



# Amity Township

VOLUME XV, ISSUE I

SPRING 2016

## Amity Township

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

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

### Supervisors

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

### Township Manager

Troy S. Bingaman

### Township Hours

Mon.- Fri. 8am-4:30pm

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## UNDER QUARANTINE!

On November 18, 2015, the PA Department of Agriculture announced that the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) quarantine had been expanded to include Amity Township. The SLF is a non-native species that poses a significant threat to Pennsylvania's grape, apple, peach and timber industry.

Early detection is critical to controlling this invasive species. The SLF lays grayish egg masses during autumn and winter on smooth bark, stone and other surfaces. Egg masses may also be seen on vehicles, campers, yard furniture, farm equipment and other items that may be stored outside.

In mid-May, the SLF emerges from the egg masses as a wingless nymph that is black or red with white spots. The nymphs feed on a variety of plants and reach their adult stage around mid-July.

Adults have a black head and grayish wings with black spots. The tips of the wings are a combination of black rectangular blocks with gray outlines. The abdomen is yellow with bands of black. When the SLF is gliding in air, it displays red hind wings.

Amity Township was added to the quarantine to restrict movement of the Spotted Lanternfly. What does this mean to YOU? The quarantine **restricts movement** of the following items unless specific protocols are followed:

- Any living stage of the Spotted Lanternfly
- Brush, debris, bark or yard waste
- Landscaping, remodeling and construction waste
- Logs, stumps or tree parts
- Firewood, grapevines or nursery stock
- Crafted materials
- Outdoor household items, including RVs, tractors, mowers, grills, etc.

Contractors moving wood waste outside of the quarantine area must contact the PA Department of Agriculture prior to moving these materials!

Quarantine violators could face fines of up to \$20,000. If you identify the Spotted Lanternfly, please report the sighting to the Department of Agriculture by calling 1-866-253-7189 or send pictures to [badbug@pa.gov](mailto:badbug@pa.gov). More information can be found on the Township's website at [www.amitytownshippa.com](http://www.amitytownshippa.com) or [www.agriculture.state.pa.us](http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us). Printed information about the Spotted Lanternfly, as well as forms are available at the Municipal Building.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

*Don't Cuss. 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



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





## Recycling Events

### Electronic & Tire Recycling

EVERY

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

8:00AM-12:00PM

1316 Hilltop Rd.  
Leesport

### Paper Shredding Events

8:00AM- 2:00PM

April 23, 2016

600 Governor Dr.  
Shillington

October 15, 2016

First Energy Stadium  
Route 61, Reading

### Berks County

### Medication Drop Box Program

Program

Mon-Fri 8AM-4:30PM

Amity Township Police  
2004 Weavertown Rd.  
Douglassville

### Berks County

### Hazardous Waste

8:00AM-2:00PM

April 16, 2016

600 Governor Dr.  
Shillington

October 22, 2016

First Energy Stadium  
Route 61, Reading

Dates for recycling events are posted on our website at

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

## Street Sweeping and Brush Pick Up

Winter Storm Jonas left the roadways with plenty of cinders! The road crew and the Township's contractor will begin sweeping cinders from April 11th through April 22nd, 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!

Spring is also time to trim bushes and trees back 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 4th, 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 two 40-yard containers at the Municipal Building where you can bring your brush and leaves.

**NO GRASS CLIPPINGS or STUMPS.**

Please see the sign on the containers, for a complete list of items that are not accepted.



## Earth Day is Friday, April 22nd

To celebrate Earth Day, Chuck's Auto Salvage will be accepting automobile waste from 8AM until 5PM on Friday, 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. Chuck's will not be accepting gasoline this year.

This year, Chuck's will donate \$15 to *Meals on Wheels* 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.



Why can't they take my TV with the garbage?



Where can I take unwanted electronics?

**Did you know it's illegal to dispose of old televisions in regular garbage?** If you've recently replaced an old television or computer, you may experience difficulty disposing of your old electronics. Don't dispose of them with regular garbage! If the electronics are in working condition, consider donating them to a local thrift shop or community outreach center. Look in the newspaper to see if anyone is seeking items that need repair, or take the items to a designated electronics recycling center, such as Berks County's center located at 1316 Hilltop Road in Leesport.

Additional information on electronics recycling can be found at [eWastePA.org](http://eWastePA.org), a consumer guide to electronics recycling in PA. The website was recently launched by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and partners at PPO&S, Integrating Marketing and Communications. This site hopes to educate, empower, and engage consumers in safe and effective recycling of outdated or unwanted electronics.

*Help keep Pennsylvania, and your community, beautiful. Be responsible and recycle!*

### Amity Township Lioness Club

The Annual Basket Bingo Fundraiser will be held on April 17, 2016 at the Amity Fire Company.

Cost is \$20.00 per person.

Doors open at 12:00 noon.

Bingo begins at 1:00PM.



For tickets or further information, please call Lioness Linda McCue at 610-385-6421.

*Have a good time for a great cause!*

### Birdsboro Sportsmen's Club Annual Kid's Trout Fishing Rodeo

Will be held at the Rustic Picnic Area  
Friday, April 29th, 5:00PM until 8:00PM  
Saturday, April 30th, 7:00AM until 4:00PM

Kids will be split into two age 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 of 5 Trout**



Bait will be for sale.  
**Have Fun and Good Luck!**



**Reel 'Em In**



### AMITY TOWNSHIP CRIME WATCH

#### Community Shredding Event

**Saturday, April 16, 2016**  
9:00AM to NOON  
Redner's Parking Lot

This event is open to all residents and small businesses in Douglassville and surrounding areas.

Shredding will be performed by ProShred of Paoli.

Donations will be accepted to help defray the cost of the shredding truck.

**Help stop identity theft**—shred outdated documents!

[www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org](http://www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org)  
Susan/610-385-3740  
[www.proshred.com](http://www.proshred.com)  
484-323-2100

### Upcoming Events on Monocacy Hill

#### Walk in the Woods:

Sunday, April 3 at 1:30PM  
Sunday, May 15 at 1:30PM  
Sunday, June 12 at 1:30PM

#### Dog Walks:

Sunday, April 17 at 10:00AM  
Sunday, May 15 at 10:00AM  
Sunday, May 29 at 10:00AM  
Sunday, June 5 at 10:00AM

#### Wildflower Walks:

Sunday, April 10 at 1:30PM  
Sunday, April 17 at 1:30PM  
Sunday, June 12 at 10:00AM

#### Bird Walk with Sierra Club

Sunday, May 29 at 8:00AM

**One dog per person. Dogs MUST be on a leash at all times!**

All events are free to the public and are sponsored by the Monocacy Hill Conservation Association.

Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

Come out and join our us for an **OPEN HOUSE** on Sunday, May 1st, from 10:00AM to 5:00PM.

#### Open House Events:

- Dog Walk at 10:00AM
- Walk in the Woods at 11:30AM
- Wildflower Hike at 1:30PM (Dr. Susan Munch)
- Sunset Hike at 6:30PM

All hikes begin at the Geiger Road parking lot.

Events may be canceled due to bad inclement weather.

For more information on these activities check out the website at [www.monocacyhill.org](http://www.monocacyhill.org).



Like us on  
**Facebook**

**Gajewski Insurance Agency**  
Home • Auto • Commercial



**Edward Gajewski**  
Agency Owner

840 Benjamin Franklin Highway Phone: 610.385.0670  
Douglassville, PA 19518 Fax: 610.385.0765  
[www.gajewskiins.com](http://www.gajewskiins.com) email: [ed@gajewskiins.com](mailto:ed@gajewskiins.com)



610-582-2500 / 800-510-1855  
[allamericanseptic.com](http://allamericanseptic.com) / Fax: 610-582-2330

## ALL-AMERICAN SEPTIC SERVICE, INC.

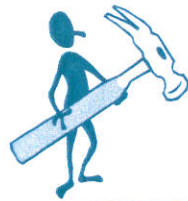
Steve Chieffo Owner/Operator

P.O. Box 552, Douglassville, PA 19518

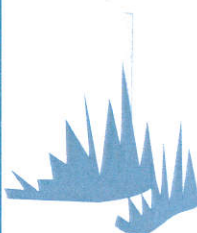
# Do You Need a Permit?

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.

<u>Zoning Permit Required</u>	<u>Building Permit Required</u>	<u>NO Permit Required</u>
<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>	<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> <li>* Finishing of Basements</li> </ul>	<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 or hot tubs 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> <li>* Invisible dog fences</li> <li>* fish ponds</li> <li>* Window Replacement of same size and type</li> </ul>



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



**No recreational vehicles or equipment, including but not limited to, boats and boat trailers, pick-up campers or coaches, motorized dwellings, tent trailers or similar equipment, shall be parked or stored on any public street. Ordinance 290 states that such recreational vehicles or equipment can be parked on a public street ONLY for the temporary purpose of loading and unloading such vehicle.**

**Violators will be assessed a fine of \$40.00, payable to the Amity Township Police Department within 15 days from the date of violation.**



**Tax Collector Hours**

**APRIL**

**Wednesdays**  
10am- 12pm  
5pm-7pm

**Thursdays**  
5pm-7pm

**April 22 & 29**  
5pm- 7pm

**June 29 & 30**  
5pm-7pm

**610-689-9227**



**Amity Township is now on Facebook!** Township Staff will be using the new Facebook page to help get the word out about issues such as the quarantine for the Spotted Lanternfly, street sweeping, leaf collection, and much more! Don't see something on our page that you'd like information about? *Please let us know!* [www.facebook.com/AmityTownship](http://www.facebook.com/AmityTownship)

The Berks County Department of Emergency Services uses the Berks Alert system to immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency.

The Berks Alert system allows you to receive emergency notifications, updates, and notifications on all of your devices including email, cell phone (SMS text page), and smart phone (iPhone, Android, Blackberry, Android).

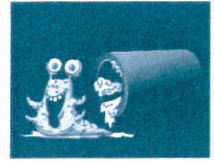
When an incident or emergency occurs, authorized senders will instantly notify you using the Berks Alert system. The Berks Alert system is your personal connection to real-time updates, instructions on where to go, what to do, or what not to do, who to contact and other important information. Sign up at [berks.alertpa.org](http://berks.alertpa.org)

*These alerts are free; however, your cellular provider may charge for text messaging.*



**Sign up today!**

## Beware of the The FOG Monster - FATS, OILS & GREASE



The FOG Monster is not fictional, it's created by HUMANS, and costs homeowners and the Township thousands of dollars each year. Fats, oils, and grease harden as it flows down the sewer pipe and attaches to solids, forming clumps; which, accumulate and become the main cause of smelly and costly sewer backups. This situation only gets worse! Once these clumps start to stick to the sides of the pipes and slow down the flow of sewage, the sewage can start to back up in your house or in your yard! Talk about ruining a picnic! Fats, oils, and grease are typically byproducts of cooking. The easiest way to prevent backups and sewage overflows is to keep the FOG out of the sewer system.

### Put the FOG monster on a fat-free diet by doing the following:

- Do not pour oil, grease, or fats down the drain.
- Soak up the grease after frying with paper towels and dispose in the trash.
- Pour larger amounts of used cooking grease into a container with a lid. Refrigerate to harden and place in the trash. (Great way to recycle containers from take-out.)
- Put food scraps in the garbage or compost, minimizing use of your garbage disposal.
- NEVER pour motor oils down the drain. *This is ILLEGAL!*



*This information provided by: the Public Education Committee of the Pennsylvania Water Environment Association.*

### Environmental Advisory Council

Over the past year, the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) placed ten nest boxes for the **American Kestrel** on Township and private properties within Amity Township. We would like to thank all of the private property owners who volunteered to have a nest box placed on their property. We would also appreciate any sightings of the American Kestrel by these property owners to be reported to the Township. Call 610-689-6000 to report American Kestrel sightings.

### Monarch Fire Company

Spring is back and Monarch Fire Company is ready to get cooking! Chicken BBQ sales are held on Saturdays in the Redner's parking lot from 10AM until sold out. The first Chicken BBQ of the season will be held at the end of April.

Steak and Shrimp Nights are held on the first Saturday of the month at Monarch Fire Company.

**Call 610-385-3310 for more information!**



EAC is looking for volunteers to assist in its second annual **PA Great American Cleanup**. Members will pick up litter along Old Airport Road in early May. We welcome individuals or organizations. Call 610-689-6000, ext. 222 to volunteer.

Do YOU have any interest in the environment and doing something about it? If so, the **Amity Township EAC is looking for at least one member**. Contact the Township, and you will be contacted by an EAC Member.

**AMITY FIRE CO.**

**CARNIVAL**

April 26<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>

GAMES -- FOOD -- RIDES -- PRIZES  
- FIREWORKS -

Unlimited Ride Nights - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

**FIREWORKS**

Friday Night  
9:00p.m.

Unlimited Ride Wristband Nights  
Tues, Wed, & Thurs

\$1 Hot Dogs  
Saturday

Want more info? Visit our website or like us on Facebook

*YOUR COMMUNITY WEBSITE!*

**AboutAmity.com**

*It's All About:*  
**Community Events, Resources, Homes, Families & Kids!**

Place classified ads, post your club info, or grow your business!  
Contact [Lydia@AboutAmity.com](mailto:Lydia@AboutAmity.com) about our reasonable rates.

Alan & Lydia Rieger, REALTORS®  
Office: 610-489-2100 X1912  
Cell: 610-639-4355  
Doggone Good Staging: 610-639-1439

*Join Us...*

**CAMP MANATAWNY**  
*— Summer Camp 2016 —*

Weekly Overnight Camps  
— Grades 1 thru 12

Day Camps  
— Grades 1 thru 4

• Jesus • Friendships  
• Fun • Memories

**visit: [manatawny.org](http://manatawny.org)**  
33 Camp Rd., Douglassville • 610-689-0173

# Amity Township Newsletter



Amity Township  
2004 Weavertown Rd.  
Douglassville, PA 19518  
610-689-6000  
[www.amitytownshippa.com](http://www.amitytownshippa.com)

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
READING, PA  
PERMIT NO. 116

Postal Resident



## A Message from Chief Kensey "Public Trust"

My name is Andrew J. Kensey, and I am the newly appointed Chief of Amity Township Police Department; I was appointed on December 2nd, 2015. I come from a long history of police officers. My father served for 41 years with the Philadelphia Police Department; his father served more than three decades; and I've dedicated 23 and a half years of my life on Philadelphia's toughest streets to an occupation that I am very passionate about. I care deeply about law enforcement and the community in which I serve. Being afforded the opportunity to have an active voice here in Amity is a wonderful opportunity to make this agency one of the most professional agencies in Berks County.

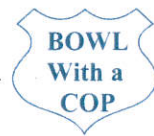
With that being said, as a leader and law enforcement official, I have an obligation to the governing body, community, and my officers to be transparent and accountable. At a time where there are more officer involved shootings than ever before, police departments must be diligent in their operations in order to gain public trust. Our department's daily behavior must be visible to the public. The foundation in the development of positive relations with the police and the community is through these means. The dynamics of policing have changed considerably in the last decade or so. The days of not providing information upon request are virtually non-existent, nor do they need to exist. We, in the law enforcement community, must create an environment of openness in our operational methods.

How our department's policies are created, our use of force protocol, administering of discipline, and training must be readily available for public opinion. The law enforcement community is subject to more scrutiny than ever. With advancements in technology, aggressive reporting, and officers being held to higher standards than ever before, we as leaders must be assertive in our efforts to maintain the highest level of efficiency.

Furthermore, it is imperative that our community know how we report and investigate crime. It is a fact that one of the best ways to gain public support and confidence is through transparency. This ideology provides accountability and is reflective of our department's public image. My goal here in Amity as your Chief, is to provide you with everything you need to gain our trust. "We work for you, Amity." Thank you, again, for this wonderful opportunity to keep you safe.

Respectfully,

**Chief Andrew J. Kensey**



December 12, 2015, Jay Lanes held its first annual Bowl With a Cop event, along with Amity Township Police Officers Tom Gauby, Brian Devlin, and Detective Jeff Smith as well as officers from Douglass Township, Berks County. Officers spent a few hours of bowling and fellowship with local kids. There was no charge for kids or adults who participated.

### **Bowl with a Cop will be held in December 2016.**

If you'd like to have fun bowling and take a few hours to meet your local police, look for more information on the Amity Township and Amity Township Police Department Facebook pages.

Additional details will be published in the Fall 2016 newsletter.



### ***Spring yourself into a good book!***

Boone Area Library  
129 N Mill Street, Birdsboro  
Phone: 610-582-5666

Website: [www.boonearealibrary.com](http://www.boonearealibrary.com)

#### **Hours:**

Mon 10AM-8PM  
Tues 1PM-8PM  
Wed 9AM-4PM  
Thur 1PM-8PM  
Fri 9AM-4PM  
Sat 9AM-4PM  
Closed Sundays

Like us on Facebook or visit our website to see a complete list of activities for children, teens, and adults!

#### **Story times:**

Mondays 10:15AM & 1:30PM  
Wednesdays 11AM

Special family events all summer long on Tuesday evenings at 6PM.