742.00/day
<b>B</b>	*Premium:	\$148.50*	
	Deductible:	\$203.00	
	Co pays:	20%	
Skilled Nursing Co pay:	Days 21-100	\$185.50/day	

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



## 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.



**1-mil  
5-year**



## Road Levy Renewal

A 1-mil 5-year Road and Bridge Levy renewal will appear on the May 15, 2021 Primary ballot. This levy was first approved by the residents of Amherst Township in November of 2011 and again in March of 2016. Upon approval of the levy in 2011, the Amherst Township Board of Trustees reduced the collection of an existing Fire and EMS levy to ensure no tax increase would be experienced by property owners in Amherst Township.

Approval of this levy renewal will not increase property taxes, but will provide \$123,413 for the reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of roads and bridges in Amherst Township pursuant to Ohio Revised Cod 5705.19(G).



Residents should contact **RUMPKE** directly if they have issues with their pickup service. Their contact number is always listed on the front page of this newsletter. **1-800-828-8171**

Amherst Fire Dept's Response To Amherst Township	3rd Quarter 2020	
<b>Fire Calls (N of Turnpike):</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
<b>Fire Calls (N of Turnpike):</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
<b>EMS-First Responder (N):</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>31.5%</b>
<b>EMS-First Responder (S):</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33.0%</b>
<b>Total Calls:</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100%</b>

# 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.



# 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 26<sup>th</sup> thru Mon., Jan 25<sup>th</sup>**.



## 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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Printed on Recycled Paper

Amherst Township  
7530 Oberlin Road  
Elyria, OH 44035  
[www.amhersttownship.us](http://www.amhersttownship.us)

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

**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.**