

AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Fall 2022

Vol. XXVII No. 3

Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 2nd quarter of 2022 through curbside pickup.

Newspaper	0.00	#1 PET	5.82
Cardboard	26.78	#2 HDPE Natural	1.16
Mixed Paper	40.75	# HDPE Color	1.16
Steel Cans	2.33	#3 - #7 Plastic Mixed	0.00
Alum. Cans	2.33	Residuals	19.79
Mixed Glass	16.30	Total	116.44

* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

- 3.25 tons of various paper through the Royal Oak Recycling “Paper Retriever” bin
- 4.66 tons of scrap metal through the dumpster program.

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

“2022” Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for “Dumpster Days” in 2022.

October 20, 21, 22

Hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Please note: **NO FREON or PROPANE TANKS!**

***NO TIRES or HAZARDOUS WASTE!**

*Tires and Hazardous Waste are not accepted. Please take these items to LC Collection Center & Tire Sites! For a list of their acceptable and prohibited items visit: www.loraincountyohio.gov (Government/Departments/Solid Waste Management District/Lorain County Collection Center)

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.

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 **Ext. 103**
Sam D’Ambrosio, Zoning Inspector
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..... (work cell) 370-5242

Twp Administrator/Senior Service Office

Lynda Ashley **Ext. 101**
Email: amhersttwp@gmail.com
Office Hours: Mon thru Fri – 8am to 12 Noon

Fire Prevention Officer

Chris Niehart(cell) 597-0005
Email: amhersttwpfire@gmail.com

LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

Richard Pozywak 323-6111

Sheriff’s Department 329-3710

A.T. Community Policing Officer: **Brandon Bargaheiser**
Dpt. Bargaheiser’s Non-Emergency/Voicemail 329-3752
Email: bbargaheiser@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.**

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

OPWC “ROUND 36” **GRANTS APPROVED!**

The Amherst Township Board of Trustees, acting as the lead agency, and the City of Amherst entered into a cooperative agreement for the apportionment of the cost to resurface South Dewey Road from Park Avenue to North Ridge Road. The township is responsible for 74.15% of the project and the City of Amherst is responsible for 25.85% of the project. The trustees applied for and were awarded “Round 36” OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) Grant assistance. This project will consist of **\$65,081** in grant funds, **\$12,397** in a 0% interest 12-year term OPWC loan, and **\$31,026.25** in local funds. The bid was awarded to Precision Paving of Milan, Ohio. Construction of this project is anticipated to be completed in 2022.

The City of Amherst is partnering with Amherst Township and the Lorain County Engineer’s Office on the “Middle Ridge Road Improvements” project. Beginning at the western corporation line of the City of Amherst and east to Elyria Avenue the project covers 1.76 miles or 9,340 linear feet of Middle Ridge Road, excluding a small section within Amherst Township which was recently repaved. Improvements include resurfacing, intermittent full depth repairs, storm sewer extensions, culvert replacement and extension, guardrail upgrades, casting adjustments, pavement striping, and ADA ramp improvements. The County Engineer desires to replace Bridge #0423 which is 0.4 miles east of Pyle S. Amherst Road. Bid advertisement and award should happen between December 2022 and January 2023, with construction anticipated to take place between March and September of 2023.

OPWC “ROUND 37”

Amherst Township has submitted two projects for OPWC “Round 37” Grant assistance. One application is for “Moss Canyon Drive Concrete Replacement”. This project includes approximately 242-foot full width of concrete roadway at and near the intersection of Fieldstone Drive. The \$90,000 estimate includes **\$36,600** in grant funds, **\$16,500** in a 0% interest 20-year term OPWC loan, and **\$36,900** in local funds. This project is expected to be bid, awarded, and constructed in 2023.

The other application is for “Oberlin Road Resurfacing – Middle Ridge Road to North Ridge Road”. This project includes approximately 5,100 feet of roadway at an estimated cost of \$246,000 with **\$121,800** in grant funds, **\$23,200** in a 0% interest 12-year term OPWC loan, and **\$101,000** in local funds. The township has applied for ARPA Grant funds from the Lorain County Commissioners who have committed to provide funding to assist the township in matching funds for the repaving of Oberlin Road. This project is expected to be bid, awarded, and constructed in 2023.

Amherst Township is still waiting on a response for other ARPA Grants submitted to the Lorain County Commissioners. These grant applications include funding to pay for cost incurred by existing property owners that are mandated to connect to “Lorain County Sanitary Sewer Extension Projects” along Oberlin, Middle Ridge, and West Ridge Roads and also 50% of cost incurred to make emergency repairs to (2) two catch basins in Hidden Valley.

LCSWD Grant Approved! **2022 Battenhouse Ditch Restoration**

The Lorain County Storm Water Advisory Committee (SWAC), representing the Lorain County Storm Water District (LCSWD) managed by the Lorain County Commissioners, has reviewed projects related to Storm Water improvements since 2011, with \$400,000 being budgeted for 2022 projects in the unincorporated areas of Lorain County. In 2015, Amherst Township began planning for the restoration of the Battenhouse Ditch and its tributaries (e.g. Engle Ditch). Due to the large scope of this project, the restoration has been divided into phases, with the township applying for funding every year since 2015.

After meeting with the L.C. Engineer and LCSWD personnel, the project scope for the next phase of the Battenhouse Ditch Restoration was determined to be an approximate length of 2,025 to 3,900 feet running from the culvert under Middle Ridge Road to the Lakeshore Railroad. The estimated cost of this project is \$88,981 which will include \$71,185 of LCSWD Grant Funds as well as a 20% match of township funds, material, equipment and labor. On May 13th the township was notified that the grant request was being fully funded. Due to funding uncertainty, construction won’t be until 2023.

Zoning Inspector Retires

Remi Cerrone started working for Amherst Township as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) serving from 2001 through the end of 2011, when he accepted the position of Zoning Inspector. Remi has since served as Zoning Inspector through the beginning of June 2022 when he announced his desire to retire. After assisting Sam through his first few weeks as the new Zoning Inspector, Remi was appointed to the Zoning Commission to fulfill Jim McCann’s vacated position on the Zoning Commission. We would like to thank Remi for his years 10½ of service as the Amherst Township Zoning Inspector.



New Zoning Inspector

Sam D’Ambrosio was hired as the new Zoning Inspector as of June 18, 2022. Sam previously served on the BZA from June 2014 through July 2019. Sam has over 30-years experience in the construction trades, 5-years in construction management and 10-years as a residential and commercial inspector. Sam has lived in the township for the past 14 years with his wife and their four children.



Sam is looking forward to serving the community in his new position. The office hours for the Zoning Inspector will remain the same, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. He can be contacted by phone at **988-5894 x103** where voice mail is available or he can be contacted by email at amhersttwpzoning@gmail.com.

Zoning Commission Board

- Lonnie Dillon – Chairman
- Jim Conrady – Vice Chair
- Hank Harsar – Member
- Remi Cerrone – Member
- Darryl Saladin – Member
- Colin Serne – Alt I & Sec.
- Geno Taliano – Alternate II

Board of Zoning Appeals

- Bill Latrany – Chairman
- Steve Ostrolencki – Vice Chair
- Ron Friend – Secretary
- Randy Haring – Member
- Bruce Hills – Member
- Esther Arroyo – Alternate I
- Jeremy Watson – Alternate II

Amherst Township would like to welcome **Jeremy Watson** to the “BZA” as an Alternate.

We would also like to thank **Rose Betchker** for her **18+ years** of service on the “BZA” where she has served as a board member, an alternate member, and secretary.

We would also like to thank **Jim McCann** for his 7 years of service as a board member on the Zoning Commission where he also served as secretary.

LORAIN COUNTY COLLECTION CENTER

The Lorain County Collection Center is currently open three days per week.

Mondays: 9am – 3pm
Wednesday: 12pm – 6pm
Saturdays: 9am – 3pm

The Lorain County Collection Center is located at:
540 S. Abbe Rd., Elyria.

The Lorain Tire Site, located at 114 E 35th Street, Lorain will be open on Tuesdays from 9am to 1pm. The Grafton Tire Site located at 17109 Avon Belden Rd, Grafton will be open on Saturdays from 9am to 1pm.

All hours/days are subject to change for all sites. Please check the website for current schedule & Holiday closures.

Collection Center Participation Guidelines:

1. New entrance located in south parking lot
2. Pack materials in truck bed or car trunk
3. Do not place next to personal belongings
4. Stay in vehicle at all times
5. No smoking permitted
6. Provide proof of Lorain County residency (ID)
7. Vehicle height limitation of 8 feet

For more information about specific materials, costs, or other programs that Lorain County Solid Waste District provides, call (440) 329-5440 or visit their website at:

www.loraincountyohio.gov

(Government>Departments>Solid Waste Management District)



From the Sheriff's Office

Amherst Township's new Community Policing Officer is Deputy Brandon Bargaheiser. His contact information is now listed on the front page and is for non-emergency communications. (This contact information is also on the township's website under Depts/Emergency Services.) Residents can send an email or leave a voice mail for Deputy Bargaheiser to report issues or problem areas in your community. Sharing of this information may have an impact in solving some of their open cases. If you prefer anonymity, you can leave a message for Deputy Bargaheiser by calling his office voicemail at 329-3752.

Please note that if you need immediate police response you should dial "911". You can contact the sheriff's dispatch at 329-3710 or call 323-1212 from your cell phone without being charged for the call.



Reminder From the Sheriff



Operators of snowmobiles and 4-wheelers are reminded that they need permission to be on private property. Most riders are law abiding and respectful of others' property. However, many do not know that farmers' fields are often prepped before winter arrives, and sometimes they are planted as well. Some criminal laws that may be charged under this negligence are Criminal Damaging, Vandalism, or Prohibited Acts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Sheriff by calling the "Community Policing Officer" Office at 329-3752. Please leave a message stating your name and a return number where you can be reached. This number is not monitored 24 hours a day. You may also contact Deputy Bargaheiser by email at:

bbargaheiser@loraincountysheriff.com



OBERLIN ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - 2023

The Office of Lorain County Engineer Ken Carney is currently in the process of collecting survey data and completing environmental studies to complete the construction documents associated with the replacement of Oberlin Road Bridge No. 0644 in Amherst Township. The bridge is located approx. 0.55 miles north of SR113 on Oberlin Road.

Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2023 and will involve detours to facilitate the work. Additional right of way will not be required to construct the project. The estimated cost of the improvement is \$500,000 of which 100% is being funded through a grant from the federal highway administration.

Wreaths across America

The mission of “Wreaths across America” is to Remember, Honor, and Teach by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

Our local group (OH0333) will be at the Amherst Township cemetery locations, Kendeigh Corner Cemetery (OHKNCC) and Middle Ridge Cemetery (OHMRCT), as well as Ridge Hill Memorial Park in Amherst Township and other local cemeteries, to Remember and Honor Veterans by placing wreaths on **December 17, 2022**. If you would like to “Sponsor Wreaths” or “Volunteer” to sign up for placing wreaths, please visit their website at:

www.wreathscrossamerica.org.

In the menu, search for the group or cemetery of your preference. One wreath will be matched for every two wreaths donated.

You can also find more information on the local **Facebook** page at “Wreaths Across America – Amherst, Amherst Twp., Lorain, South Amherst”.



Amherst Fire Dept’s Response To Amherst Township	2 nd Quarter 2022	
Fire Calls (N of Turnpike):	14	14.1%
Fire Calls (S of Turnpike):	6	6.1%
EMS-First Responder (N):	55	55.6%
EMS-First Responder (S):	24	24.2%
Total Calls:	99	100%

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

Amherst Township residents can receive Lorain County Emergency Alerts and Public Service Announcements. This countywide “Wireless Emergency Notification System” (WENS) enables the County as well as individual jurisdictions within the county to notify residents of pertinent information such as boil alerts, weather alerts, evacuation warnings, and more by way of voice, text, or email.

Because township residents receive utilities from a variety of providers, you may want to select cities that correspond to where you receive your utilities, or your Lorain County work location if applicable.

To sign up for this service and to choose the alerts you want, go to the website listed below:

https://entry.inspironlogistics.com/lorain_oh/wens.cfm

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

Email: amhersttwp@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.

Medicare Open Enrollment dates for 2022 are from Oct 15th through Dec 7th. If you would like to have a comparison done or discuss your options, please call the office for an appointment.

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 Sam D’Ambrosio, 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.



REMEMBER
TO VOTE!



This year’s general election will be on Tuesday, **November 8th**. Early voting begins October 12th.

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://voteloraincountyohio.gov>



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.

Preparing for Winter

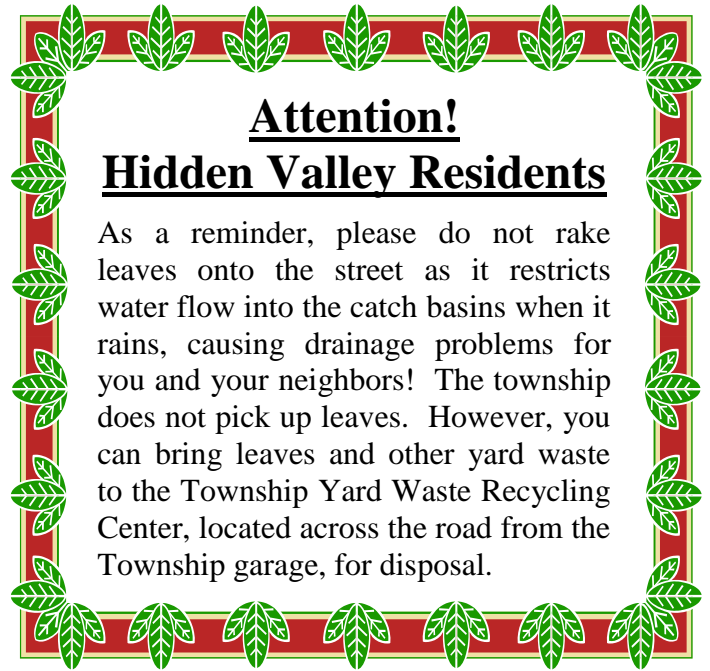
Before the snow falls and the plows are out, residents should check their **mailbox posts**. Rotted posts will cause the mailbox to break if the snow becomes too heavy.

While the township's plow drivers take every precaution to avoid broken mailboxes, sometimes it does occur. Please note, **IF** the mailbox is broken due to the township plowing the road **AND** there is **NO** evidence of a rotted post, the township will replace the mailbox with a standard-type box. **IF** the post is rotted **OR** it is hit by a vehicle or any other damage not sustained from our plows, Amherst Township is **NOT** responsible for replacement.

If you live on a County or State owned road, you should contact the County or ODOT concerning your mailbox. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the township office at 988-5894 ext. 101.

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.



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.

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 15th**, and continuing through **December 1st**, 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.

WHAT IS YARD WASTE?

Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, tree and shrub trimmings, and plant materials from vegetable and flower gardens.

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.

He can be contacted by phone at **440-597-0005** or by email at amhersttwpfire@gmail.com.

SANDSTONE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Sandstone Development is a PDD (Planned Development District) located in Amherst Township. It is approximately 264.23 acres and is located between SR58 and Oberlin Road, just south of the Ohio Turnpike.

The development consists of 4 different areas, developed off of a connector road tying together SR 58 to the west and Oberlin Road to the east, to be called "Sandstone Parkway". Additionally running between SR 58 and Oberlin Road will be a walking trail, constructed to the south of Sandstone Parkway. This trail will tie all four (4) areas together, allowing for easy walkability between developments.

The first area contains about 54.3 acres. It will be commercially development and will be located off of Sandstone Parkway, nearest to SR 58.

The second area contains about 30 acres. It will be developed residentially as "Age-Targeted Rental Units" and will be located to the north of Sandstone Parkway. This area is proposed to contain 205 units and to be developed by Redwood Living, who will maintain all of the units as well as all of the roads, which will be privately owned.

The third area contains about 86 acres. It will be developed and subdivided into 263 "Age-Restricted" single family residential homes to be known as Four Seasons at Sandstone by K. Hovnanian Homes.

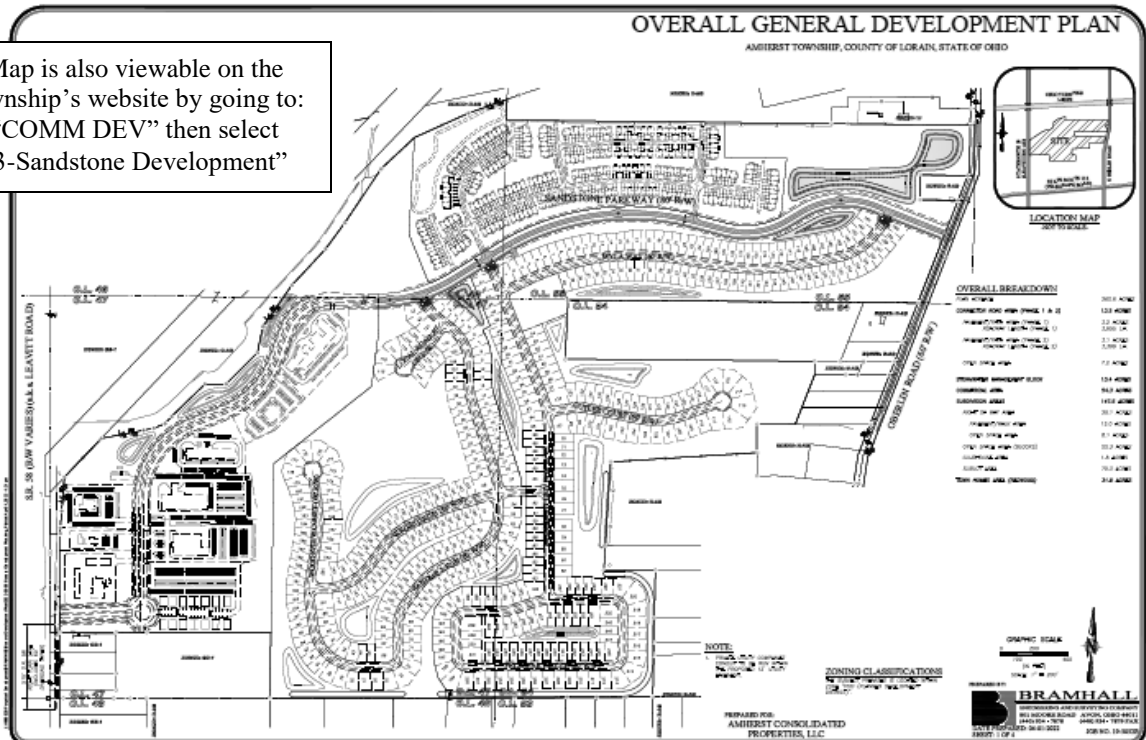
These homes will be owner occupied and marketed to the active adult. The roads in this area will be owned and maintained by the township but will have its own Home Owners Association. This association will have the responsibility to maintain all of the common ground as well as a club house and additional amenities.

The fourth remaining area contains about 62 acres. It will be developed and subdivided into 194 single family residential homes. This area will be called Sandstone Mill, and the builder will be Ryan Homes. The roads in this area will be owned and maintained by the township but will have its own Home Owners Association with the responsibility to maintain all common grounds.

The Developer is working with the Lorain County Metro Parks to include a Trail Head in the vicinity of SR58 and the Ohio Turnpike. This trail head will establish an area where bikers in the region can park and ride, either towards Amherst to the north or along a proposed all-purpose trail planned to be located along the "Lake Shore Railroad" which will connect Wellington to Amherst/Amherst Township.

To help traffic mobility and lessen the chance for traffic accidents, there are plans for a north-bound, left turn lane on Oberlin Road, as well as a turning lane and lights at SR 58.

Map is also viewable on the township's website by going to: "COMM DEV" then select "3-Sandstone Development"





TRICK OR TREAT



“Trick-or-Treat” in Amherst Township will be held on **Sunday, October 30th, 2022 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 30th, 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. For any last minute changes, please visit the “Amherst Fire Department” Facebook page.

Please note that residents of Westwood Mobile Home Park and Amherst Trail Mobile Home Park will be notified by management of their date and time.

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

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LORAIN, OHIO

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.



Burning Prohibited



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 contact Amherst Township’s Fire Prevention Officer Chris Niehart of the Amherst City Fire Department by cell at:

440-597-0005

for “Amherst Fire Prevention Bureau”

or by email at amhersttwpfire@gmail.com 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.

For more information about Ohio’s Open Burning Regulations, read the Ohio EPA’s brochure at: <https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/47/facts/openburn.pdf>

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