



# Amity Township Newsletter

VOLUME IX, ISSUE II

FALL 2010

## AMITY TOWNSHIP

2004 Weavertown Rd  
Douglassville, PA 19518  
610-689-6000

[www.amitytownshippa.com](http://www.amitytownshippa.com)

### Supervisors

Robert R. Yanos, Chair  
Kim McGrath, Vice Chair  
Scott Stepp  
Paul Weller  
Terry Jones

### Township Manager

Charles E. Lyon

### Township Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8am to 5pm

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## Pay Your Sewer Bill Automatically

In our efforts to provide convenient services for residents, the Township is now offering you automatic electronic payment withdrawals from your checking or savings account. No more writing checks, no more worrying about losing your sewer

bill, no more penalties! We just withdraw your quarterly payment on a specified day and credit it to your sewer account right away. If you are interested in automatic electronic payments, please contact the Township Secretary at 610-689-

6000 ext. 221. If you would prefer to drop off your payment in person we have installed a new secure drop slot on the outside of the building (located on the brick wall). You can drop off your check or money order any time, day or night.

## Bridge Projects in Amity

After being closed for five years the **Geiger Road Bridge** is slated to be replaced this year. Milford Builders of Quakertown, PA presented the low bid of \$109,808. The old existing structure will be replaced with a new concrete culvert.

This summer also brought about the reconstruction of the **Main Street Bridge** in Monocacy. Loftus Construction of Cinnaminson, NJ brought the \$708,000 project to completion on time. And

brought sighs of relief from the School District. The bridge reopened to traffic on August 27th. Monarch Fire Company relocated

their equipment back home at their station after being housed at Kline's Farm all summer.



# Recycling Pays Off



Our hardworking recycling crew!

Last April, Amity Township residents really came through for the environment. Chuck's Auto Salvage on Boyertown Pike sponsored an Earth Day Celebration event to collect automobile waste and recycle it.

Over 350 tires, and an additional 82 tires with wheels were recycled and kept out of our landfills. 250 gallons of oil, 53 gallons of antifreeze and 53 car batteries were collected as

well. Chuck's takes great pride in being environmentally conscious.

What a great turnout from our community. Over 160 residents and neighbors participated in this recycling event. So great, that Chuck's is planning to sponsor this event again next year.

Thank you Chuck's.



## County Recycling Events

Household Hazardous Waste  
October 16, 2010

Tire Recycling  
October 9, 2010  
First Energy Stadium

Paper Shredding  
October 9, 2010  
First Energy Stadium

Pharmaceutical Collection  
October 2, 2010  
First Energy Stadium

8:00AM to 2PM

County Electronics Center is open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8:00 to Noon At 1316 Hilltop Rd. Leesport, PA

# Paint Disposal

Recent research shows that latex paint and stains can safely be put in the garbage for disposal at a landfill, as long as the paint is dry or solidified first.

So what should you do?

First make sure it's latex paint or stain. Look on the label for the word "latex" or for directions to clean

up or thin with water. Remove the lid and let the paint dry out in the can. If there is a lot of paint left in the can, you can mix it with an equal amount of clay based cat litter. Stir completely and let dry. Sawdust, dirt or shredded paper can be used as a substitute for cat litter.

Once the paint has hardened

or solidified, place the can with **the lid off** in your garbage container. The garbage hauler needs to see that the paint has solidified.

If you have oil based paint, those kinds of paint that need to be cleaned up with turpentine or paint thinner, those should be brought to a hazardous waste collection for proper disposal.

Curbside pick-up of leaves and yard waste will commence on December 7th. Please keep the length of your brush no longer than three feet (3') in length and three (3") inches in diameter. Sticks and brush must be bundled and weigh no more than 30 pounds. Just place at the curbside, road crews will be coming around to pick up. Large tree stumps will not be accepted. Waste left in plastic bags WILL NOT be accepted.



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# From the Chief

On August 13, 2020 at approximately 1:30am, the Amity Township Police responded to numerous reports of Criminal Mischief to mailboxes on Monocacy Creek Rd. and Old Airport Rd.

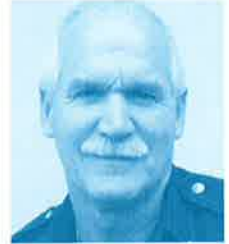
Reports from homeowners stated that their mailboxes were smashed by an unknown object or removed from the ground by unknown actor(s) between the hours of mid-

*"Theft is often a crime of opportunity, remember to lock your cars"*

night and 6:00am. There were also a few occurrences that same night where traffic signs were pulled out from the ground and attempted to be thrown through windows of homes. The cost of damage is undetermined at this time.

The investigation is still ongoing and if anyone has any information regarding this incident or any other incidents in Amity township they are urged to contact the Amity Township Police Department at 610-689-6002.

Remember if you see any crime occurring please call the police department immediately.



**Kent A. Shuebrook**  
Chief of Police



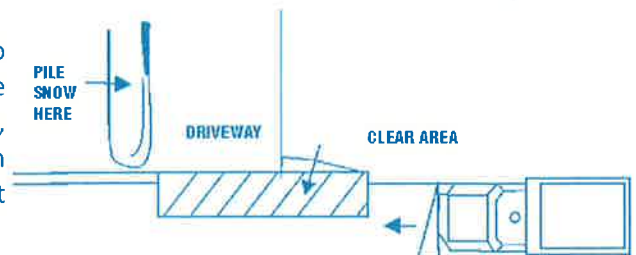
Amity Township Crime Watch is celebrating their 25th Anniversary this year and they are having a special celebration in honor of this event. On Saturday September 25, 2010 there will be a small indoor carnival at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 548 Old Swede Road, Douglassville from Noon to 4PM. Food and Refreshments, too! Come celebrate with us!

## ❄️ Old Man Winter is Coming! ❄️

In our efforts to keep our residents safe we would like to remind everyone of their responsibility to keep your sidewalks shoveled and clear of ice and snow during the year. Under the International Property Maintenance Code, Section 302.3.1, where sidewalks exist, those responsible for sidewalks shall have at least a two foot wide path cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours after the cessation of the snowfall. You must comply immediately to avoid penalties. Penalties can include fines not to exceed \$1,000 per day the violation exists.

Plow or shovel your snow to the side of your driveway, away from the flow of traffic. Clearing snow for a distance prior to your driveway allows the plow to 'unload' before reaching it. By piling snow away from the direction of oncoming snow plows, the bulk of the snow will not be pushed back onto your driveway.

Please remember, we do our best to clear the streets as soon as possible, if the plow puts snow in your driveway, it is not done intentionally.



## DO I NEED A PERMIT?

In our efforts to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Amity Township, on August 18, 2010, the Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance that modifies the UCC regulation as to what types of alterations and repairs to a dwelling require a permit. Below is a summary of most of the permitting requirements. The types of alterations that are most affected are the installation of new piping, wiring, lighting, heating and cooling.

<p><b>Zoning Permit Required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Sheds</li> <li>* Pools where water depth is greater than 24" deep</li> <li>* Fences</li> <li>* Additions</li> <li>* Garages (attached or detached)</li> <li>* Decks</li> <li>* Driveway (new or extension)</li> <li>* New Homes</li> <li>* Patios</li> <li>* Any change of use or occupancy of a commercial building</li> <li>* No-impact home-based business</li> <li>* Signs</li> <li>* Demolition of a structure</li> </ul>	<p><b>Building Permit Required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Accessory structures greater than 500SF (sheds, detached garages)</li> <li>* Pools where water depth is greater than 24" deep</li> <li>* Additions</li> <li>* Decks over 30" above grade or supported by a dwelling</li> <li>* Commercial repairs, additions, improvements or alterations</li> <li>* New dwellings or buildings</li> <li>* Roofs over patios</li> <li>* New windows or doors in a load bearing wall of a dwelling</li> <li>* Any change of occupancy to a commercial building</li> <li>* Signs at commercial properties</li> <li>* Temporary structures</li> <li>* Mechanical additions such as piping, wiring, lighting, heating and cooling</li> </ul>	<p><b>No Permit Required</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Roof Replacement on a residential structure</li> <li>* Siding replacement</li> <li>* Retaining walls not over 4' high</li> <li>* Non-bearing walls in a dwelling</li> <li>* Residential swings and playgrounds</li> <li>* Pools where water depth is less than 24" deep</li> <li>* Gutters and downspouts</li> <li>* Appliance replacement</li> <li>* Security systems</li> <li>* Propane or Liquefied petroleum appliances and associated piping</li> <li>* Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops, and similar finishing work</li> <li>* Resurfacing or sealing driveway</li> <li>* Replacing a furnace with the same size and same type</li> </ul>
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Hearthstone at Amity

will be hosting a

Health Fair on

October 15th from

9am to Noon

Blood Pressure

Screenings and Flu

Shot Clinic

Open to the public!

139 Old Swede Rd

Douglassville

## Come to the Fair!

The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County is presenting the Olde Morlatton Village Country Fair on Saturday, September 25 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday, September 26 from 11 am to 4 pm.

Enjoy traditional crafts, antiques, children's games, food and wine tasting. There will be a clothesline art show, fall flowers and a white elephant sale. Psychic George Withers and Native American Darius

Puff will be on hand to entertain and educate.

Village tours will be available both days at 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm. Come take a tour of the oldest settlement in Berks County.

The White Horse Inn will be serving a harvest luncheon on Saturday from Noon to 2 pm.

The village is located at 31 Old Philadelphia Pike in Douglassville just south of 422 off River Bridge Road. Admission is \$2

for adults 16 years of age and older. All proceeds benefit the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County.



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**Hearthstone at Amity**  
Personal Care Community

Flu Shot Clinic  
October 15, 2010  
9AM to 11AM

**610-385-7600**

139 Old Swede Rd., Douglassville, PA

# Environmental Advisory Council

The Board of Supervisors recently approved three (3) additional voting members to the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). Heather Unger, Kristie Bompadre and David Wentzel. Residents are welcome to attend the monthly EAC meetings and are encouraged to contact the EAC members if they have any environmental con-

cerns or would like to suggest new environmental projects. Meetings are held at 7:00PM on the 2nd Monday of the month. Questions or suggestions for the EAC can be directed to Marlin Zechman at the Township Building, 2004 Weavertown Rd., Douglassville, PA 19518.

**Green Tip of the Quarter**

*Properly caulking and weather stripping your doors and windows reduces heating and air conditioning uses by 10 to 20 percent*

Log onto [www.energysavePA.com](http://www.energysavePA.com) to learn over 100 ways to save energy and money

## Monocacy Hill

Amity Township was recently awarded a grant through the Schuylkill Highlands Grant Program for restoration work at Monocacy Hill Recreation Area. The \$10,000 grant will be used over the next two years to treat invasive plant species and replant native species. This project is being done in cooperation with the Monocacy Hill Conservation Association which is contributing volunteer time and labor and \$1,000 as a

match to the grant. The additional matching money will come from the Monocacy Hill bequest fund. The Schuylkill Highland Grant Program is funded by the William Penn Foundation and the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Monocacy Hill Conservation Assn. is holding their annual Fall Open House on Sunday, October 17th from 9:00 am to 5:00

pm at Monocacy Hill Recreation Area on Geiger Road. The event features various hikes, activities, games and free refreshments and snacks. For a complete list of fall activities and hikes check out their website at [www.monocacyhill.org](http://www.monocacyhill.org).



Amity's adult basketball program starts October 18 and runs through March 14, 2011 on Monday evenings at the Intermediate Center. Play starts at 6PM through 9PM. The gym is always closed if school has been closed for holidays or emergency or weather related conditions. You must sign the register and show identification to the monitor.

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## We all live in a **WATERSHED**

Watersheds are areas of land that drain into a lake, river or stream. Water travels over the land's surface— farm fields, forests, lawns and city streets— on its course to a waterway. Or the water may seep into the soil and travel as ground water. Either way, the water is impacted by what happens, good or bad, in the watershed. The water that is impacted may be the source for your community's drinking water, so it's important that we all take steps to restore, improve and protect this precious natural resource.



# History's Saving Race

**1st Annual 5K Run at the Old Morlatton Country Fair in Douglassville, PA  
Sunday, September 26, 2010 at 9:00AM**

Sponsored by the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County presents it's First Annual 5K Run on Sunday, September 26 at 9:00AM. The course is a very flat, wheel measured course. The first half of the race is on a scenic back road, the second half will be on the Schuylkill River Trail. Professional timing will be performed by the Chester County Running Store.

The fee is \$20 if postmarked by September 10, 2010, after that date and on race day the fee will be \$25. Official running shirts will be given to the

first 100 race entrants. Awards will be presented to the 1st and 2nd place male and female finishers of the 5K



**The Mouns Jones House, oldest structure in Berks County.**

race in various age categories at a post race ceremony. Refreshments and restrooms will be available at the race start and finish.

For more information please contact Becky Gottschall at 610-327-4933 or email [beckyjo321@gmail.com](mailto:beckyjo321@gmail.com).

Proceeds benefit the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County, an organization dedicated to preserving and maintaining historic sites and structures in Berks County. For more information please visit [www.historicpreservationtrust.org](http://www.historicpreservationtrust.org)