

Amity Township
First In Berks Historic and Progressive



Amity's Got the Scoop

Volume VI, Issue 1 Spring 2007

"Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things."

Peter Drucker
 American Management
 Writer (1909-2005)

Have We Gone Wrong?

Inside this issue:	
<i>So you want to build a Fence</i>	2
<i>Amity's Website</i>	2
<i>Boone Area Library</i>	2
<i>Amity's Park System</i>	3
<i>Thun Trail</i>	3
<i>Amity Township Map</i>	4/5
<i>Summer Camp</i>	6
<i>Police/Fire/Emergency Management</i>	7
<i>Amity Recycles</i>	8

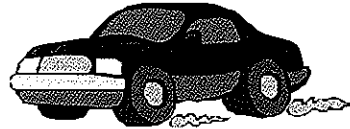
Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants as it flows or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. All of the pollutants storm water carries along the way empty into our waters, too, because storm water does not get treated.



Pet wastes left on the ground get carried away by storm

water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our water.

Vehicles drip fluids (oil, grease, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluids, etc.) onto paved areas where storm water runoff carries them through storm drains into our water.



Chemicals used to grow and maintain beautiful lawns and gardens, if not used properly, can run off into the storm drains when it rains or when we

water our lawns or gardens.

Waste from chemicals and materials used in construction



can wash into the storm sewer system when it rains. Soil that erodes from construction sites causes environmental degradation, including harming fish and shellfish populations that are important for recreation and our economy.

For more information visit the website at www.dep.state.pa.us.

Dispose of your Household Hazardous Waste Safely

The Berks County Solid Waste Authority is sponsoring Household Hazardous Waste collections on April 14th at the Exeter Township Municipal Building and on October 13th at First Energy Stadium between 8am and 2pm.

Acceptable materials include: oil based paints, varnishes and stains; paint thinner; weed killers, pesticides; pool chemicals; antifreeze; motor oil; disinfectants; rug, oven and drain

cleaners; and Lithium and NiCad batteries.



In order to protect our air and water quality, it is very important that these hazardous items be disposed of properly. They should not be poured down drains, poured on the ground or put in your residential trash.

Please do your part in protecting our environment by disposing of your household hazardous wastes. For more information, please contact 610-478-6362 or visit their website at www.co.berks.pa.us/swa

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Summer Camp Registration—May 7, 2007
- Township Office Closed April 6, 2007

So you want to put up a fence...



Do I need a permit to put up a fence?

Yes. Applications are available at the Township Building or online at www.co.berks.pa.us/amity. The fee is \$50. Processing usually takes a week.

Where can I put my fence?

Fences 4 feet high must be placed within the property lines. Fences over 4 feet high must be setback 2 feet from the property line and may not be in the front yard. All

fences must be kept out of all easements, right-of-ways and sight lines of street intersections.

Do you come out and survey my property lines?

No. Only a PA licensed surveyor may set property corners. It is the applicant's responsibility to locate the property lines to insure proper placement of the fence. Amity Township reserves the right to require surveying if property lines

are not apparent.

Are there any inspections?

Yes, two. A "setback" inspection is done as soon as you mark where you want to put the fence and another "final" inspection after your fence is installed. You must call the office to set up the inspections. Upon approval of the inspections, a certificate of use will be signed and mailed to the applicant. For more information check www.co.berks.pa.us/amity.

Visit Amity's Website

Check out Amity's website. We've tried to make it as informative as possible for our visitors and residents. You'll find a calendar of events with meeting schedules, Board of Supervisor's and Planning Commission meeting minutes, and there is even a list of all the ordinances in the Township. We have put together information on our recreational facilities and programs. There is a section on

building and zoning with lots of "Frequently asked questions". There is also contact information for local facilities such as schools and churches and our local, state and federal representatives. If you have any suggestions for our website, please feel free to e mail us.

www.co.berks.pa.us/amity



Boone Area Library

Come to the Township Building every Friday at 10:00 am for storytime. It's open to any age, however, its recommended for ages 3 and up. They read stories, have crafts, sing songs, do finger plays and much more. The program is free and participants have the opportunity to check out and return books at that time. If Mondays fit your schedule better, the Library has preschool storytime for children ages 3 and up, featuring stories, crafts, songs, rhymes and more. Times are 10:00 am, 1:30 and 6:30 pm. Every Wednesday at

11:30 am is Lapsit Storytime, recommended for babies up to 2 years old, but



open to children of all ages. Enjoy stories, songs, activities and crafts with your little ones.

Other programs at the Library include Sit and Knit on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Bring your knitting, crochet or craft project, relax and share ideas or get help with a project if you need it.

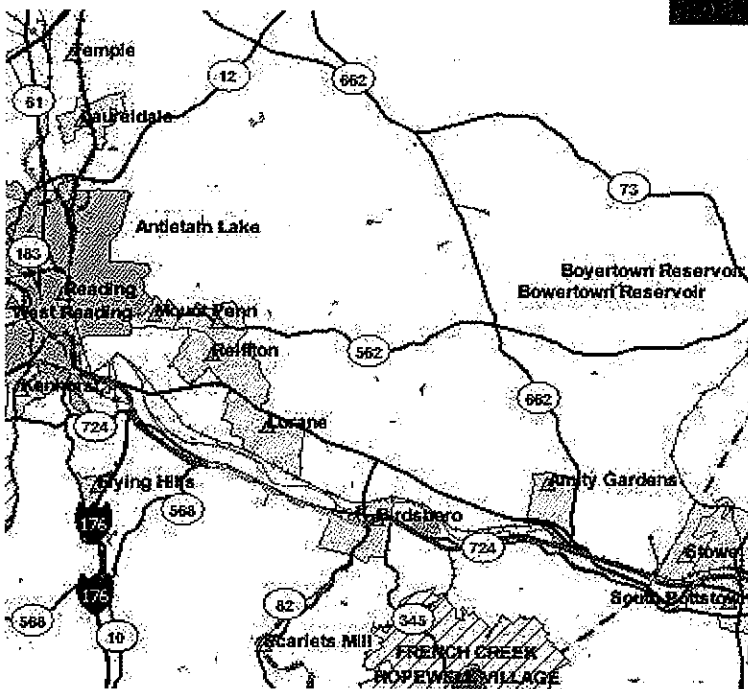
The Library also offers a basic computer class on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 pm or Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm. Check out www.berks.lib.pa.us/birdsborocl for more information.

Amity's Park System

Park Name	Acres	Picnic Area	Pavilion Rental	Playground Equipment	Walking Trails	Electrical Outlets	Lighted Athletic Fields	Unlighted Athletic Fields	Skateboard Facilities	Basketball Courts	Tennis Courts	Restrooms	Running Water	Parking	Ice Rink	
Amity Community Park	74.6	x	x					x								Weavertown Rd
Hill Road Park	8.06	x	x				x				x	x	x			Hill Road
Lake Drive Park	23.9										x	x	x			Lake Drive and Rosewood
Myron Wheeler	5							x			x		x			Weavertown Rd (behind Municipal Bldg)
Monocacy Hill	426											x				Geiger Road
Locust Grove	0.4	x		x												Third Street

Having a Party?

Did you know you can rent one of Amity's pavilions for your event? Pavilions are available in the Amity Community Park, Hill Road Park and Lake Drive Park. The cost is \$100. A waiver of liability or proof of insurance is required. The pavilions at Amity Community Park and Lake Drive have electricity available and all the pavilions have restrooms. For reservations call the Township office at 610-689-6000



Thun Trail Connects in Amity

The 4.5 mile section of the Thun Trail from Amity's Morlatton Village to Birdsboro is now complete. The Schuylkill River Greenway Association expects this year to complete the 1.8 mile section from the Berks County line to the trail head at Morlatton Village in Douglassville.

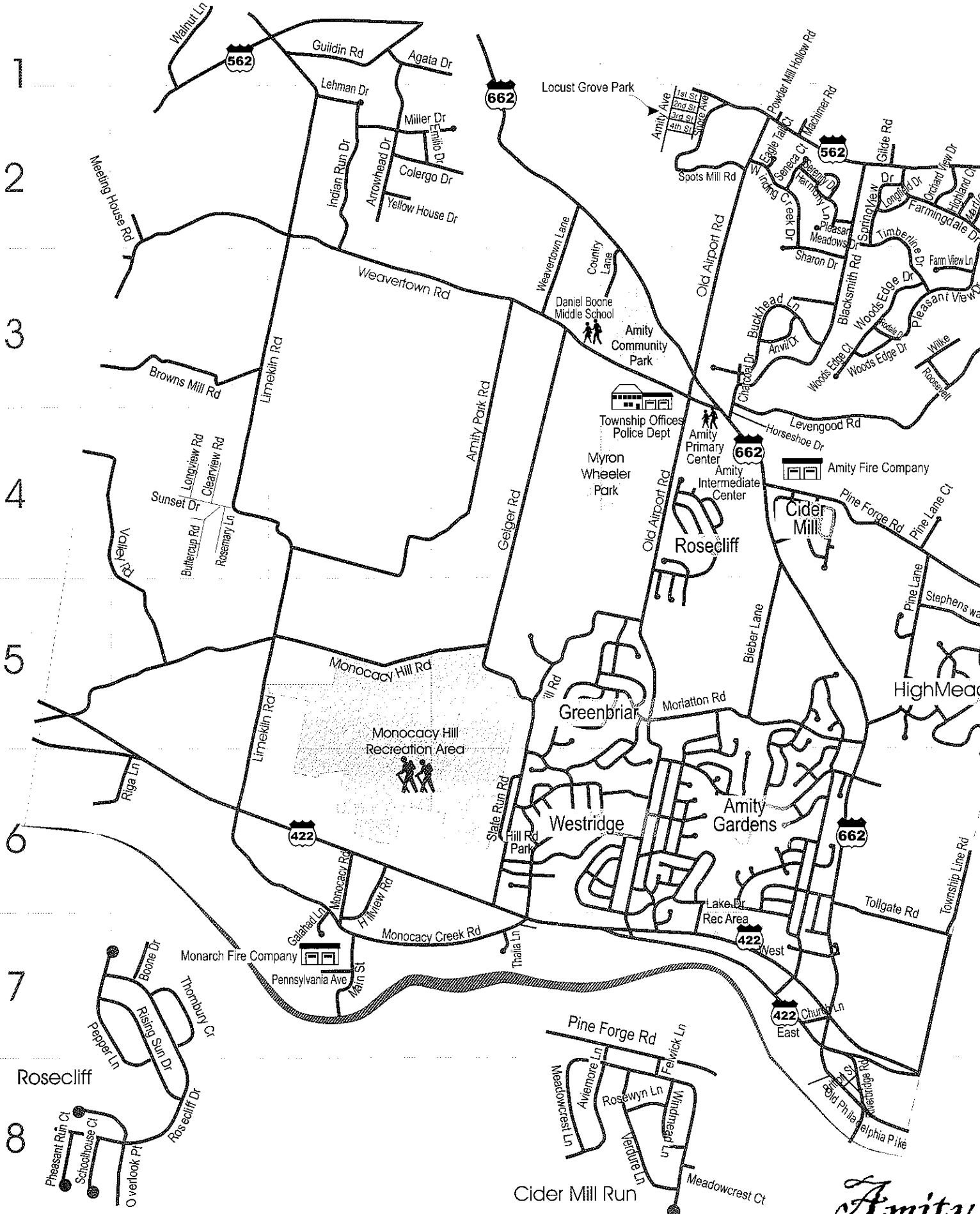
Within the next four years people will be able to walk, run, jog or bike on

this trail from Center City Philadelphia to Reading.

The Greenway is also in the process of selecting a firm to design the section further upstream from Reading to Hamburg. That is the only section of the 100 mile trail that has not yet been mapped. They hope to have the necessary funds by the end of the year. For more information visit www.schuylkillriver.org.

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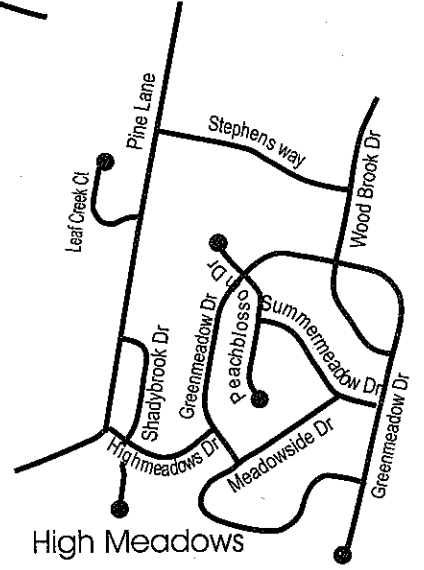
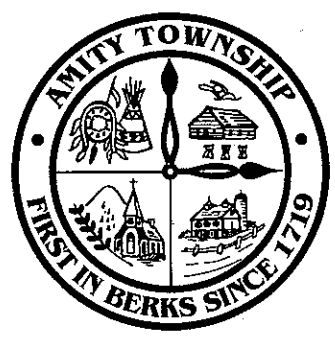
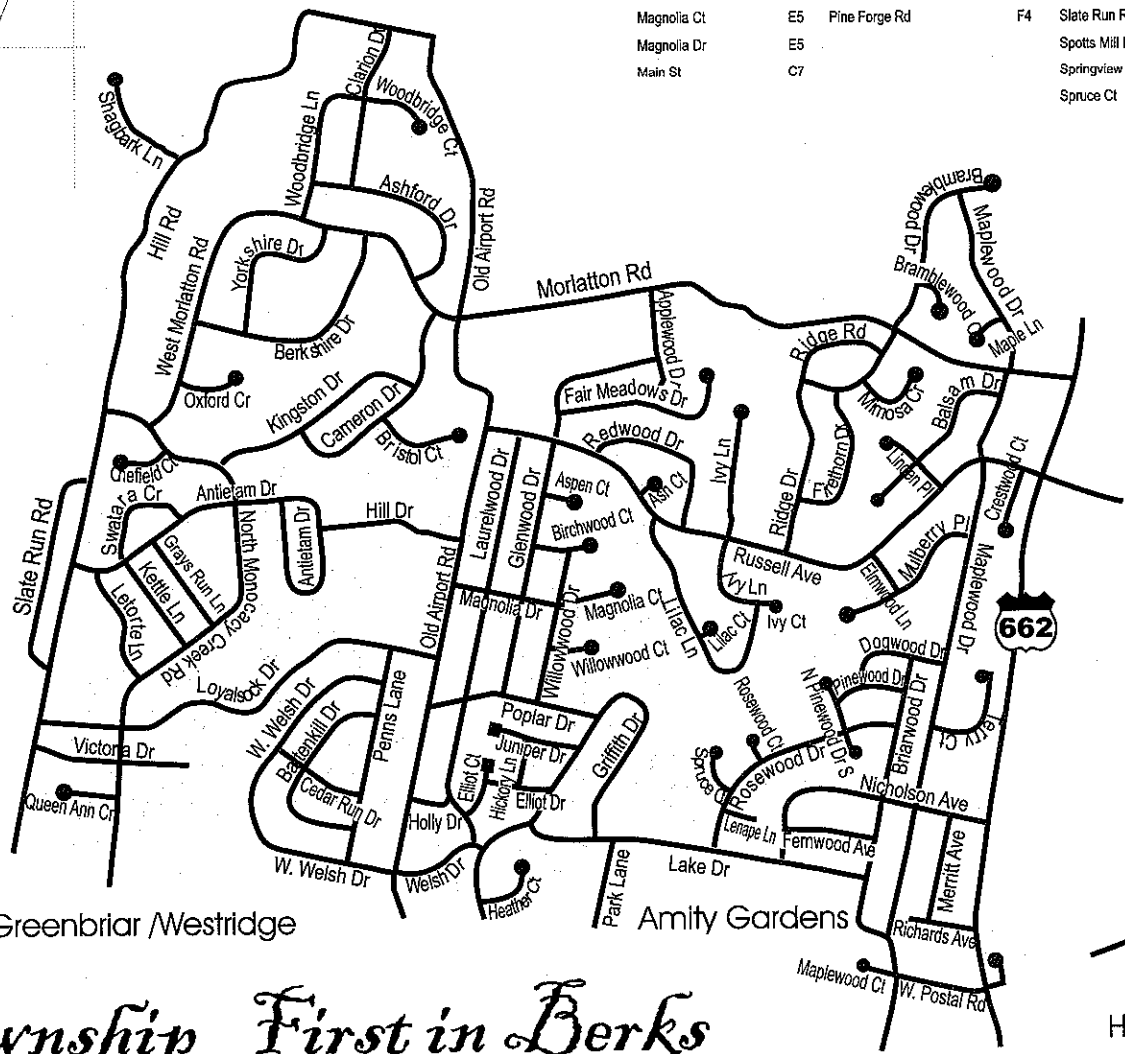
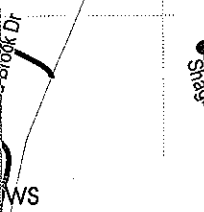
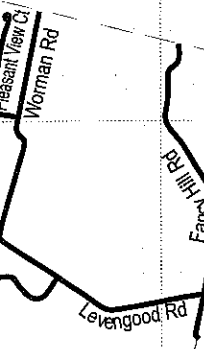


Amity

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Agata Dr	C1	Charcoal Dr	F3	Griffith Dr	E6	Maple Ln	F5	Pinewood Dr	F4	Stevens Wy	G4
Amity Ave	E2	Cheffield Ct	D6	Guilkin Rd	C1	Maplewood Ct	F5	Pinewood Dr N/S	F4	Summer Meadow Dr	G5
Amity Park Rd	D4	Church Ln	F7	Harmony Ln	F2	Maplewood Dr	F5	Pleasant Meadows Dr	F2	Sunset Dr	B4
Antietam Dr	D6	Clarion Dr	E5	Heather Ct	E6	Martin Ln	G1	Pleasant View Ct	G2	Sunrise Ln	H3
Anvil Dr	F3	Clearview Rd	B4	Hickory Ct	E6	Meadowcrest Ct	F4	Pleasant View Dr	G2	Swatara Cr	D6
Appelwood Dr	E5	Colegro Dr	D2	Highland Ct	G1	Meadowcrest Ln	F4	Postal Rd	F6	Terry Ct	F5
Arrowhead Dr	C2	Country Ln	D2	High Meadow Dr	F5	Meadowside Dr	G4	Poplar Dr	E5	Thalia Ln	D7
Ash Ct	E6	Crestwood Ct	F5	Hill Dr	E6	Meetinghouse Rd	B2	Powder Mill Hollow Rd	F1	Third St	E1
Ashford Dr	E5	Dogwood Dr	F6	Hill Rd	D5	Merritt Ave	F6	Queen Ann Cr	D6	Thornbury Cr	E4
Aspen Ct	E6	Eagle Tail Ct	F2	Hillview Rd	C6	Miller Dr	C1	Redwood Dr	E5	Timberline Ct	F3
Aviemoore Ln	F4	Elliot Dr	E6	Horseshoe Dr	F3	Mimosa Cr	F5	Richards Ave	F6	Timberline Dr	F3
Balsam Dr	F6	Elliot Cr	E6	Holly Dr	E6	Monocacy Creek Rd	D6	Ridge Dr	F5	Tollgate Rd	G6
Batenkill Dr	D6	Elmwood Ln	F6	Indian Run Dr	C2	Monocacy Hill Rd	D5	Riga Ln	B6	Township Line Rd	G5
Benjamin Franklin Hwy (422)	C6	Emilio Dr	D2	Ivy Ct	E6	Monocacy Rd	C6	Rising Sun Dr	E4	Valley Rd	B4
Berkshire Dr	D5	Fancy Hill Rd	G3	Ivy Ln	E6	Morlatton Rd	E5	Riverbridge Rd	G7	Verdure Ln	F4
Bieber Ln	E5	Farmingdale Dr	G2	Juniper Dr	E6	Mulberry Pl	F5	Rodale Dr	F3	Victoria Dr	D6
Birchwood Ct	E6	Farm View Ct	G2	Kettle Ln	D5	N. Monocacy Creek Rd	D6	Roosevelt	F3	Walnut Ln	B1
Blacksmith Rd	F3	Felwick Ln	F4	Kingston Dr	D5	Nicholson Ave	F5	Rosecliff Dr	E4	Weavertown Ln	D2
Boone Dr	E4	Ferrowood Dr	F6	Lake Dr	F6	Old Airport Rd	E4	Rosemary Ln	B4	Weavertown Rd	D2
Boyertown Pk (562)	F2	Firethorn Dr	F5	Laurelwood Dr	E5	Old Philadelphia Pike	G7	Rosewood Ct	F6	Welsh Ct	E6
Bramblewood Dr	F5	First St	E1	Leaf Creek Ct	F5	Old Swede Rd (662)	F5	Rosewood Dr	F6	Welsh Dr	E6
Bramblewood Ct	F5	Fourth St	E1	Lehman Dr	C1	Orchard View Rd	F2	Rosewyn Ln	F4	West Morlatton Rd	E5
Briarwood Dr	F6	Galahad Ln	C7	Letort Ln	D5	Overlook Pt	E4	Russell Ave	E5	West Postal Rd	F5
Bristol Ct	E6	Geiger Rd	D4	Levengood Rd	F2	Oxford Cr	D5	Schoolhouse Ct	E4	West Welsh Dr	E6
Britton St	F8	Gilde Rd	F1	Lilac Ct	F5	Park Ln	E6	Second St	E1	Wilke	F3
Browns Mill Rd	B3	Glenwood Dr	E6	Lilac Ln	F5	Peach Blossom Dr	G5	Seneca Ct	F1	Willowwood Ct	E6
Buckhead Ln	B3	Gollub Dr	A5	Limekiln Rd	C3	Penns Ln	E6	Serenity Ct	F2	Willowwood Dr	E6
Buttercup Rd	B4	Grays Run Ln	D6	Linden Pl	F5	Pennsylvania Ave	C7	Serenity Dr	F2	Winding Creek Dr	F2
Cameron Dr	E6	Green Meadow Dr	G5	Longfield Dr	F2	Pepper Ln	E4	Shadybrooke Dr	G5	Woodbridge Ct	E5
Cedar Run Dr	E6			Longview Rd	B4	Pheasant Run Dr	E4	Shagbark Ln	D5	Woodbridge Ln	E5
				Loyalsock Dr	E5	Pine Ln	F5	Sharon Dr	F2	Woodbrook Dr	G4
				Machamer Rd	F1	Pine Lane Ct	F4	Shore Ave	E1	WoodsEdge Dr	F2
				Magnolia Ct	E5	Pine Forge Rd	F4	Slate Run Rd	D5	Worman Rd	G1
				Magnolia Dr	E5			Spotts Mill Rd	E1	Wyndmead Ln	F4
				Main St	C7			Springview Dr	F2	Yellowhouse Dr	C2
								Spruce Ct	F5	Yorkshire Dr	D5



Greenbriar/Westridge

Amity Gardens

High Meadows

Township First in Berks

Summer's Coming!

Amity summer campers keep cool by participating in the Summer Camp program sponsored by Parks and Recreation. This year's camp is open to children in grades 1 through 6 and is run by Ozzy's Sports Center. Activities run from animal fun to water games. Campers enjoy activities from 9 am to 1 pm Mondays through Fridays. Camp is held at the Lake Drive Recreation Area for eight weeks during the summer break. Due to large demand, participation is first come, first served and usually limited to 4 weeks per child. The cost this year is \$35 per week.

Sign up starts May 7th at 8am at the Township Building. Or you can download the registration form online from our website at www.co.berks.pa.us/amity. Be sure to bring your child's physicians name and insurance information.



Summer campers keeping cool under the pavilion at Lake Drive.

Need a Helping Hand?

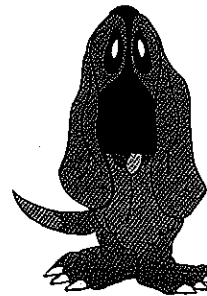
Caring volunteers from Amity Township may be available to provide temporary help to residents at no cost.

Services

- Outside Chores * Minor Repairs * Errands
- Transportation * Household Chores
- Companion/Respite Visiting * Meal Preparations
- Financial Forms * Telephone Reassurance

Call 610-682-1412 or 1-800-322-9597

Volunteer Home Care (VHC) is an interfaith outreach ministry of The Lutheran Home at Topton, Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries.



Do you need a license?

Pennsylvania state law requires all dogs over 3 months of age to be licensed. Owners of unlicensed dogs are subject to fines not to exceed \$300.

You can obtain a dog license from these locations in our area: Oley Valley Feed at 143 Cleaver Rd in Oley, FM Brown's in Birdsboro and at the Animal Rescue League at 724 and the Morgantown Bypass. Male and Female dog licenses cost \$8, Neutered male and spayed female licenses cost \$6. For more information visit the website at www.co.berks.pa.us

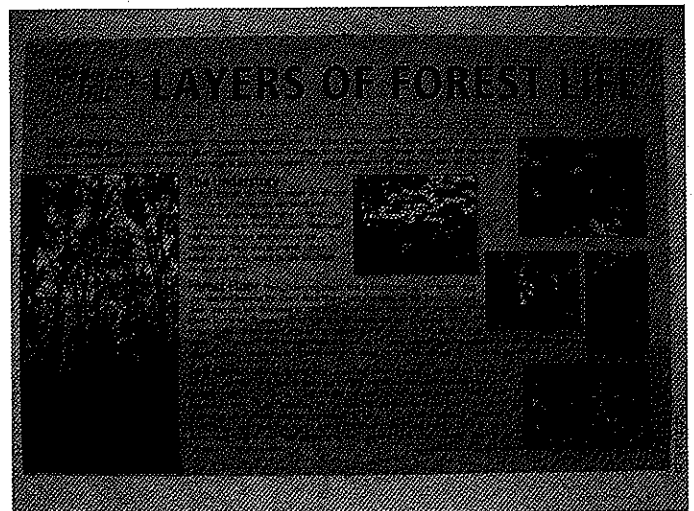
Monocacy Hill Recreation Area will have a new look this spring with the addition of educational signs that will inform visitors about forest ecology and forest species. Located on Geiger Road, Monocacy Hill is the Township's largest recreation area featuring 420 wooded acres and 5 miles of trails.

One of the main attractions at Monocacy Hill is the wide variety of plant species, including spring wildflowers. Visitors to the park will now be able to identify plant species with a permanent notebook near the park entrance. Tree and shrub species will be identified and described with botanical markers along trails. Several large interpretive signs will explain layers of the forest, conditions that impact forests, a history of the Monocacy Hill area and services that forests provide.

The sign project was a cooperative effort involving Berks County, Amity Township and the Monocacy Hill Conservation Assn. Funding for the signs came from a grant from the Berks County Opens Space Recreation Funds and a bequest left by a former township resident, Zenovia Jane Lipauf.

Monocacy Hill Conservation Assn. sponsors hikes and activities at Monocacy Hill throughout the year. For more information visit www.monocacyhill.org.

Monocacy Hill



Interpretive signs that will be installed in Monocacy Hill Park

Police News

New Law Update

Governor Signs New Act— Headlight Use

Act 159 of 2006 (HB2133) amends Title 75 (Vehicle Code) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to require drivers to turn on their headlights when their windshield wipers are turned on. This act took effect on January 28, 2007.

Warning !

It is recommended that you don't use cruise control when raining, snowing or on icy pavement. If you hydroplane, there's the chance you car could actually accelerate. Cruise control also allows drivers to be less vigilant and to take their foot away from the pedals—not a good idea when reaction time is so important.

Parking

Every vehicle standing or parked upon a two-way road shall be position parallel to and with the right-hand wheels within 12 inches of the right-hand curb, or in the absence of a curb, as close as practical to the right edge of the right-hand shoulder.

Tax Collector's Hours

March

Tuesdays 12 noon to 2:00PM and 5:00PM to 7:00PM
(No hours March 27)

April

Tuesdays 12noon to 2:00PM and 5:00PM to 7:00PM
Wednesdays 5:00PM to 7:00PM
April 27 and 30 5:00PM to 7:00PM

June

June 28 and 29 5:00PM to 7:00PM

**At the Township Building
2004 Weavertown Rd
Douglassville**

Amity's Got An Ambulance

Southern Berks EMS has established a station in Amity at 1139 W. Benjamin Franklin Highway in the Premier Immediate Medical Care Office. Initially they will be open from 7AM to 7PM when they receive most of their calls. They will be the first responder for all EMS calls in Amity Township. If you need an ambulance, you still must call 911, but because they are now located in Amity the response time will hopefully be shorter. Welcome Southern Berks! For more information visit www.sbems.net.



Fire Companies

Amity Township is serviced by two volunteer fire companies, the Monarch Fire Company and Amity Fire Company. The Township contributes to the fire companies support by contributing \$155,500 or \$77,750 to each fire company annually.

This year the Township will also fund two paid fire drivers to work at the fire house during the hours when most of the volunteers work outside the Township with funds raised from the EMS tax. In accordance with the Second Class Township Code, the Township also covers the fire fighters with workers compensation insurance while they are performing their duties. Each fire company also seeks grants for new equipment expenses.

Both fire companies responded to over 400 calls each last year. Fund raising efforts and solicitations for contributions help raise the necessary funds to support the volunteer fire companies. Please support your fire company! They're working for you!

Help your Emergency Responders Help You!

Berks County Emergency Management is collecting information of our "special needs population" in order to identify those in our community who are most at risk during a disaster. The "special needs" population are those individuals who are likely to require assistance in excess of that provided to the general public in a time of disaster, particularly in the event that a large scale evacuation is necessary.

This could include those who are deaf, blind, bedridden, mentally impaired, without radio or television, or lacking transportation necessary to evacuate.

Follow the instructions at www.berksema.com and enter information about yourself, loved ones, friends or your neighbors into the online data collection tool. The information is stored securely, and will NEVER be used for any purpose other than improving emergency responder's ability to assist you in emergencies. It will not be sold or given to private concerns for any reason.



Amity Township
Berks County, PA

Historic and Progressive

PRSRRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
DOUGLASSVILLE, PA
PERMIT NO. 16

Amity Township
2004 Weavertown Rd
Douglassville, PA 19518
www.co.berks.pa.us/amity

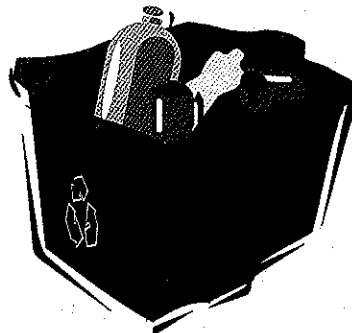
Amity Recycles!

Amity Township is dedicated to helping preserve the environment by supporting the collection of recyclable materials. We recycle plastics #1 through #7. The number can usually be found on the bottom of the plastic container. Plastic containers should be rinsed then crushed. Clean green, brown and clear bottles are acceptable for recycling. **No broken glassware**, kitchenware or mirrors are recyclable. Aluminum, bimetallic, or tin cans and aluminum pie pans should be rinsed first, then recycled.

No aerosol cans are recyclable. Newspapers, junk mail, tablet paper, copy paper, file folders, construction paper, fax paper, wrapping paper, clean tissue paper, magazines, phone books, catalogues, paperback books and corrugated cardboard can be recycled by being placed in a brown paper bag or bundled with string. Please do not use plastic bags from the grocery store. (Those can be recycled at the grocery store). **Sorry, no pizza boxes can be recycled.**

Please place all items in the blue recycling bin at the curbside the evening before pick up day. To help retard your recycling from blowing around, please crush all plastic containers and put your heavy recycling (like bagged newspapers) on top of your recycling bin.

Recycling bins are available at the Township Building. The first one is at no charge, additional bins are \$5 each. For more information visit our website at www.co.berks.pa.us/amity.



Watch for :
Household Hazardous
Waste Collection Event
April 14, 2007
at Exeter Township
Municipal Building
8AM to 2PM

Electronic Household Waste
Collection Event
April 21, 2007
at Exeter Township
Municipal Building
8AM to 2PM

Sponsored by Berks County
Solid Waste Authority

Did you know recycling one aluminum can will save enough energy to run a TV for three hours?