

Welcome to

AMITY TOWNSHIP

Berks County, Pennsylvania

FALL 2019
Volume XIX, Issue III



Board of Supervisors

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Township Manager

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Township Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

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PLAYGROUNDS GET NEW EQUIPMENT



Volunteers pictured above and at right are replacing equipment at Locust Grove Park. The same two pieces of equipment are also planned to be installed at Amity Community Park.

The road crew has been busy upgrading playgrounds throughout the Township. The old playground equipment at Hill Road was replaced with new this year. Boy Scout Troop #597 assisted in installation of the new equipment as part of an Eagle Scout Project. Lions Club and Daniel Boone Optimist Club volunteers helped replace two pieces of playground equipment at Locust Grove Park.



The crew will be replacing two pieces of equipment at Amity Community Park this fall and will be replacing the old playground equipment at Lake Drive Park in the spring of 2020. We are very fortunate to have so many playgrounds that provide free, safe fun.

The Board of Supervisors and staff wish to thank all of the volunteers who have helped with projects.



This year, the road crew replaced approximately 500-feet of storm sewer pipe before paving was completed on Maplewood Drive, Lilac Lane and Lilac Court, Ivy Lane and Ivy Court and Gilde Road. We realize this work created inconveniences and we want to **THANK YOU** all for your patience and cooperation during that process.

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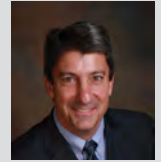
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Berks County Solid Waste Collection



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Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:00AM to NOON
1316 Hilltop Road, Leesport
*Fees apply per Berks County Fee Schedule.

Did you know?

- Alkaline batteries can be disposed of in the regular trash.
- Latex paint should be dried and hardened before disposing in regular trash. If you want to shorten the dry time, pour kitty litter or saw dust in the can to absorb the paint.

Collection dates are intended to provide **Berks County** residents with a responsible way to dispose of old, unusable and unwanted hazardous products. Putting these items in the trash or down the drain contributes to the pollution of our air and drinking waters.

For more information regarding the Berks County Recycling events and programs, please visit www.co.berks.pa.us/swa or call 610-478-6362.

Amity Township Recycling Collection



Recycling is collected by Eagle Disposal on **Wednesdays**. Weeks where the holiday falls on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday recycling will be collected on **Thursday**. Recycling is single-stream; meaning you place all metal, paper, cardboard, glass and plastic into your recycling containers. These materials are sorted at the recycling processing center. You should be receiving a notice from Eagle Disposal for their 2020 collection dates.

This information will also be made available on our website at www.amitytownshippa.com

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Proper Disposal of Medications and Medical Waste

The Amity Township Police Department has a **Medication Drop Box** located in the front lobby of the Township Building located at 2004 Weavertown Road. The purpose of the Medication Drop Box is to dispose of these items in a safe and efficient manner further preventing children from being exposed to medications. Township residents are encouraged to bring their expired, unwanted, or unused prescription medications (or over the counter medications) to dispose of them in the Medication Drop Box. Medications may be dropped off anytime Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm, excluding holidays.

What is the proper way to dispose of needles? Needles are considered “sharps”. Syringes, lancets and any devices with points or edges that can puncture or cut the skin are also considered sharps. Place them in a strong plastic container, such as those used for laundry soap, bleach or kitty litter. When the bottle is $\frac{3}{4}$ full, put the lid on it and seal the container with duct tape and label **DO NOT RECYCLE**. Place the container in the trash, NEVER in the recycling container. You can also locate a sharps disposal location at safeneedledisposal.org.

Items that are **NOT ACCEPTED** in the Medication Drop Box are:

- NEEDLES
- Bio Hazardous Waste
- Aerosol Cans
- Inhalers
- Liquids



LEAF AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The Township now has two leaf vacuums, which will hopefully help move collection along faster! The road crew will begin leaf collection by zones, beginning on November 25th. For your convenience, roads are listed below by the collection zones. Zone 1 may take upwards of two weeks, weather permitting. If your road is not listed in any of these zones, collection will commence following collection of Zone 3. The road crew will go through the Township by zone one more time, weather permitting.

STREETS ARE LISTED IN THE ORDER OF HOW COLLECTION IS HANDLED

ZONE 1

Griffith Drive to Heather Court, going North to Poplar Drive, East to Griffith Drive, then to Juniper Drive, Hickory Lane, Elliott Drive, Elliott Court and Holly Drive.

Richards Avenue, Merritt Avenue, Maplewood Court, Maplewood Drive, Nicholson Avenue, Fernwood Avenue, Briarwood Drive, Lake Drive, Rosewood Drive, Spruce Court, Rosewood Court, N. and S. Pinewood Drive, Dogwood Drive and Terry Court.

Laurelwood Drive, Glenwood Drive, Willowwood Drive, Magnolia Drive, Willowwood Court, Birchwood Court, Aspen Court, Ash Court, Redwood Drive, Lilac Lane, Lilac Court, Ivy Court, Ivy Lane, Russell Avenue from Old Airport Road to Ivy Lane, Russell Avenue to Old Swede Road, Elmwood Lane, Mulberry Place, north end of Maplewood Drive, Ridge Drive, Firethorn Drive, Mimosa Circle, Linden Place, Balsam Drive, Maple Lane, Bramblewood Court, Bramblewood Drive, Maplewood Drive and Old Airport Road

ZONE 2

W. Welsh Drive, Penns Lane, Cedar Run, Battenkill Drive, Queen Ann Circle, Victoria Drive, Loyalsock Drive, North Monocacy Creek Road, Letort Lane, Kettle Lane, Swatara Circle, Greys Run Lane, Antietam Drive, Hill Drive, Hill Road, Slate Run Road, Chefield Court, Kingston Drive, Cameron Drive, Bristol Court, Berkshire Drive, West Morlatton Road, Oxford Circle, Yorkshire Drive, Shagbark Lane, Woodbridge Lane, Ashford Drive, Clarion Drive and Woodbridge Court

ZONE 3

Overlook Pointe, Schoolhouse Court, Pleasant Run Court, Rosecliff Drive, Pepper Lane, Rising Sun Drive, Boone Drive and Thornbury Circle, Meadowcrest Lane, Meadowcrest Court, Windmead Lane, Rosewyn Lane, Verdure Lane, Aviemore Lane, Fenwick Lane and Pine Forge Road, Green Meadow Drive, Meadowside Drive, Summer Meadow Drive, Peach Blossom Drive, Highmeadows Drive, Shadybrooke Drive, Pine Lane, Stephens Way and Woodbrooke Drive

Leaves should be raked into a pile at the curb, making sure leaves are not piled next to mailboxes or trees. Please do not bag leaves! The Township will not pick-up bagged leaves. Keep storm sewer drains clear of leaves. Cars should not be parked over piles of leaves.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION – The Road Crew will collect yard waste from November 18th through November 22nd. 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!*

Don’t want to wait for yard waste or leaf collection? The Township now provides THREE forty-yard containers behind the municipal building for leaves and yard waste. Please use brown paper bags. *No plastic, please!* Work is being done to move this to the back side of the parking lot.

PLEASE NOTE: All park restrooms will be closed on November 4th for the season with the exception of the Butch Boyer Memorial Pavilion at Amity Community Park.



Christmas Tree Collection

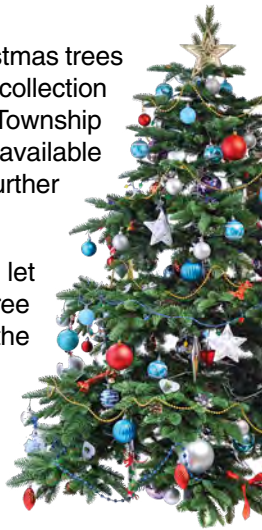


Wood Chipper purchased through PADEP Recycling Grant award.

The Township road crew will be conducting a “pick and chip” collection of Christmas trees beginning on January 2nd. They will follow the same collection route as the leaf collection schedule. The trees will be collected and chipped, and wood chips taken to a Township facility and stored for future use at parks and right-of-ways. Wood chips may be available to residents on a first-come, first-serve basis. As this will be a new process, further details will be released on our website and Facebook page. Watch for updates!

Don't let your Christmas tree end up in the dump! We're asking residents to let your trash haulers know they are not to collect Christmas trees. If you put your tree outside at the same time as your regular trash is collected, please place it on the opposite side so they know not to take it.

If you want your Christmas tree gone sooner rather than later, bring it to the Township building. Please DO NOT put trees in the dumpster. There will be a sign nearby that will tell you where trees may be left.



Community Tree Lighting

The Daniel Boone Optimist Club has set Saturday, December 7th for its annual Community Tree Lighting Event from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The tree lighting will be held between the Daniel Boone Middle School and Amity Community Park. Ample parking will be available.

Although the Club's Tree Lighting Committee is still in the early stage of planning this year's event, exciting things are being added, along with the return of food trucks, community groups, carolers, luminaries, and of course, a visit from Santa! Watch for more announcements nearer December on the Optimist Club's website www.danielbooneoptimist.com and on the Township Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AmityTownship.



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Thank You To The Businesses

*The Township Supervisors and Administration
thank the businesses that appear
in this newsletter and recognize
each as supporters of our community.*

*For it is with their participation
that this newsletter
has been published at
no cost to our residents.*





WINTER WEATHER IS COMING. Get ready for the snow!

Don't be caught unprepared when the snow starts falling. Following a few simple rules will make Old Man Winter a little more bearable:

- ❄ Under 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 cessation of the snowfall.** You must comply immediately to avoid penalties. Penalties can include fines not to exceed \$1,000.00 per day until resolved.
- ❄ **Plow or shovel your snow to the side of your driveway, away from the flow of traffic.** Clearing snow for a distance before your driveway allows the plow to "unload" before reaching your driveway.
- ❄ **Additionally, by piling snow away from the direction of oncoming snow plows, the bulk of the snow will not be pushed back onto your driveway making less work for you later!** If the snow plow deposits snow in your driveway, please know this is not done intentionally.
- ❄ **Do not shovel snow into the street!** Shoveling snow into the street at any time can cause safety issues, not to mention it's against the law, per Chapter 7, Section 104.
- ❄ **Please place recycling bins back from the curb** as far as possible during snow events to prevent Township crews from knocking them over while plowing.
- ❄ **Keep an eye on the weather!** Per Chapter 19, Section 403, whenever there is accumulation of 1" or more of snow and/or ice, you must remove your vehicle from the street. Police will issue violations of \$40.00 per day for vehicles left on the street with 1" or greater accumulation. You may want to have a back-up plan. If you're not home and your vehicle is on the street, having someone able to move it for you during a winter storm is a quick savings of \$40.00!
- ❄ **Lastly, please help firefighters by making sure hydrants are accessible!** If you have a fire hydrant near your house, please remove ice and snow, clear a 3-foot by 3-foot perimeter around the hydrant and clear a path from the hydrant to the street.

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SCHOOL BUS SAFETY



Keep kids in our community safe and watch for school buses.

Every year in Pennsylvania children are needlessly injured or killed by drivers passing stopped school buses because drivers are not aware of school bus stopping laws or choose to ignore the law.

1. When you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
2. When you approach an intersection where a school bus is stopped with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
3. You **MUST STOP** at least ten (10) feet away from the school bus.
4. You **MUST WAIT** until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm has been withdrawn before moving.
5. **DO NOT MOVE** until the children have reached a place of safety.

The Amity Township Police Department takes complaints of this nature very serious and will be diligent in enforcement of violators. If you observe a school bus violation call 9-1-1. Try to take down the license plate number. Get the location of the occurrence, a description of the vehicle and operator. Take a snapshot of the license plate if possible. And most importantly, forward this vital information to our police department and we will act upon it.

***Our children's safety is at stake!
Please do your part to help keep them safe.***

SCHOOL BUS VIOLATIONS

All Violators could be subject to various fines up to and including the following:

- **60-Day** Driver's License Suspension
- **Five (5) points** on your driving record
- **\$250.00** Fine

STOP FOR SCHOOL BUS



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WINTER TIME POLLUTION PREVENTION

Water pollution and conservation are important issues during the spring and summer months; however, there are many things that we can do during the winter months that will help reduce water pollution and help conserve water. Below are three topics with several tips on how to make a difference this winter:

- 1. Too Much Salt:** When the snow and ice melt after a winter storm, the water flow will take with it anything that it collects on the ground and wash it down storm drains. This means that melting ice will carry the deicer materials that we use to clear our driveways and walkways down storm drains and into local waterways. The chlorides that make up the deicers can harm aquatic wildlife, affect nearby plant growth in your yard, and can remain trapped in your soils. Luckily there are alternatives to conventional rock salt deicers that are easy to purchase and will also help in keeping our pathways safe! Here are some helpful tips that will keep your pavements clear and local streams cleaner!
 - Removing freshly fallen snow before it has a chance to freeze and harden into ice is one of the more effective ways of keeping your pavements clear. Deicers work better when there is only a thin layer of ice or snow.
 - If you are using traditional rock salt, the recommended application is a handful for one square yard. Using more salt than this will not make the ice melt faster; it will only end up costing you more money and the salt will be washed away by the stormwater!
 - Pay attention to the type of deicer material you're applying so that you reduce the risk of damaging your sidewalk and driveway.
 - Mixing sand in with the deicer will also aid in melting the snow and ice and allow you to cut back on the amount of rock salt that is being used. Sand and regular brand kitty litter will also add traction to the surface as well. But remember, if there is left over sand and kitty litter on your walkway or driveway, use a broom to clean it up. Using a hose to wash the sand and kitty litter away will push the material into nearby storm drains and potentially cause a clog or back-up of the drains, so put that broom to work! **Fertilizer is not an appropriate substitution for any of the above materials.**



- 2. Loosing Water:** Bursting pipes in the winter time can cause a strain on water supply levels and also on a homeowner's wallet. By preventing pipe bursts and water loss now, you can help conserve water and money!
 - If you have outside spigots, turn them off during the winter months to prevent them from bursting due to the cold temperatures.
 - You may be able to turn the spigots off by an inside valve, and then drain the remaining water from the pipes.
 - Make sure that your water pipes are insulated properly and check for leaky pipes now before freezing temperatures arrive.

- 3. Household Hazardous Waste:** It is important to dispose and use our cleaning products appropriately. The water that goes down your sink drain also carries residues from your home, and many harsh household chemicals are not removed by sewage-treatment or septic systems.

Household Hazardous Waste is any household product which is labeled:
CAUTION, DANGER, FLAMMABLE, EXPLOSIVE, TOXIC,
WARNING, CORROSIVE, POISON and VOLATILE or any
combination of these characteristics



Here are a few things that will help reduce these problems with household chemicals:

- Read your labels and know what is in the product before using it.
- Consider using products that are "environmentally friendly". These products will advertise that they do not contain phosphates, chlorine, ammonia, etc. (all of which contribute to water pollution).
- Store household chemicals in a dry area with the lids secured tightly.
- Use only the recommended amount of the product.
- Never dispose of chemicals in storm drains (they lead directly to nearby rivers).
- When disposing of household chemicals, check to see if there are special instructions and/or collection sites for your convenience. In Berks County, the Berks County Solid Waste Authority hosts Household Hazardous Waste Collections in the Spring and Fall to help homeowners dispose of household chemicals. For additional information please visit the Berks County Solid Waste Authority website at <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/swa/Pages/default.aspx> or call 610-478-6362.

This article is complements of the Berks County MS4 Steering Committee and Cooperative Education Program.
For more info: <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/Planning/Pages/MS4%20Cooperative%20Education%20Program.aspx>

On-Lot Tanks - to Pump or Not to Pump

Although some septic haulers recommend pumping your system every two (2) years, Amity Township Ordinance regulations, which were mandated to match PA DEP regulations, require all on-lot septic tanks to be pumped and inspected every three (3) years. In the spring of the year in which you are required to pump, a reminder is mailed to each homeowner by the Township explaining the program. Additionally, an expiration date is listed on the Certificate of Compliance you received during your last cycle. It lists the year you are to have it pumped and inspected. Should you choose to have it pumped on a non-required year, please keep the hauler's inspection report card and pump slip and turn it in when you receive the spring reminder letter. Amity Township accepts pumping report cards within one year from the date you turn it in. You will then be required to meet the Ordinance three (3) years from the time you had it pumped. Feel free to call 610-689-6000, ext. 232 for any additional information.

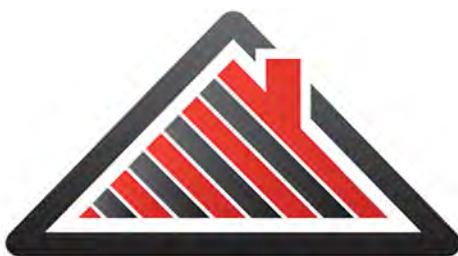
RV Parking on Properties

Parking RVs and other trailers is permitted on your lot any time of the year with a couple specific exceptions. They may not be parked in front of the front yard building setback line. These setback lines are as follows: Woods Edge, High Meadows Estates, Sunset Knoll and some of Greenbriar Estates have a front yard setback line of forty (40') feet. Westridge, Amity Gardens, Lenape Farms, Rosecliff Pointe, Sunrise Hills, Pond View, Cider Mill Run, Pleasant Meadows, Glenwood Estates, Far Hill Farms and some of Greenbriar Estates have a front yard setback line of thirty (30') feet. Front property lines are generally two (2') feet in from your side of the sidewalk. Yellowhouse and Indian Run Subdivisions have a front yard setback line of fifty (50') feet. These front property lines are twenty-five (25') feet from the centerline of the street. Although you might think a driveway is ok, most driveways are within this nonpermitted area. Please park your RVs in a permitted location. Illegally parked vehicles can lead to enforcement action.

Thanks for your cooperation, Code Enforcement Department

Soliciting / Peddling in Amity Township

Soliciting in Amity Township is governed by Township Ordinance, found in Chapter 17, Part 2 of the Township's Codification. Be advised, Soliciting is a Constitutional Right and case law further dictates the allowance of these activities. Should someone knock on your door to sell products or services, please ask to see a copy of their permit. Permits allow solicitation during certain hours only. If they do not produce a permit, please ask them to leave and contact the Police Department at 610-689-6002 or 610-655-4911. If you would prefer that these folks not knock on your door, we recommend placing a "No Solicitation" sign by your door. **A list of businesses and/or individuals who have been issued Solicitation permits by Amity Township can be found at www.amitytownshippa.com.**



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PARKING ON PUBLIC STREETS: *A Message from the Chief of Police*

Residents often call with questions about what types of vehicles may be parked on the street and whether Amity Township permits PODs or dumpsters in the street. Chapter 19 of the Amity Township Code of Ordinances, Section 404 states:

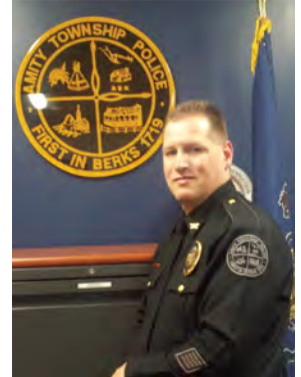
404(a) no recreational vehicle, whether motorized or non-motorized, including but not limited to travel trailers, motor homes, truck campers, tent campers, trailers, boats and trailers, snowmobiles and trailers and any other similar vehicles shall be parked on any street within the Township; provided, however, that such vehicles may be parked on the public street temporarily for the purpose of loading and unloading such vehicle, in which case it may be temporarily parked for not more than 24 hours in each week (Sunday through Saturday).

404(b) no truck, tractor, semi-trailer, trailer or other vehicle having a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds (Weight Class 6 or greater) or having a width in excess of 80 inches shall be parked on any street within the Township, except for the purposes of making pick-ups, deliveries or construction activities, in which case it may be temporarily parked for not more than eight hours between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

404(c) no construction equipment or materials shall be parked or stored on any street within the Township. No dumpster or storage container shall be placed on any street within the Township. Please Note: This means you may not place a dumpster or POD in the public street.

Laws are passed with safety in mind. If you believe you see a vehicle parked illegally on a public street within the Township, please call 610-689-6002 and press 1 to speak to an on-duty Police Officer. *As always, thank you for your cooperation!*

Chief Jeffrey Smith



Jeffrey Smith
Chief of Police



Help Your Community! McGruff Needs YOU!

Join the Amity Township Crime Watch Organization. We are looking for new members. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 548 Old Swede Road. Crime Watch members patrol 2 to 3 hours per month. Come meet our Police Liaison, Amity Township Police Department Officer, Tom Gauby, Jr, who attends the monthly meetings and provides information about incidents in the Township. We also have guest speakers at most meetings.

The public is invited to attend. NEW MEMBERS NEEDED!

Check out our website at: www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org. Check us out on Facebook.

CAMP CADET 2019

Pennsylvania State Police joined forces with officers from Reading Police Department, West Reading Police Department, Cumru Township Police, Spring Township Police, Wyomissing Borough Police, Berks County Sheriff's Department and Amity Township Police at Camp Cadet to provide teens with a positive growth experience within the framework of a "mini" police academy structure. Camp Cadet is a police-oriented summer camp for youth ages 12 through 15 from Berks, Lebanon, and Schuylkill Counties that is held each year at Camp Manatawny.

The Camp Cadet philosophy is embodied in the motto: Growth Through Discipline – Achievement Through Teamwork – Pride Through Respect. Camp Cadet stresses instruction in law enforcement topics, safety, and physical training. Other activities include fishing, swimming, marksmanship, horseback riding and softball. All camp activities are supervised by a counseling staff of State Police and local police officers. Counselors reside at the camp with the cadets.

This year's camp ran from August 11th through August 17th, with 77 cadets attending. Amity Township Police Officer Tom Gauby Jr. attended Camp Cadet, bringing years of experience and a passion for law enforcement. Thank you, Officer Gauby for all you do at Camp Cadet!



Daniel Boone Optimist 2019 Officers of the Year

Congratulations to **Amity Township Police Officer Brian Devlin** and **Birdsboro Police Officer Alan Fay** for being named the Daniel Boone Optimist Club's Officers of the Year for 2019!

The Daniel Boone Optimist Club named Officer Devlin and Officer Fay as Officers of the Year at a presentation held on September 19, 2019 at the Keystone Villa. Amity Township Police Chief Jeffrey Smith and Birdsboro Police Chief Todd Trupp gave short presentations giving reasons why the officers were chosen for this prestigious award.

The Officer of the Year award is part of the Daniel Boone Optimist Club's Respect for Law community activity. This program has gained popularity, with over 1,500 clubs participating annually.

Congratulations Amity Township Police Officer Brian Devlin and Birdsboro Police Officer Alan Fay on a job well done! Officer Devlin you make Amity Township proud!



Photo at left:
Left to Right: Victor Frederick, Chief Jeffrey Smith, Officer Brian Devlin, Officer Alan Fay, Chief Todd Trupp, and Steve Chieffo.



Photo at right:
State Representative Dave Maloney presenting a proclamation from the House of Representatives.

TAX COLLECTOR

Dean Fronheiser is the Tax Collector for Amity Township. Dean does not have set office hours during winter months, but can be seen by appointment or contacted by calling 610-689-9227.

FIRE COMPANY INFORMATION

Monarch Fire Company Fundraisers

- **Steak and Shrimp Nights are back!** Let the men and women of Monarch Fire Company make you dinner this fall. Dinners are served the first Saturday of the month from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Fill your belly and help support your local volunteers!
- The **annual peanut and cashew sale** is right around the corner! Peanuts and cashews are a great addition to your holiday parties. Watch the Monarch Fire Company Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Monarch-Fire-Company-370539982985654/> for more information.

Amity Fire Company will be sending out letters for their annual fund drive.

Working SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES
Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery
"Dedicated To Life Safety"

BE PREPARED FOR A FIRE:

- Have an escape plan
- Keep furniture and toys away from doors and windows
- Holiday decorations - Don't let them block your escape route.
- Place trees and holiday decorations away from doors and windows that would be used to escape.



Turn your clocks back one hour on **November 3rd**. This is a great time to change batteries in your smoke detectors and review escape plans with your family.

300th Anniversary "Summer Splash"

When you turn 300-years old, you make a splash. In Amity Township's case, it was a Summer Splash!

August 3rd was a hot one, but we did everything possible to make it a cool day with a little something everyone could enjoy. Admittance to the Amity AC Pool was free and laughs could be heard as kids jumped and took turns sliding down the huge water-gated slides. Dozens of participants stopped by the Keystone Blood Mobile before enjoying the rest of the festivities.

Competition was tough at the Cornhole Tournament. After a day-long tournament, Chris and Ryan Owens were donned the 2019 Cornhole Champions. The champions took home a set of hand-crafted 300th Anniversary cornhole boards as well as a cash prize. Seven additional sets of boards and cash prizes were awarded to teams in the tournament.



Chris and Ryan Owens

Adults enjoyed the beer and wine garden provided by Frank Smith Beverages and Manatawny Winery while Echo North played rock favorites during the day. Followed by the Stephanie Grace Band concert at night, the crowd settled in with their chairs and blankets to watch one of the most incredible fireworks displays.

The Township was given two of the 300th Anniversary Commemorative Henry Rifles for participating in their production. One of the rifles was raffled off at Summer Splash and the other will be placed on display at the Township building. A limited quantity remain available for purchase. See our Facebook page for more information.



This beautifully restored 1946 Farmall tractor was on display at the Car Show.

*This celebration wouldn't be possible without all of you! The 300th Anniversary Committee and Amity Township Board of Supervisors would like to say **Thank You** to all of our sponsors, residents and neighbors who helped make this day and all of our 300th Anniversary celebration events a success!*



Township resident John Jones was the proud winner of this 300th Anniversary Commemorative Henry Rifle.

2020 Census – Be Counted!

Why participate?

- **We'll give you 675 billion reasons!** If you suffered damages from the flooding rains on July 11th of this year, you need to be counted! If you drive on roads or over bridges that need to be repaired, you need to be counted! If you send kids to school or subsidized daycare, if you use free lunches at school, if you go to the senior center or use our playgrounds, you need to be counted! There's approximately \$675 billion in small business loans, federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities distributed annually; all based upon Decennial Census counts. This money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs and infrastructure. This money will end up in someone's community. Do all you can to make your claim so we can have those dollars – OUR DOLLARS – end up here in Amity!
- **It's CONFIDENTIAL!!** Even those who are not US Citizens need to be counted to ensure proper allocation of these funds. With all applicable laws and privacy policies nobody should fear completing the census. Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information about individuals, households or businesses, even to law enforcement agencies! The information collected can be used for statistical purposes only. Additionally, all Census Bureau staff take a lifetime oath to protect your personal information and any violations comes with a penalty of up to \$250,000.00 and/or up to 5 years in prison. Learn more about the Census Bureau's data protection and privacy program at www.census.gov/privacy.
- **It's your civil duty and completing the census is mandatory!** Respond next year, or Census Enumerators will come knocking! Census Bureau workers are currently out canvassing the Township to ensure they account for each and every residential address within the Township. If a response is not received for your address by the end of April 2020, you will likely see a Census Bureau worker knocking at your door! Do your part and BE COUNTED!



EYEGLOSS COLLECTION

Help give the gift of sight

There's a tremendous need for recycled glasses throughout the world. Each year, individuals donate approximately seven million pairs of glasses to their Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Centers. The New Jersey Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (NJLERC) at the Katzenbach School in West Trenton is this region's closest center.

The purpose of the NJLERC as an organization is to collect, clean, neutralize and designate the prescription of used eyeglasses and to store and package them for needy groups and individuals throughout the world.

As of August 2012, the Lions host 18 centers around the world. There are several countries with approved Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers; located in Austria, Canada, France, Italy, Republic of South Africa, Spain and the United States. According to the Lions Clubs International, 70,330,006 pair of used eyeglasses were collected, and 33,136,463 pair have been distributed since 1995.

Amity Township Lions and Lioness Clubs have participated in eyeglass collection for many years. You may see boxes at various locations throughout your community. A few times each year, a regional or district representative from the Lions Club stops at each collection location to gather all the collected eyeglasses and takes them to the NJLERC where the glasses are sorted for actual recycling or identified, sterilized and divided by script in the reading room. Glasses are then bagged and labeled to be sent with those traveling on mission trips to underprivileged foreign countries.

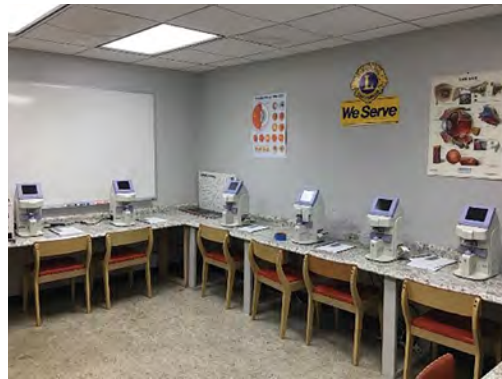
Kim McGrath is the Amity Township Chairperson and volunteers with the Lions and Lioness Club and has even been on several medical mission trips. On these trips a \$7,000.00 camera machine is used to provide screenings to identify the needed prescriptions. Volunteers then help fit glasses to the local poor. Kim traveled to Columbia in September this year to fit over 1,000 poor of Columbia and Venezuela refugees with eyeglasses.



Volunteer helping provide glasses to woman in Peru.



Camera used for eye tests.



Reading room for lenses.



Glasses bagged and labeled.



Volunteers pictured are helping provide glasses to people in Peru.



Bins of collected and sorted glasses.

Information in this article was courtesy of NJLERC. For more information, see www.njlerc.org.

Monocacy Hill Conservation Association



Restoring Your Trails



In the last 18 months our area received an incredible amount of precipitation. The water table (groundwater level under the surface) is the second highest ever recorded in Berks County. 2018 was the record wettest year in this area with a total of over 68 inches of precipitation. 2019 has accumulated high rainfall totals as well. Anyone who has hiked at Monocacy Hill recently has no doubt noticed some muddy and wet spots and probably had to clean off your hiking boots and your dog's paws!! Many of you may not know that most of Monocacy Hill is steep slopes, with over 25% grade slopes in some areas of the park. With all of the recent rain, some trails have eroded and low lying areas have remained wet. We assess the trails in the park on a regular basis. Last fall we determined that something needed to be done about a small section of Lower Trail to alleviate the muddy conditions in that area. In March we completed that project, spreading two layers of stone on 300 feet of trail. This project was done with the help of Amity Township who picked up and delivered the stone for us. Thanks!

Thank you to our MHCA supporters and volunteers who make these improvements possible!

84

LUMBER

*A huge thank you to
84 Lumber
for the awesome
discount on lumber
for the boardwalk!*

Creek Trail has always been one of the wettest trails in the park. Several years ago we constructed boardwalks on Upper Creek Trail and two other sections of the trail had to be rerouted because of erosion. From time to time our volunteers cut wooden planks so hikers have a surface to walk on. This summer after continued wet conditions, we discussed options for a more permanent solution. Our volunteers will be building a 400-ft extension to our current boardwalk in early September. To join our trail maintenance volunteers, contact us at info@monocacyhill.org.



Walk in the Woods!

Join us for a walk in the woods on any or all of these dates!

November 10th at 1:30PM

December 15th at 1:30PM

January 5th at 1:30PM

All walks start from Geiger Road parking lot and are free and open to the public. All children younger than 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Heavy rain or snow cancels events.

PLEASE HELP SAVE US !

EASTERN BOX TURTLE



These turtles are currently a species of concern in Pennsylvania, listed as vulnerable due to loss of their habitat. They live their whole lives in one area. Please don't remove a box turtle from its home or take them home as pets. They are difficult to care for and will likely die. Drive slowly and carefully along these local

roads. If you see a turtle on the road, you can move them off the road. Move them in the direction they are going.

For more information on turtles check out: www.paherpsurvey.org

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY UPDATE

We are happy to report that the Spotted Lanternfly population has decreased significantly on Monocacy Hill and most of southeastern Berks County. This past spring we completed our grant project with Schuylkill Highlands and PA Dept. of Agriculture to remove Ailanthus Trees from the park. We hope that we have seen the last invasion of these insects, but keep your eyes open!



SAVE A TAPE PROGRAM BENEFITS MONOCACY HILL

Just a quick reminder to save your Redner's tapes for us! This program provides funds to pay for park improvements, Eagle Scout Projects and matching money for grants. Since we joined this program 9 years ago, we have received over \$7,800.00.

Redner's Save a Tape Program donates 1% of your purchase to our non profit organization. Get your Redner's rewards card and use it there every time you shop. *Collect your tapes and drop them off in our box at the park or mail them to us at Monocacy Hill Conservation Assn. P.O. Box 3, Douglassville, PA 19518. Thanks to everyone who has been saving for MHCA!!*





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