



Amity Township

VOLUME XIV, ISSUE I

SPRING 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.- Fri. 8am-5pm

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Mark Your Calendar!

Looking for some family fun? Look no further than the Annual Amity Fire Company Carnival! Come out and enjoy some good food and family fun, while supporting your local volunteer firefighters!



GOOD FOR ONE
RIDER WHEN
ACCOMPANIED
BY ONE
PAYING RIDER
CUT IT OUT & BRING IT!



Unlimited Ride

Tues, Wed, & Thursday
6pm-10pm

Friday & Saturday
5pm-11pm

Wristband Nights

Tues, Wed, & Thursday

For more information see our website www.facebook.com/amityfiremancarnival

Monarch Fire Company

If you're driving through Douglassville and suddenly smell barbeque chicken, chances are you've stumbled on Monarch's Chicken BBQ! Firefighters will be cooking up some of the best chicken in Berks County this spring and summer! Sales are held on Saturdays from 10AM until sold out in the parking lot of Redner's.

Let your eyes and nose guide you to the next Chicken BBQ. Look for signs around the Township!

What a great way to fill your belly and support your local fire company!



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

ALL-AMERICAN SEPTIC SERVICE, INC.

Steve Chieffo Owner/Operator

P.O. Box 552, Douglassville, PA 19518

Gajewski Insurance Agency
Home • Auto • Commercial



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



Recycling Events

Electronic & Tire Recycling
1316 Hilltop Rd,
Leesport
EVERY
Tuesday, Thursday &
Saturday
8:00AM-12:00PM

Dates for recycling events are posted on our website at www.amitytownshippa.com



Street Sweeping and Brush Pick Up

We may have escaped a snowy winter, but the ice storms have left plenty of cinders on the roadways. The road crew and the Township's contractor will begin sweeping cinders from May 4th through May 15th, weather permitting. Roads will be posted the day before. Sweeping is done between 7AM and 5PM. When your street is posted, please move your vehicle off the street so the crews can clean up as quickly and efficiently as possible. Vehicles that are not removed will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense!

trees back away from sidewalks and right of ways, especially where there are stop or street signs. Overgrown and overhanging foliage creates hazards for pedestrians and drivers, alike!

During the week of April 27th, the road crew will conduct curbside pick-up of bundled twigs and brush. Bundles should be no more than 15 pounds!

The Township also provides a dumpster at the Municipal Building where you can dump your brush and leaves.

NO STUMPS, please!



Spring is also time to trim bushes and

Earth Day is April 22, 2015

To celebrate Earth Day, Chuck's Auto Salvage will be accepting automobile waste from 8AM until 5PM on April 22nd. This is a good way to get rid of old car batteries, oil, fluid, tires (only 4 please), or anything to do with automobiles that you may have laying around.

WE SUPPORT



WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

This year, Chuck's will donate \$15 to the Wounded Warrior Project for every battery received. Please help the Earth and dispose of this waste properly. Chuck's Auto Salvage, located at 6867 Boyertown Pike, is the home of Green Recycled Parts.

PADEP issues Drought Watch - Please Conserve Water!

Please use water wisely and conserve where possible. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) has declared a drought watch due to below-normal rainfall last fall and in the months of January and February 2015. According to the PADEP, a drought watch

declaration is the first and least severe level of the state's three drought classifications.

Please do what you can to voluntarily reduce water consumption during the drought watch. Conserving now could make a huge difference as weather gets warmer.

What can you do?

- *Install water saving faucets
- *Shorten shower time to 7 to 10 minutes
- *Turn off water while brushing teeth
- *Check toilets and faucets for leaks
- *Rinse fruits/veggies in a basin
- *Wash clothes and dishes when you have full loads only

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Don't Curse. Call Us!
Chuck's AUTO SALVAGE, Inc.
DOMESTIC & IMPORTED PARTS
Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

(610) 689-9574
(877) 877-6699

6867 Boyertown Pike
Douglassville, PA 19518



AMITY TOWNSHIP
LIONS CLUB

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
FOR 65 YEARS

We welcome new members. Join us any 1st or 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Monarch Fire Company. Like "Amity Township Lions Club" on Facebook to find out about our upcoming fundraising events and service projects.

Thanks to Chris Ehlinger, from Boy Scout Troop #597, residents have a place to sit and remember those who serve or have served their Country.

Chris comes from a family of veterans and was born on Veteran's Day 17 years ago. It makes sense that when faced with a decision for an Eagle Scout Project, Chris chose to beautify the Korean and Vietnam Veteran's Memorial at the Township Building. Chris began researching and working with Township officials, and Don Levengood, of Levengood's Flowers to form a plan to make the Memorial a great place to visit.

Paying Tribute to Our Veterans

This past November, the Memorial received a facelift of sorts. From the parking lot, there is a stone gravel pathway with stepping stones. LED lights were placed at the memorial, as well as boxwood bushes. Chris moved the bench from the building's entrance to the Memorial.

Many Veterans sacrificed so much to give us the freedoms we enjoy every day. Take time to stop by the Memorial and pay your respects.



Thanks to Chris and his team of volunteers for making the Memorial a great place to pay our respects!



Take a Hike!

Dust off those sneakers and head to the hills. It's great weather to take a hike! Monocacy Hill has plenty to offer.

Fitness Hikes:

- Sunday, April 26 - 1:30PM
- Sunday, May 31 - 1:30PM
- Sunday, June 7 - 11AM

Dog Walks:

- Sunday, April 26 - 10AM
- Sunday, May 24 - 10AM
- Sunday, June 7 - 10AM

One dog per person and dogs MUST be on a leash!

On the Hill you'll have a chance to observe wildlife and take in the beauty of various wildflowers.

Come out and join our **OPEN HOUSE** on Sunday, May 3rd, from 10:00AM to 4:00PM.

Open House Events:

- Fitness Hike at 11AM
- Wildflower Hike at 1:30PM
- Sunset Hike at 7:00PM

All events are free to the public and are sponsored by the Monocacy Hill Conservation Association. All activities meet at the Geiger Road parking lot, weather permitting.

For more information on these activities check out the website at www.monocacyhill.org.



Amity Township Crime Watch, Inc. (ATCW) is a non-profit, all volunteer organization established in 1985. Their members are very proud to be celebrating their 30th Anniversary this fall. Crime Watch members are extra eyes and ears for the Amity Township Police Department. The presence of Crime Watch helps deter crime. ATCW meets every third Thursday of each month at 7:30PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church located at 548 Old Swede Road. In addition to patrolling, ATCW sponsors crime prevention and safety programs, as well as sponsoring a Community Shredding Event each spring.

Please visit our website at www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org for more details and upcoming events.

Help keep Amity a safe place to live!



Assisting Seniors with Personal Care



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A Personal Care Community

139 Old Swede Rd, Douglassville
610-385-3700

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Cannot be combined with other offers, excludes lottery & tobacco

Do You Need a Permit?

As warmer weather approaches, it's the perfect time to complete those projects around the house! 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.

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



DO NOT put recycling bins in the street!
Please place bins on top or behind the curb

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



Major recreational equipment, including but not limited to, boats and boat 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 setback lines. 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 locations, unless a temporary permit is issued by the Township. **Happy Camping!**

Tax Collector Hours

APRIL
Wednesdays
 10am- 12pm
 5pm-7pm
Thursdays
 5pm-7pm
April 21 & 28
 5pm- 7pm
April 29 & 30
 5pm-7pm
610-689-9227



Tennis is Back! Amity Township Tennis Program will be held at the Amity Township Community Park. Kids ages 5-14 will begin the week of June 15th through July 31st. New this year, adult beginner and intermediate classes will begin June 16th at 7:30PM. On May 16th, there will be a free Tennis "play day". Please contact Kim Cubero with questions. Cell: 610-301-7609, Facebook: Total Tennis Amity Pa or via email at Totaltennis1@gmail.com.



Breakfast OPEN HOUSE

- May 9** Independent Living
- May 16** Personal Care & Memory Care
- 9 to 10AM** Presentation with Tours to Follow
RSVP Required 610-385-5021

WOOD WASTE DROP OFF

Stumps, Brush, Leaves, Yard Waste
(Minimal tipping fees apply)



610-689-5081

172 Fancy Hill Rd

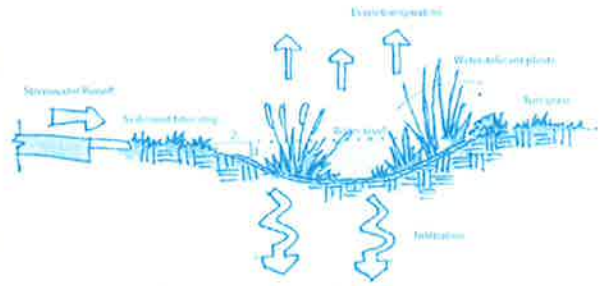
Complete Landscaping Services!
 Seasoned Fire Wood For Sale
 Excavating Hauling Driveways

Stormwater Problem? Consider a Rain Garden

Warmer weather is finally here. Time to picnic and enjoy some time outside. If you're like many residents, who face stormwater drainage issues, consider making a beautiful solution to your wet problem. Rain Gardens are small depressed vegetated areas for retention and filtration of stormwater runoff. Compared to a traditional lawn, a rain garden allows approximately 30% more water to infiltrate into the ground. Rain gardens collect water from rooftops, sidewalks, and driveways. At a workshop meeting of the Planning Commission, held on March 6, 2015, the Berks County Planning Commission gave a presentation about stormwater and managing runoff and creating rain gardens.

Do It Yourself Tips for Planting a Rain Garden

- *Must be 10 feet or more from building foundation, utilities and septic system drain fields
- *Should cover 20-30% of the area to be treated for drainage
- *Can take any shape you want. Make it a landscape masterpiece!
- *Check for drainage to determine if you need sand or gravel
- *Prepare your soil. Ideal mix is two-parts sand, one-part topsoil, and one-part compost.
- *Plant your garden! Make sure to water generously!
- *Add 2 to 3 inches of shredded hardwood mulch.



For rain garden templates go to <http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org>

Volunteers Needed...Get Involved in Your Community!

The Amity Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is currently working on two projects. First, is the placing of nest boxes for the American Kestrel, the smallest falcon found in North America. The Kestrel feeds on insects and small rodents and other birds and hunts its prey in open agricultural land. Recent urbanization has stressed the Kestrel's habitat. To date, the EAC has placed three nest boxes to attract the American Kestrel. However, they are looking for property owners with agricultural land to volunteer to allow nest boxes be placed.

The EAC will also participate in the Great American Cleanup of PA. This will entail the cleaning of litter from Township roads and is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 16th. The EAC is looking for individual volunteers or organizations to participate in the cleanup.

If you are interested in allowing a Kestrel nest box on your property or would like to participate in the Great American Cleanup of PA, please contact Pam Kisch at Amity Township at 610-689-6000 x222.



AboutAmity.com

Your Community Web Site for Resources!

Free Classified Ads • Local Businesses • Job Search • Calendar
Pictures • Clubs & Organizations • Kid's Page
Real Estate • Neighborhood History

Sponsored by:

Alan & Lydia Rieger, REALTORS®
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Cell: 610-639-4355
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Amity Township Newsletter



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Douglassville, PA 19518
610-689-6000
www.amitytownshippa.com

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EDDM

Reel 'Em In

The Birdsboro Sportsmans Club will hold it's Annual Kid's Trout Rodeo at the Rustic Picnic Area in Birdsboro on May 1st and May 2nd.

Friday, May 1st:

5PM start, fish until 8PM

Saturday, May 2nd:

7AM start, fish until 4PM

Kids will be split into two groups:

Group A 6 to 10

Group B 11 to 15

*Free hot dogs and drinks
will be provided for all
fishing participants!*



Daily Limit = 5 Trout

Bait will be for sale

Have Fun and Good Luck!



Postal Resident

Amity Township Receives Recycling Grant

The Township applied for and was awarded, a PADEP 902 Recycling Grant in the amount of **\$32,302.80!**



The Township will be replacing the existing 30-yard container with (2) 40-yard containers at the Township building, 2004 Weavertown Road. Get that yardwork done on the weekend, because there will be more room for your yard waste in these containers! This area will get new signage detailing what can and cannot be placed in these containers, as well as a walkway between the canisters for easy and safe unloading.

In addition, the Township will be purchasing larger recycling containers. The new 25-gallon round containers will have lids. These containers will be available to new homeowners and to residents whose containers have been destroyed. If your bin is destroyed, you must bring in the damaged bin to the municipal building during office hours, 8AM-5PM, Monday through Friday, to receive a replacement bin.

The Township will also be updating the informational pamphlet for the single-stream recycling.

The Township Recycling Coordinator, Kathie Benson, spent many hours preparing this grant submission, and it sure paid off!

Keep recycling, Amity! It's the best way to make sure children have the resources they need as they grow into adults.

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