



## April 2024 - Digital Newsletter

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Fire companies are seeing a rise in brush fires with people eager to clean up brush lately. Be advised that Amity Township has a burn ordinance. Please burn responsibly and within the ordinance.

**Burn Ordinance**

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Story Time Field Trip

# SHADY HOLLOW ASSISTED RIDING

Monday April 1st

10:15-11:15

Join Miss Amber at Shady Hollow Assisted Riding for Stories, Coloring, and a chance to see a HORSE of COURSE!

959 East Main Street  
Birdsboro, PA 19508

Meet at the  
indoor arena at  
10:15am





# COMIC DRAWING ★ CONTEST

**STOP INTO THE LIBRARY TO PICK UP YOUR BLANK  
COMIC SHEET AND TURN IT INTO THE CIRCULATION  
DESK WHEN FINISHED**

**APRIL 1ST- MAY 3RD**

**AGE 8-10 / AGES 11-14 / AGES 15-18**

**3 PRIZE WINNERS ONE FOR  
EACH AGE CATEGORY**

**YOUR COMICS MUST BE TURNED IN  
BY MAY 3RD  
PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME, AGE AND  
PHONE NUMBER ON THE BACK**

**WINNERS WILL ANNOUNCED  
ON MAY 4TH FOR FREE  
COMIC BOOK DAY**







**Monarch Fire Company Steak & Shrimp**

**Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 4pm**

**Please be patient with our staff as food is first come, first serve. Thank you in advance!**



**HAPPENING AT THE HILL  
THIS SPRING.....**



**WALK IN THE WOODS - SUNDAY, APRIL 14 - 1:30 PM**

**WILDFLOWER WALK**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 7 - 1:30 PM**  
 (check our Facebook Page for  
 other Wildflower Walks)



**SPRING OPEN HOUSE**

**SUNDAY MAY 5 10 AM TO 5 PM**

**JOIN US FOR ONE OF OUR HIKES OR JUST STOP IN  
 FOR FREE SNACKS AND DRINKS!**

- MORNING BIRD WALK WITH SIERRA CLUB - 7:45 AM**
- WALK IN THE WOODS - 11:00 AM**
- WILDFLOWER WALK - 1:30 PM WITH DR SUSAN MUNCH**
- YOUTH SCAVENGER HUNT - 3:00 PM**
- SUNSET HIKE - 7:00 PM**



**WALK IN THE WOODS - SUNDAY, JUNE 9 - 1:30 PM**

ALL WALKS START FROM THE 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 EVENT. CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR CANCELLATIONS.





# MONOCACY HILL VIEWS



SPRING 2024

NO. 53

[WWW.MONOCACYHILL.ORG](http://WWW.MONOCACYHILL.ORG)

## SPRING WILDFLOWERS- WHEN DO THEY BLOOM?

One of the special features of northeastern forests is native spring wildflowers, sometimes called ephemerals. They emerge early from the forest floor and must grow, bloom and be pollinated in a very short period of time... before the leaves fully emerge on the deciduous trees.

If you are hoping to catch a glimpse of these forest beauties, it is sometimes helpful to have some idea when they will be blooming. Keep in mind that the timing depends on the air and soil temperatures. Also flowers on our south facing slope will bloom earlier than on the colder north facing slope.

Here are some of the most common spring wildflower species you will find at Monocacy Hill.

### EARLY TO MID MARCH

Skunk Cabbage- This plant will be the first to emerge in wetland areas and along the creek.



### LATE MARCH TO EARLY

#### APRIL

Bloodroot  
Hepatica  
Spring Beauties  
Violets  
Rue Anemone



### MID TO LATE APRIL

Trout Lily  
Cut Leaved Toothwort  
Wild Ginger

### LATE APRIL TO EARLY

#### MAY

May Apple  
Jack in the Pulpit  
Showy Orchis



### MAY AND EARLY JUNE

Columbine  
False Solomons Seal  
Wild Geranium  
Trilliums



In order to help you with your wildflower quest, we often post the weekly blooms on our Facebook page. There is a wildflower sheet you can print out from our website - [www.monocacyhill.org](http://www.monocacyhill.org).

Don't forget that some of our understory trees, such as dogwoods and redbuds, also have beautiful white and pink flowers in April.





**Please do not remove turtles. Do not take them home as pets. If one is injured, please mark the exact spot found for the wildlife center. If a turtle is in the road you can help by moving it directly across the street in the direction it was heading. Thank you!**

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The deadline to file your taxes with the IRS is April 15<sup>th</sup>.



Bills can be paid M-F 8am-4:30pm at the Township located at 2004 Weavertown Rd. Payments can be put in the drop box 24/7 located at the Township office. The Tax Collector will be in until 7pm on Tuesday April 30th accepting payments.

**The discount period ends April 30th.**

**\*\*New this year is the option to pay by credit card. A fee is associated with paying by credit card.\*\***

**If you want a receipt showing your taxes were paid you must enclose the top and bottom portion of your tax bill and a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment.**

**Pay by Credit Card**





## Hazardous Waste

Free to Berks County Residents

April 13, 2024

Governor Mifflin Intermediate School

600 Governor Drive

Shillington, Pa. 19607

All residents must pre-register to participate in our hazardous waste collection event.

**Absolutely no Latex Paint will be accepted.**

Put all empty containers in your regular trash collection.

**Register Here!**

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# Community Shredding Event



Amity Township Crime Watch  
and

**thrivent**

Five Pillars Financial Group

Saturday, April 20(Rain or Shine)  
9:00 A.M. to Noon  
Redner's Parking Lot  
Douglassville, PA



Open to residents and local businesses in Douglassville and surrounding areas. Shredding is done by ProShred Security of Paoli. **Donations** accepted to help defray the cost of the shredding truck.

[www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org](http://www.amitytwpcrimewatch.org)

Carolyn – 610-385-3543

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

484-323-2100

Help stop identity theft-shred your outdated documents!

## Community Paper Shredding Event April 20, 2024

Residents of Berks County **ONLY** (No Businesses)

Governor Mifflin Intermediate School  
600 Governor Drive  
Shillington, Pa. 19607

**8:00 AM – Noon**

All residents must pre-register to participate in our paper shredding event.

Registration will open soon.

**Absolutely no plastic bags will be accepted.**

**Register Here!**

# Electronic Recycling Center - 2024

1316 Hilltop Rd., Leesport, Pa. (Bern Twp.)

OPEN EVERY  
TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY  
8:00 AM – NOON

ALL VISITORS MUST REMAIN IN THEIR VEHICLE, WHILE ON SITE.

PLEASE HAVE ALL ELECTRONICS IN THE TRUCK OF YOUR CAR OR BED OF PICKUP TRUCK

## ELECTRONIC ITEMS ACCEPTED:

### MAXIMUM OF 10 ITEMS PER VEHICLE (NO EXCEPTIONS)

- Computers, Monitors, Laptops, Keyboards, Modems, Printers, Copier, etc.
- Microwaves, Stereos, VCRs, Telephones, Answering Machines, etc.
- Television ( **Maximum of two per resident/vehicle per day** )
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Rechargeable and Lead Acid Batteries (ONLY) – **NO ALKALINE BATTERIES ACCEPTED**
- Air Conditions & Dehumidifiers

## FEE SCHEDULE

### RESIDENTIAL

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| • All Electronic Items (Residents ONLY)                  | Free of Charge |
| • Fluorescent tubes , CFL Bulbs & Rechargeable Batteries | Free of Charge |
| • Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers                       | Free of Charge |

### COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL – BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • <b>NO TELEVISIONS OR MONITORS ACCEPTED FROM BUSINESSES</b> |                   |
| • All Electronic Items (Businesses)                          | \$ 1.00 per item  |
| • Fluorescent tubes, CFL Bulbs & Rechargeable Batteries      | \$ 1.50 per pound |
| • Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers                           | Free of Charge    |



BOONE LIBRARY  
MARKET

NEW  
DATE

APRIL 20TH  
9:30am - 1:30pm

**Join us for a fun day of shopping! Individuals and businesses will be in the community room selling their goods.**

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# Douglass Township Berks is hosting **BOWL & LASER TAG**

with Douglass Twp Berks, Amity Twp, Eastern  
Berks Regional and West Pottsgrove Police,  
Fire and First Responders



## JAY LANES

1428 Ben Franklin Highway E, Douglassville  
(610) 323-2434



COME JOIN US FOR A FUN  
FILLED EVENING!

YOU GET TO MEET, GREET,  
AND BOWL OR PLAY LASER  
TAG WITH THE POLICE  
OFFICERS IN YOUR  
COMMUNITY!



## Saturday, April 20, 2024

### 5:00pm - 8:00pm

**Free event with door  
prizes**

**Call Today to  
Reserve Your Spot!**



AMITYVILLE, PA.  
TROOP 597



**Scouts USA**

Troop 597B & Troop 597G

**Amityville PA**



# Spaghetti Dinner

Eat in or  
Take out



**Saturday, April 20, 2024**

**4 PM - 7 PM**



**St Paul's UCC, 1979 Weavertown Rd, Douglassville**

**ALL YOU CAN EAT**

**PASTA, BREAD & SALAD**

(with or without meatballs)

**Adults (11 and up) - \$10.00**

**Ages 10 and under - \$5.00**

Tickets available from

any Troop 597 scout

or at the door

**[www.troop597.org](http://www.troop597.org)**





April 20th, 2024

# Earth Day

Save the Planet and The Future!



Chuck's Auto Parts Solutions  
**15th Annual Earth Day Event**

**We will be collecting Automotive Fluids and the parts listed below for proper disposal!**

**FREE!**

## We are collecting:

- Used Tires (limit of 4)
- Waste Oil
- Waste Antifreeze
- Lead Acid Car Batteries
  - For each Battery donated, Chuck's donates \$20 to Charity!

**Saturday,  
April 20th  
2024**

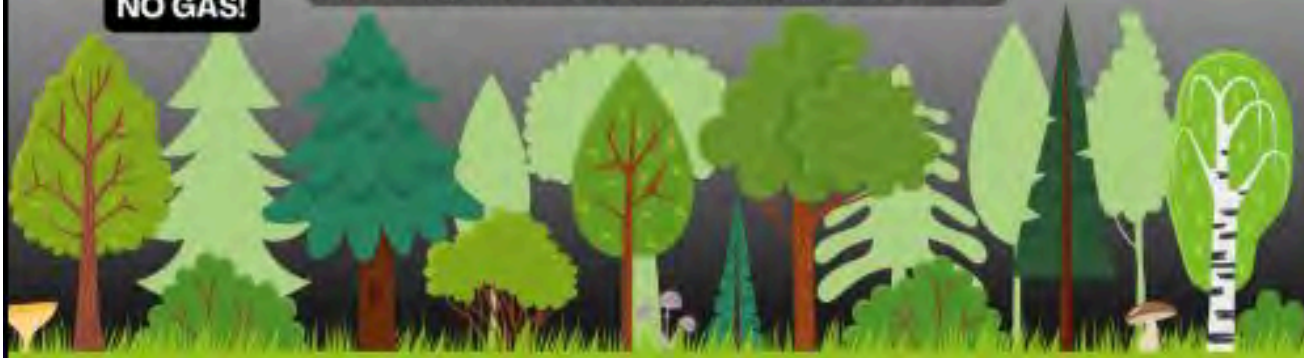
**8AM - 12PM**



**NO GAS!**

**Douglasville Facility ONLY:**

**6867 Boyertown Pike, Douglasville, PA 19518**





**April 22nd**

**EARTH  
DAY**



# EARTH DAY

facts, tips, and tricks to making the world a better place

## DID YOU KNOW...

**78%**  
of marine mammals are threatened by accidental deaths, such as getting caught in fishing nets.

**25,000**  
trees are cut down each day just to produce toilet paper.

**5,000,000**  
tons of oil produced in the world each year ends up in the ocean

**4,000**  
years is how long it takes for a glass bottle to decompose



Rainforests are being cut down at a rate of 100 acres per minute.



If the entire world lived like the average American, we'd need five planets to provide enough resources.



## REDUCE

IF WE RECOVERED JUST 5 PERCENT OF THE FOOD WE WASTE, WE COULD FEED 4 MILLION AMERICANS.

## REUSE

PLASTIC BAGS, WATER BOTTLES, CLOTHING, GLASS, SCRAP PAPER, ECT

## RECYCLE

**1** ALUMINUM CAN WILL SAVE ENOUGH ENERGY TO RUN A TV FOR THREE HOURS.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### YOUR HOME

- start a compost pile
- take short showers
- turn off lights when you are not using them

### YOUR SCHOOL

- use reusable water bottles
- donate school supplies
- recycle old paper

### YOUR COMMUNITY

- buy local foods
- clean up litter
- plant a community garden



**Arbor Day – April 26th**



# TREES

PLANT A TREE  SAVE THE EARTH

## ARBOR DAY



Arbor Day is a holiday dedicated to celebrating and caring for trees. The day also brings awareness to protecting and conserving trees around the world. On Arbor Day people are encouraged to plant a tree.



## PROTECT WILDLIFE



Trees provide a home and protection to animals

## HELP US BREATHE



Through photosynthesis, trees produce oxygen

## COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE



Trees absorb carbon-dioxide and convert it to oxygen

## PROVIDE SHELTER



Trees provide shelter and shade from the heat and cold

## PREVENT FLOODING



Trees along river banks help soak up excess water and keep soil in place

## SOURCE OF FOOD



Many parts of a tree are a source of food for people and animals: roots, leaves, flowers, fruits, seeds, nuts, pollens and sap.





BERKS COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



## 2024 Annual Seedling Sale

Saturday, May 4 | 11am-3pm

**BCCD's Annual Seedling Sale to be held on May 4, 2024 from 11:00am to 3:00 pm at the Berks County Agricultural Center (1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport PA 19533).**

When you pick up your order, enjoy music by Golden Twine, purchase food from Schaeffer Catering's food truck, and visit with our partners at the Annual Conservation Celebration!

**Order Now!**

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Support your local fire company!







**Monarch Fire Company Golf Outing**

**Blackwood Golf Course**

**514 Red Corner Rd Douglassville, PA 19518**

**Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 7AM**

**Sign up sheets can be found on Facebook or at the  
Monarch Fire Company.**



Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

Rain Date - Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

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## Township Emergency Notifications



**Want to be informed of Emergency Notifications and or Public Service Announcements? You have the option to choose text, email or both.**

**Messages would come from "Amity Twp EOC." This notification system will be used for road closures, police incidents and other events relevant to our Community.**

**Sign Up Now!**



# How to Stop the Unwanted Calls

## What To Do About ILLEGAL ROBOCALLS

Scammers use robocalls to try to get your money or information.

Companies need your **written permission** to use robocalls to sell you things.



Here's what to do about illegal robocalls:

- ▶ **Hang up.** Don't press any number or call back.
- ▶ **Don't trust caller ID.** It can be faked.
- ▶ **Get call blocking apps or services.** This will help you get fewer robocalls.
- ▶ **Report it.** Tell the FTC at [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov).



Learn more at [ftc.gov/robocalls](https://ftc.gov/robocalls)



## How To Avoid Phone Scams: DON'T TRUST CALLER ID

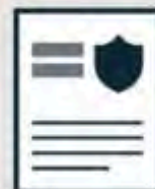
Your caller ID might show a real government agency or company name or phone number.

But scammers can fake caller ID. **Don't trust it** — even if it looks real.



Here's what to do:

- ▶ **Get call blocking apps or services.** This will help you get fewer scam calls.
- ▶ **Only call a phone number you know is real if you want to confirm.**
- ▶ **Report scam calls.** Tell the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov).



Learn more at [ftc.gov/calls](https://ftc.gov/calls)



## **Common Scams:**

- **Impersonator scam – Scammer pretends to be someone you trust.**
- **Debt relief or credit repair scam – Offer to lower credit card interest rates, fix your credit, or get your student loans forgiven if you pay their company a fee first.**
- **Business and investment scams.**
- **Charity scams – Scammer pose as real charities and ask for donations.**
- **Extended car warranties.**
- **“Free” trials.**
- **Loan scams – Scammers guarantee you loans or credit cards for an upfront fee.**
- **Prize and lottery scams – Say you won a prize but must pay taxes or other fees to get it.**
- **Travel and timeshare scams – Promise free or low-cost vacations, but once you respond, you must pay fees first or there is no vacation after all.**



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# 2023 Property Tax/Rent Rebates Available



## Eligibility

This program supports Pennsylvania homeowners and renters who meet the following criteria.

- **Age Criteria**

- 65 and older
- Widows and widowers 50 and older
- People with disabilities 18 and older

- **Income Criteria**

- In addition to age requirements, to qualify for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate, your household income must be \$45,000 or less annually.

**Applications are due by June 30, 2024.**

[Apply Here!](#)

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Thursday, April 11th at 7:00PM - Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 16th at 7:00PM - Parks and Recreation

Wednesday, April 17th at 7:00PM - Board of Supervisors

**Meetings are held at the Township building, 2004 Weavertown Road.**

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### **Amity Township Board of Supervisors**

Kim McGrath, Chairperson / Dave Hackett, Vice Chair

Paul "Skip" Weller, Terry Jones, and Kevin Keifrider

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Our mailing address is:  
Amity Township  
2004 Weavertown Rd  
Douglassville, PA 19518