



Amity Township

VOLUME XIV, ISSUE II

FALL 2015

Amity Township

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

www.amitytownshippa.com

Supervisors

Kim McGrath, Chair
Richard Gokey, Vice Chair
Paul Weller
Terry Jones
David Hackett

Township Manager

Charles E. Lyon

Township Hours

Mon. through Fri. 8am-5pm

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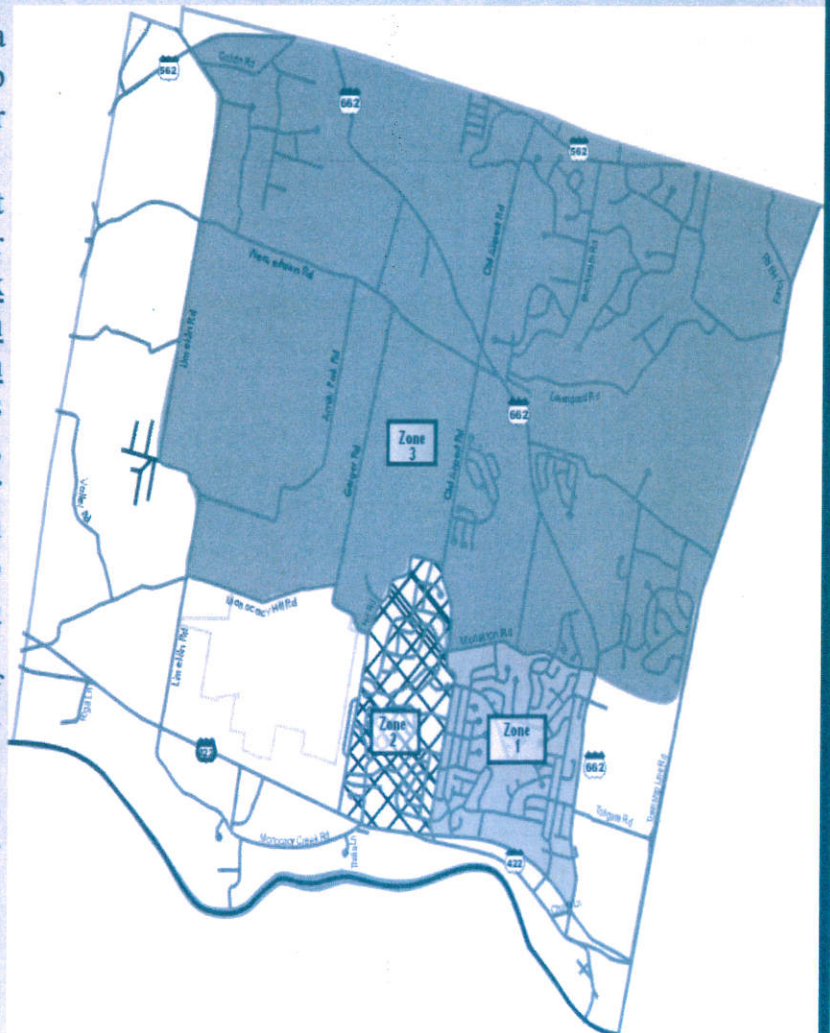
Fall is Here! Beginning November 2nd, the Township will pick up leaves in Zone 1 from Old Airport Rd. east to 662 and from 422 north to Morlaton Rd. This will take two weeks, weather permitting. Zone 2 will be picked up next from Old Airport Rd. west to Hill Rd. and from 422 north to Hill Rd. This should take three to four days, weather permitting. Zone 3 will then be picked up from Rosecliff Dr. north to 562 and from Limekiln to Fancy Hill Rd. Areas not shaded will have leaves collected the following week. Leaf collection will continue until December 4th or until all leaves are picked up. Rake your leaves into a pile at the curb or street side and make sure it is away from mailboxes or trees. Keep storm sewer drains clear of leaves. Please do not park vehicles over piles of leaves. **Please do not bag your leaves. The Township will not pick up bagged leaves.**

Crews will go around a second time to clean up any leftover leaves or any areas not mentioned.

Yard waste must be kept separate from your leaves. **Yard waste pick up will commence on October 26th through October 30th.** Items should be bundled, tied, or placed in brown paper bags, no larger than 2'x2' and weighing no more than 20 pounds. **No plastic bags, please!**

If you wish to drop off your leaves, we now have TWO dumpsters behind the Township Building, by Wheeler Field. This additional dumpster was partially funded through a PA DEP Recycling Grant.

Use brown paper bags only! No plastic!



Larger copies of this map are available at the Township building. Check our website for any changes in collection schedules.

Code Enforcement

Please be aware of the Zoning Ordinance regarding the parking of boats and RVs in Amity Township.

Major recreational equipment, including but not limited to boats and boat trailers, travel trailers, pick-up campers or coaches, motorized dwellings, tent trailers or similar equipment, shall not be parked or stored on any public street or within any Zoning District, except in a carport, a completely enclosed building, a rear yard or driveway, provided such vehicle is parked behind the building setback line. Such equipment, however, may be parked for a period not exceeding two (2) successive days during loading or unloading.

No such equipment shall be used for living, sleeping, or housekeeping purposes when parked or stored in such location, unless a temporary permit is issued by the Township!

Take a Hike! Fall Program at Monocacy Hill 2015

Sunday, October 25th

10:00AM - Tails on the Trails (Dog Walk)
1:30PM - Walk in the Woods

Sunday, November 8th

10:00AM - Tails on the Trails (Dog Walk)
1:30PM - Walk in the Woods

Sunday, November 22nd

1:30PM - Walk in the Woods

Sunday, December 13th

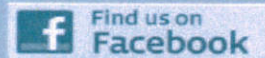
1:30PM - Walk in the Woods

Sunday, January 10, 2016

1:30PM - Walk in the Woods

Please Note: Monocacy Hill is open for ALL hunting seasons, but is NO LONGER open for rifle hunting! **Hunters wear orange to be seen...and so should you! Be safe, be seen!**

Amity Township closes the park to non-hunters for the busiest weeks of deer season.



This year, the dates the park is CLOSED to NON-hunters are: November 30th through December 12th, with the EXCEPTION of Sunday, December 6th

For more information on Monocacy Hill, go to www.monocacyhill.org.



Make Your Voice Count—ZHB Member Needed!

Would you like to become more influential on what is going on in your community? Think about volunteering for Amity Township's Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB).

The Zoning Ordinance sets guidelines that must be followed. The ZHB is a five-person board that is appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The ZHB sets hearings based upon applications and appeals and is ultimately responsible to make decisions to assure the fair and equitable application of the Zoning Ordinance.

If you are interested in more information or serving on this board, please submit a letter of interest to: Amity Township, 2004 Weavertown Road, Douglassville, PA 19518.

Trick-or-Treat Time! 2015 Optimist Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 31st is the official "Trick or Treat" night, in Amity Township, from 5PM until 9PM.

The 2015 Daniel Boone Optimist Halloween Parade in Amity Gardens will be held on Tuesday, October 27th. The parade begins at 6:30PM.

Safety Tips for Trick-or-Treating:

1. Wear bright colored clothing.
2. Travel in a group.
3. Carry a flashlight.
4. Drive carefully!
5. Don't eat candy until you check it!



Enjoy the parade, but be safe - Watch children. Please do not allow children to enter the street during the parade!



Walk-In Wednesdays 2-4 pm

Thinking about retirement living? Join us for a tour of our new decorated one-bedroom model apartment. Learn about our services which offer an affordable monthly lease with no buy-in fee. No appointment necessary! We look forward to seeing you!

610-385-5002



YOUR COMMUNITY WEBSITE!

AboutAmity.com

Featuring: Local Resources, Classified Ads, Community Calendar, Kids Corner, Real Estate, and Businesses. Grow your business with our reasonable rates. Contact Lydia@AboutAmity.com.

Alan & Lydia Rieger, REALTORS®

Office: 610-948-2100 x306

Cell: 610-639-4355

Doggone Good Staging: 610-639-1439



Proper Disposal of Medications and Protecting Water Supplies

You no longer take a medication or it has expired. How you dispose of these medications is important to the environment, and your drinking water.

Never put medications down a sink or flush down a toilet.

Never give someone else your medication.

The Amity Township Police Department operates a Medication Drop Box, where you can drop off any unwanted and/or expired medications from 8AM to 5PM, Monday through Friday. We do not accept syringes, inhalers, thermometers, hydrogen peroxide, bloody or infectious waste, loose pills, and we do not accept medications from businesses.

Everyone plays a part in protecting water supplies. Follow these simple rules to help keep our source water clean!

Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in gardens.

Dispose of motor oil at a garage or facility that will re-use it.

Do not dump swimming pool water into a creek or storm drain at the end of the summer season.

Call the PA Department of Environmental Protection at 1-877-333-1904 immediately if you observe a chemical spill.

Housing and Mortgage Burning Ceremony

After years of hard work and fundraising, proud members of the Monarch Fire Company held an official housing of their 2014 Peterbilt 4 Guys Tanker and mortgage burning celebration on August 22, 2015. The celebration began with a parade. Festivities at the firehouse began with words of praise from Senator John Rafferty and State Rep. David Maloney and Berks County Commissioner Christian Leinbach.

To all of the hard working men and women of Monarch Fire Company: Congratulations on a job well done! Thank you to all residents for your continued support.



Don't Forget to Fall Back!



A message from your Fire Marshal, Jeff Smith:

When you change your clocks, don't forget to change batteries in your smoke detectors!

Water will be SHUT OFF and bathrooms will be CLOSED

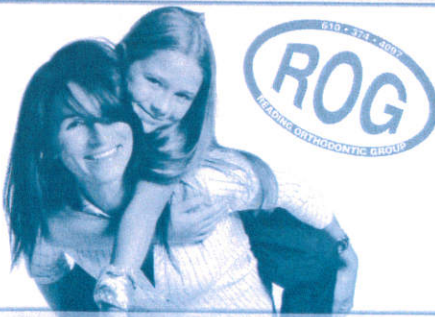
at ALL Township Parks on Monday, NOVEMBER 2nd!

Water will remain on and bathrooms will be open at the Boyer Memorial Pavilion



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TAX COLLECTOR

Do you need to talk to the Tax Collector? Dean Fronheiser doesn't have set hours, but is available by appointment as needed!

To reach Dean, call 610-689-9227.



Amity Crime Watch turns 30!

Amity Township Crime Watch, Inc. (ATCW) is pleased to announce our 30th Anniversary this fall. It is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that was founded in 1985. ATCW meets the third Thursday of every month at 7:30PM, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, which is located at 548 Old Swede Road, Douglassville. The public is invited to attend all meetings. In addition to our patrols, ATCW sponsors crime prevention and safety programs, as well as shredding events in the spring and fall.

Please check out our website at www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org or follow us on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/groups/AmityCrimeWatch>.

Congratulations on 30 years of helping keep Amity Township a safe place to live!

Gajewski Insurance Agency
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Edward Gajewski
Agency Owner

840 Benjamin Franklin Highway
Douglassville, PA 19518
www.gajewskilns.com

Phone: 610.385.0670
Fax: 610.385.0765
email: ed@gajewskilns.com

Do You Need a Permit?

Before beginning any project, please check below to find out what requires a permit and what doesn't. If you have any other questions please call 610-689-6000, ext. 232 or check out our website at www.amitytownshippa.com under the Permit section.

Zoning Permit Required

- * Sheds
- * Pools where water depth is greater than 24" deep
- * Fences
- * Additions
- * Garages (attached or detached)
- * Decks
- * Driveway (new or extension)
- * New Homes
- * Patios
- * Any change of use or occupancy of a commercial building
- * No-impact home-based business
- * Signs
- * Demolition of a structure



Building Permit Required

- * Accessory structures greater than 500SF (sheds, detached garages)
- * Pools where water depth is greater than 24" deep
- * Additions
- * Decks over 30" above grade or supported by a dwelling
- * Commercial repairs, additions, improvements or alterations
- * New dwellings or buildings
- * Roofs over patios
- * New windows or doors in a load bearing wall of a dwelling
- * Any change of occupancy to a commercial building
- * Signs at commercial properties
- * Temporary structures
- * Mechanical additions such as piping, wiring, lighting, heating and cooling

NO Permit Required

- * Roof Replacement on a residential structure
- * Siding replacement
- * Retaining walls not over 4' high
- * Non-bearing walls in a dwelling
- * Residential swings and playgrounds
- * Pools or hot tubs where water depth is less than 24" deep
- * Gutters and downspouts
- * Appliance replacement
- * Security systems
- * Propane or Liquefied petroleum appliances and associated piping
- * Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops, and similar finishing work
- * Resurfacing or sealing driveway
- * Replacing a furnace with the same size and same type
- * Invisible dog fences
- * fish ponds
- * Window Replacement of same size and type

American Kestrels Right at Home in Amity Township!

A successful project collaboration! The Amity EAC teamed up with the Cub scouts and residents of Amity township to help out a local wildlife friend, the American Kestrel, *Falco sparverius*. Cub Scout troop 597 helped build kestrel nest boxes according to the specs published by Hawk Mountain. Team members then asked for local residents' help with open land space to hang the boxes. A total of 10 nest boxes now reside throughout the township and wait for happy

tree cavity dwellers! The American Kestrel is a small hawk about the size of a bluejay. Hawk Mountain in Kempton, PA (www.hawkmountain.org) supports education programs and research studies to help the declining population of hawks. The Kestrel does not build its own nest, but rather, relies on cavities in trees, buildings, or nest boxes built by humans to lay their eggs and support new young. These hawks help the ecosystem balance by preying on

insects, rodents, and small birds making them a farmer's best friend! They are often seen perching on utility lines overlooking fields where they have a bird's eye view of their next meal. A **huge thank you from the EAC to Amity Township and residents for the use of their land to help support efforts to restore numbers to the Kestrel populations!**



1104 Old Airport Road • Douglassville, PA 19518
(610) 689-5100 • Fax (610) 689-4441



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Monarch Fire Company

Steak and Shrimp nights are back!
First Saturday of the month, from 5PM to 8PM at Monarch Fire Company, beginning October 3rd.



The holidays are fast approaching! Get your cashews and peanuts, made by Monarch Fire Co. Watch for bags to be available at local businesses. Nuts can also be purchased at the firehouse.

Amity Fire Company

The annual Quoit Tournament will be held on Saturday, November 7th.

Registration begins at 9:30a.m.
\$20 Registration Fee for team of 2 (includes gameplay, food, and beer)

Cash prize for top 3 teams!



For more details visit www.AmityFireRescue.com.

Thank you in advance for supporting our local volunteers!

**TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME**

A Message from Chief Shuebrook

Burglaries happen. It's a fact. It's also a fact that YOU can stave off this activity by simply locking your homes and vehicles. Don't fall victim to a crime of opportunity. Thieves have an easy day at work when they have an open door to your home or vehicle. Be observant. If something doesn't seem right, it's worth reporting. Report suspicious activity immediately!

One final item is the topic of snow-fall. Township Ordinance requires all cars be removed from the street when there is more than 1 (one) inch of snow and or/ ice accumulation. Failure to remove vehicles from the street creates plowing issues and an inability for plow operators to effectively clear snow. This can cause long term safety issues, particularly when snow is heavy.

Large piles of compacted snow can remain in the roadways as obstacles for days and weeks at a time. Anyone who had to swerve around these types of impediments from last winter knows what we're talking about.

Winter safety is everyone's responsibility!

Chief of Police,
Kent A. Shuebrook



SPECIAL WASTE COLLECTION

The Berks County Solid Waste Authority will host the following recycling events at the First Energy Stadium, on Route 61 in Reading:

Paper Shredding and Pharmaceuticals - October 17, 2015
Household Hazardous Waste - October 24, 2015

Both events are held 8:00AM until 2:00PM Rain or Shine!

Tire Recycling Center

1316 Hilltop Road, Leesport

The Center is open every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8:00AM until NOON.



Pizza Boxes - Can they be recycled?

We all know water and oil don't mix. When water mixes with paper products, like cardboard, it makes a slurry. Oils and grease, like that from cheese and pizza, causes oil to form at the top of the slurry, making it impossible to separate paper fibers from the oils during the "pulping process". Oils that get in during the process of making paper cause paper quality problems. Please do not try to sneak pizza boxes or greasy cardboard into your recyclables.

This does more harm than good!

Come see us to dispose of your stumps, brush, leaves, and yard waste. (Minimal tipping fees apply)



610-689-5081
172 Fancy Hill Rd
Boyertown PA 19512

Complete landscaping, excavating, and land clearing services!

We also offer mulch and screened topsoil.

Electronic Recycling Center

1316 Hilltop Rd, Leesport

The Center is open every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8:00AM until NOON



No charge for residents to dispose of electronic items, fluorescent tubes, CFL Bulbs and rechargeable batteries, air conditioners and dehumidifiers

Commercial/Institutional customers please call for an appointment 610-478-6362.

The following sites accept car batteries year-round:

East Penn Manufacturing - Deka Road, Lyons PA
Exide Corporation - Montrose Avenue, Reading PA



Disposing of Latex Paint

NEWS FLASH! Latex paint is not a hazardous material! If you are looking to dispose of old latex paint, take the lid off and let it dry! Want it gone quicker? Add some sand, cat litter, shredded paper or sawdust to soak up the paint. Scrape out the contents and flatten the lid. If you have a large quantity of leftover paint, consider donating it to local theater groups, churches, or other civic groups. Want more information on disposing of paint, go to <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/dept/swa/recycle/pages/paint.aspx>



610-582-2500 / 800-510-1855
allamericanseptic.com / Fax: 610-582-2330

**ALL-AMERICAN
SEPTIC SERVICE, INC.**

Steve Chieffo Owner/Operator

P.O. Box 552, Douglassville, PA 19518

Amity Township Newsletter



Amity Township
2004 Weavertown Rd.
Douglassville, PA 19518
610-689-6000
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Snow in the Forecast? Be Prepared!

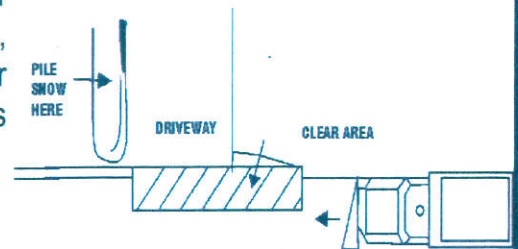


In our efforts to keep our residents safe we would like to remind everyone of their responsibility to keep your sidewalks shoveled and clear of ice and snow during the year. Under the International Property Maintenance Code, Section 302.3.1, where sidewalks exist, those responsible for sidewalks shall 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.

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.

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

And remember if there is an accumulation of 1" or more of snow or ice, you must remove your vehicles from the street. Police will issue tickets for vehicles left on the street after a snow/ice storm. Please note: The Township is not responsible for repairing or replacing mailboxes knocked down by thrown ice or snow.



Assisting Seniors with Personal Care



Hearthstone
at Amity
A Personal Care Community

139 Old Swede Rd, Douglassville
610-385-7600



2016 Community Days needs YOU! After a rainy start to the 2015 Community Days, it was a bit difficult to measure the success, but the Optimist Club would like to send out a big THANK YOU to everyone who participated and attended the 43rd annual Community Days. An event of this size requires a lot of time and talent from an organization. The Optimist Club seeks to gain additional community involvement to decide how to begin planning a 44th annual Community Day(s).

The public is invited to attend an investigatory meeting at **7PM on October 21st** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 548 Old Swede Road, Douglassville. For more information go to www.DanielBooneOptimist.com.