

AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Summer 2023

Vol. XXVIII No. 2

Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 1st quarter of 2023 through curbside pickup.

| | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------------------|--------|
| Newspaper | 0.00 | #1 PET | 5.60 |
| Cardboard | 25.75 | #2 HDPE Natural | 1.12 |
| Mixed Paper | 39.19 | # HDPE Color | 1.12 |
| Steel Cans | 2.24 | #3 - #7 Plastic Mixed | 0.00 |
| Alum. Cans | 2.24 | Residuals | 19.03 |
| Mixed Glass | 15.67 | Total | 111.96 |

* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

- There were no dumpster days in the 1st quarter, therefore no scrap metal.

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

“2023” Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for “Dumpster Days” in 2023.

October 19, 20, 21

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

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

***NO TIRES or HAZARDOUS WASTE!**

*Take these items to LC Collection Center & Tire Sites!

For a list of their acceptable and prohibited items visit:

www.loraincountyohio.gov

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.

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

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., Fri.** – 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Other hours available by appointment only

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.

Kim Mason or Michelle Skinner..... 323-6111

Sheriff’s Department 329-3710

A.T. Community Policing Officer: **Neil Hocking**

Dpt. Hocking’s Non-Emergency/Voicemail 329-3800

Email: nhocking@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.**

Lorain County Public Health

“Operation and Maintenance” Program (O&M)

“Operation and Maintenance” (O&M) is a new state-mandated program to protect local waterways by ensuring that Home Sewage Treatment Systems (HSTS) work properly. All homes with a HSTS in Lorain County are automatically enrolled in the O&M program by Lorain County Public Health (LCPH).

If you are a homeowner with a HSTS, check to make sure your HSTS information is correct in the sewage database at bit.ly/HSTSdatabase or scan the QR code below:



All HSTS in Lorain County are required to have an O&M permit by 2024. These permits are issued by LCPH. Homeowners with a HSTS will receive their O&M packet in December 2023 and payment is due January 31, 2024. The fee for a 3-year permit is \$120.00, or \$40 per year.

Lorain County has over 20,000 HSTS, and about half of them were installed before 1970! While the purpose of the O&M program is *not* to replace older HSTS, enrolling HSTS provides the opportunity to

keep them maintained and educate homeowners to help them better understand their HSTS.

The statewide O&M program began in 2007, when all “National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems” (NPDES) were required to become enrolled. Ohio adopted new sewage regulations in 2015 that required all new HSTS to become enrolled in O&M, and all HSTS are required to be enrolled by January 1, 2024.

To learn more about the O&M program, HSTS requirements and recommendations, visit:

www.LorainCountyHealth.com/sewage

This website also includes the O&M PowerPoint presentation that is shown during the LCPH public “Info Sessions for Homeowners”:



Or you may call **440-322-6367** and ask for the sewage team to discuss the program or any HSTS needs.

Railroad “Quiet Zone” Update

Amherst Township and City of Amherst residents approached the Township Trustees and City of Amherst Mayor Costilow in the Spring of 2022 requesting relief from the many loud train horn sounds emitted in the communities. Over 80 trains travel through Amherst and Amherst Township on the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks every day.

There are five (5) grade-level crossings where the train horns are impacting the quality of life for residents in the City of Amherst and Amherst Township; Cooper-Foster, Crosse, Dewey, Oberlin and West Ridge Roads. Amherst and Brownhelm Townships, and the Cities of Amherst and Elyria were

required to install supplemental safety measure devices in order to comply with Federal Rail Administration (FRA) Quiet Zone regulations.

It has been 6-½ months since information was sent to the FRA and Norfolk Southern to apply for this “Quiet Zone”. The 5.4 mile, 5-crossing Quiet Zone from Cooper-Foster to West Ridge Road became effective on **Tuesday, May 30th**.

A special thanks to all the residents for their persistence, help and patience in ushering this Quiet Zone project through the process. The Quiet Zone will improve the quality of life for their friends, neighbors and families.

AMHERST TOWNSHIP PARK PAVILION

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A **\$50.00 non-refundable permit fee per pavilion is required**. Fees must be paid in full 30 days prior to reservation. Check or Money Order only; made payable to Amherst Township. Please contact Lynda for reservations, questions, or to pay the permit fee. **440-988-5894 Ext 101**
- ★ The Pavilion Permit Fee is effective for reservations starting on **July 5, 2023** and after.
- Pavilion capacity not to exceed 50 persons per pavilion.
- Pavilions are on a first come first served basis when not reserved. Others must yield the use of a pavilion to groups holding a permit.
- The named person on the permit assumes personal liability for damage, destruction, or removal of park property and must be present for the duration of the function.
- Issued permit is not transferable to another individual or group.
- No nails, tacks, or similar devices may be used to hang decorations. Tape may be used but must be removed by end of rental period.
- No utilities are provided. No grills are permitted.
- Music must be kept at a reasonable volume level at all times.
- Park hours are dawn to sunset. No persons are to be in the park pavilion past dark.
- No pets permitted in the park.
- No fireworks, sparklers, Japanese floating lanterns, or similar items are permitted to be used in the park.
- All trash must be placed in designated trash receptacles. No trash to be left on tables or elsewhere in the park.
- No vehicles may be driven or parked on the grass. All vehicles must be placed in designated parking areas.
- The park is open to the public at all times and you are renting only the specified site area.
- **AMHERST TOWNSHIP IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INJURIES**

Current reservations can be viewed on the Township's website under "DEPTS > Park



New Pavilion – 28 ft x 40 ft with 6 tables



Old Pavilion – 24 ft x 24 ft with 6 tables

LCSWD GRANTS

For the seventh year Amherst Township has applied for the **LCSWD** (Lorain County Storm Water District) Mini-Grant. This year **LCSWD** approved both of the projects that the township submitted. Each grant application is for \$7500 and requires a 20% minimum financial match from the township. The first project is for the repair / replacement of 3 catch basins in Hidden Valley at an estimated cost of \$9440, leaving the township to pay \$1940. The second project is for the replacement of the storm sewer main at the intersection Rosedale and Oaknoll. The estimated cost of this project is \$10,220, leaving the township to pay \$2720.

The **LCSWD** also agreed to fully fund the 2023 Community Grant project submitted by Amherst Township. These grant funds will be used for the improvement of drainage to the Battenhouse and Engle Ditches. Amherst Township applied for \$80,000 in grant funding for 2023. This phase of the project is estimated to cost \$100,000 with Amherst Township providing the remaining 20% in cash and in-kind labor, equipment, and materials.

Yard Waste Recycling Center Extended Summer Hours

As a reminder to residents, the “Yard Waste Pile” that is located on the east side of Oberlin Road, directly across from the Township Hall, will be open until 8pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, which coincides with the Trustees Meeting nights. These extended hours will continue through the summer and early fall.

Please, **YARD WASTE ONLY!!!**

The yard waste pile is for disposing of your limbs, brush, lawn clippings, and leaves, **only!**

Prohibited items would include siding, wood, stone, junk, and construction material as well as any other material that does not grow in your yard.

Residents are reminded to please place your empty plastic bags in the 55-gallon drum at the center, or take bags with you.

Lorain County Solid Waste Consortium

Amherst Township is a member of the Lorain County Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Consortium. The Consortium of twelve Lorain County communities was formed in 2013. These communities recognized that their residents were paying too much for residential waste collection, hauling and disposal when benchmarked against the cost paid by other communities for similar services in the region. The residents of the Consortium communities had been serviced by the same waste hauler for many years without significant competition for the provision of residential curbside recycling and waste collection services.

The purpose of the Consortium is to provide a collective competitive bidding opportunity to political subdivisions for securing solid waste and recyclable material collection and disposal services. Ohio Revised Code section 505.27 provides the lawful authority for the Amherst Township Board of Trustees to select an independent contractor to be the exclusive provider of residential curbside recycling and waste collection services.

Every five years, the Solid Waste and Recycling Consortium member communities solicit bids for the collection, transport and disposal of residential curbside solid waste and recyclable materials. Rumpke has been the solid waste and recyclable collection service provider in Amherst Township for the past ten years, and the Trustees expect Rumpke will be one of several bidders for a new contract. The Consortium plans to solicit bids in October of 2023, award bids in January 2024 and initiate commencement of a new 5-year service contract in April 2024.

Hazardous Waste Collection

Rid your home of toxins properly through the Lorain County Collection Center located at 540 S. Abbe Road in Elyria. For more information contact them at **440-329-5440**.

To view the list of accepted and not accepted materials as well as their hours of operation, visit their website at:

www.loraincountyohio.gov/184/Lorain-County-Collection-Center

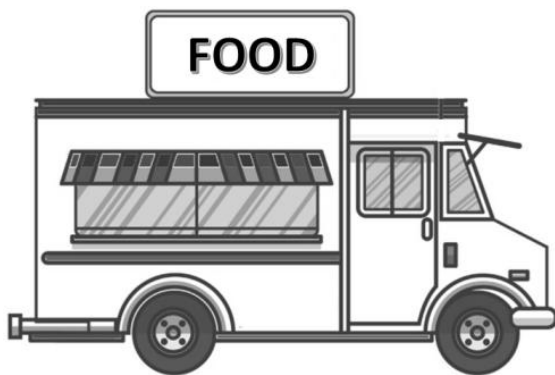
**Amherst Township
Senior Service Office Hours:
8:00 A.M. – NOON (M-F)
Ph: 440-988-5894 – Ext. 101
Lynda Ashley, Director**

Email: amhersttwpseniors@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.



| Amherst Fire Dept's Response To Amherst Township | 1st Quarter 2023 | |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Fire Calls (N of Turnpike): | 16 | 19.5% |
| Fire Calls (S of Turnpike): | 5 | 6.1% |
| EMS-First Responder (N): | 46 | 56.1% |
| EMS-First Responder (S): | 15 | 18.3% |
| Total Calls: | 74 | 100% |
| MVA's in Amherst Township (N&S): | 12 | |



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**. These permits are only good for one year and must be renewed annually.

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

New Hours for Zoning Insp.

There are new office hours for the Amherst Township Zoning Inspector. Sam D'Ambrosio will be holding office hours on Monday, Wednesday, and **Friday** from 8am to 11am. Please call for an appointment to ensure the Zoning Inspector is in the office. Additional times may be available by appointment only. The Zoning Inspector can be reached by phone at **440-988-5894, ext 103** or by email at amhersttwpzoning@gmail.com.

During off hours, Permits & Applications may be left in the "Green Box" next to the Office Entrance.



Paper Retriever Bin

Please note that the Paper Retriever Bin located across from the Amherst Township Hall and Garage is no longer available. Paper recycling bins are still available at the Discount Drug Mart parking lot on Leavitt Road (SR58).

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.

Twp. Bulletin Board

Scheduled meetings and Trustee Work Sessions are regularly posted in the bulletin board at the Township Hall. These are public meetings and residents are welcome to attend.

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 Fridays. He can be reached at **440-988-5894, ext. 103.**

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.

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

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LORAIN, OHIO**

Park Pavilion Reservations

To avoid a scheduling conflict, please contact **Lynda Ashley**, Township Administrator, to reserve the park pavilion. Rules & Regulations as well as current reservations can be viewed on the Township's website under "Depts/Park".

A \$50.00 non-refundable permit fee per pavilion is required. Fees must be paid in full 30 days prior to reservation. Check or Money Order only made payable to Amherst Township.

Lynda 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.

**Monthly Meeting
Dates & Times:**

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