



East Amwell Environmental and Recycling Newsletter



SPRING 2010

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY APRIL 24, 2010

On April 24 – Saturday, East Amwell Township will be holding its Annual Clean-Up Day at the Municipal Building Parking Lot. Hours are from 8:00 AM to 12 NOON. Only household clean-up items allowed, such as appliances, mattresses, rags, carpets, furniture, etc.

If you have any items that are too good to just throw away, the Goodwill Industries truck will be on the premises to accept donations of furniture and other useable household items, working appliances, clothing, etc. There is no charge for items accepted by Goodwill.

FEES for Clean-Up Day:

\$15.00 – car (per carload)

\$20.00 – SUV (per load)

\$35.00 – Pick-Up Truck
(per load)

(Horse trailers may be more.)

The Township and/or the hauler reserve the right to reject any or all refuse deemed not acceptable. Some items that are not acceptable are commercial building materials, yard waste, chemicals, paint, concrete, tree stumps, etc. **Old appliances that have not had their Freon removed are also NOT acceptable.** For more information on Freon evacuation, please call Service Unlimited – 908/236-6157. Warren County Landfill will accept appliances with Freon for a fee – 908/475-8918.

Please be advised that Clean-Up Day is for East Amwell Township Residents only. Identification, such as a driver's license, will be required if you sign up early at the Municipal Building, or on Clean-Up Day.

It is advisable to sign up and prepay at the Municipal Building.



ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP APRIL 17, 2010

We live in a beautiful Township! Help to keep it that way – volunteer to clean litter from your road on April 17 – Saturday. Last year approximately 65 volunteers turned out to de-litter 70% of our roads. All you have to do is choose a road – pick the one you live on – pick up the trash that you find on it and take it to the Municipal Building Parking Lot on April 17. You will be rewarded with a free hoagie and soft drinks! So, please call Blaine Hummel (609/466-2907) and volunteer to clean-up your road.

A limited supply of safety vests and gripper pick-up tools will be available at the Municipal Building the week prior to April 17. Please stop in and sign up to get yours. We are asking that you return the tools and vests when you drop off your garbage to Blaine on Saturday.

SBWA SPRING RIVER CLEAN-UP DAY APRIL 24, 2010

South Branch Watershed Association is organizing its 20th Annual Spring River Clean Up on Saturday, April 24, 2010, from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon. Anyone can participate! Last year, almost 700 volunteers collected several tons of trash at 21 sites throughout the watershed.



Please contact Jeremy Carlson at 908/782-0422, ext. 16 or e-mail jeremycarlson@sbwa.org for additional information or to volunteer your services.

HUNTERDON COUNTY ANNUAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION - APRIL 24

The Hunterdon County Department of Parks and Recreation is proud to announce their 10th Annual Earth Day Celebration scheduled for Saturday - April 24 at Deer Path Park, 120 West Woodschurch Road in Readington Township. The festivities will run from 10:30 AM until 4:00 PM and will feature wildlife presentations, live entertainment, nature crafts, canoe clinics, environmental exhibits and more. For complete information call their office at 908/782-1158 or e-mail them at [@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:co.hunterdon.nj.us).



HUNTERDON COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONIC COLLECTION DAYS

April 10 - Computer & Electronics
July 10 - Hazardous Waste
November 13 - Hazardous Waste
(All dates are from 9AM till 1PM.)

NOTE FOR EAST AMWELL RESIDENTS:

Please take advantage of the electronic waste collection in Hunterdon County. The Recycling Committee has no plans in the immediate future to hold an Electronics Waste Collection Day in East Amwell.



Hunterdon County will accept up to ten items containing electronic circuit boards, including computers, monitors, speakers, TV's, VCR's,

DVD and CD players, fax machines, stereo equipment, radios, cellular and cordless telephones.

They will not accept air conditioners, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, propane tanks or hazardous wastes

For more information contact: 908/788-1110 or e-mail: hcu@co.hunterdon.nj.us

DID YOU KNOW THAT SAVING JUST \$10 A WEEK ADDS UP TO MORE THAN \$500 AT THE END OF THE YEAR?

Here are a few ways to save your pennies:

1. Avoid get-rich ideas. Do you really need another lottery ticket?
2. Buy a cheaper cup of coffee occasionally, instead of sinking more money into the "designer" brew.
3. Clip coupons and check out online specials for necessities like groceries and automobile oil changes. Remember, buy what you need; don't buy it just because it is on sale.
4. Brown-bag it for lunch.



At the end of the year, you can use your intelligently saved money to take a little well-deserved trip or purchase an item you've always wanted.

Better yet, it can help you pay for all those holiday gifts without charging up your credit cards.

2010 CENSUS IS IMPORTANT

It determines the distribution of more than \$300 billion annually of government funding for critical community services. It generates thousands of jobs across the country. And it impacts your voice in Congress.

Census Day is April 1, 2010

Questionnaire responses should represent the household as it exists on this day.

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years.

Census questionnaires were mailed or delivered to households during February - March 2010.

Census takers will visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail during the months of May - July 2010.

By law, the Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President for apportionment in December 2010.

By law, the Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states by March 2011.

With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire is one of the shortest questionnaires in history and takes just 10 minutes to complete.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's census questionnaire responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

RECYCLE YOUR OLD SNEAKERS



Destinations Personal Fitness Coaching is partnering with Nike USA to recycle unwanted athletic shoes.

Bring old sneakers to the business at 47 Maple Avenue, Flemington, NJ. Destinations will send them to the Nike Reuse-a Shoe Sneaker Recycling Program. Wearable shoes will be cleaned and sent to needy families in Paraguay. Worn-out ones will become Nike Grind, a material used for playgrounds, running tracks, courts and playing fields.

For more information, contact Carolyn McCann at 908/782-6555, ext. 12, or e-mail: @destinationspfc.com.

MOSQUITO CONTROL IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE

The most important part of mosquito control is denying the mosquito a place to breed. If there is no standing or stagnant water, there will be no breeding in the area.



To control mosquitoes in and around the home:

1. Eliminate unnecessary water holding containers, especially tires, large cans and bottles.
2. Keep water clean in children's wading pool and drain when not in use.
3. Keep ditches and streams adjoining your property free of grass clippings, garbage and other debris, which will obstruct the natural flow of water.
4. Keep weeds and grass cut moderately short during the summer months. Report vacant lots that are not maintained properly to local officials.
5. Make sure stored boats are covered or water drains out of them. Store small boats upside down.
6. Change water in birdbaths, fountains and troughs weekly.
7. Clean roof gutters.
8. Make sure septic waste water does not lie on the ground surface and cesspools are sealed with screened vents.
9. Drain standing puddles, ditches, tree holes or tree stumps.

Property Tax Deductions

The following \$250.00 property tax deductions are available to qualifying property owners. Please contact the Assessor's Office at 782-8520 for applications and additional information.

Veteran or Widow of a Veteran: Deductions are available for all Honorably Discharged Veterans of the Armed Forces with active service in a time of war. Peacekeeping Missions require actual service in a combat zone for a total of 14 days, unless a service injury was received in a combat zone.

Disabled Person, Senior Citizen, Surviving Spouse: To qualify for this deduction, annual income, including the of your spouse, cannot exceed \$10,000 after a permitted exclusion of Social Security Benefits, Federal Government Retirement/Disability Pension, or State, County, or Municipal Government Retirement/Disability Pension.

PLANT EXCHANGE DAY MAY 22, 2010

Thanks to the efforts of David Kyle and Shirley Bershad, Plant Exchange Day will be held this year on May 22, 2010, Saturday, from 9AM to 12 Noon (rain or shine) at the Municipal Building Parking Lot. Rules are simple - bring a potted or bagged plant to exchange for another. Or, bring one dollar and buy a plant. The Environmental Commission is supporting this event.



2010 DOG LICENSES

If you have not licensed your dog for the year 2010, you are late! The NEW late fee is \$25.00 per dog. The license and late fee for one altered dog is \$37.00. The fee for an unaltered dog is \$40.00. To license your dog, the rabies inoculation must be good through November 1 of the licensing year.

Send the correct fee to the Clerk's Office, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, NJ 08551. Checks



should be made payable to East Amwell Township and you should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (1 stamp for 1-2 licenses

and 2 stamps for 3-4 licenses). If you no longer have the dog, please call the Clerk's Office at 908/782-8536, ext. 10, so we can update our files. **PLEASE BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER AND LICENSE YOUR DOG.**

NJ REFRIGERATOR RECYCLING PROGRAM

As you may know, New Jersey's Clean Energy Program is coordinating a Refrigerator Recycling Program for resident throughout the state of New Jersey. This program provides a \$50 reward and free pick-up of old refrigerators and freezers for New Jersey residents.



These old units are not only wasting energy, but money as well - up to \$150 a year. And, through this program, NJCEP (in partnership with JACO Environmental) safely recycles 95% of each unit. That means these units are not going into landfills or back on the secondary market, but are being turned into items we use everyday, such as, cell phones and laptops. Residents can make an appointment for a free pick-up by calling 1-877-270-3520 or visiting www.NJCleanEnergy.com.

INFORMATION FROM THE CONSTRUCTION OFFICE

Spring is usually the time of year when home improvements are on some homeowner's minds.

REMEMBER TO CHECK WITH THE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT (908-782-1190) BEFORE STARTING ANY PROJECTS.

You may very well need a permit. We occasionally receive complaints about the amount of paperwork some permits require, but the penalties that accompany unpermitted projects make the paperwork worth it!

For each violation there is a penalty of \$2,000.00. These are the maximum fines allowed by the State and we do enforce them if we need to. If you have put your project in the hands of a contractor, make sure he/she obtains the permits before starting any work.

Once you have the permit, you must call for the required inspections. Some projects may require more than 1 or 2 inspections. If you are unsure of the required inspections for your project, call us and we will be glad to help you.

If you are selling a house, a **smoke detector, carbon monoxide and fire extinguisher certification** is a requirement for the closing. If you rent a house, a smoke detector, carbon monoxide and fire extinguisher certification is required prior to a new tenant moving in. The certificate fee is \$30.00 with inspections on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursdays. Do not forget this when you are closing on your home or changing tenants.

Remember that the Construction Department is here to help you!

Stewart Doddy
Construction Official



The well-known recycling symbol signifies the three steps in the recycling process. One

arrow signifies Recycle. In East Amwell, the collection of recyclable materials can be done at curbside or at the monthly East Amwell Recycling Depot held on the first Saturday of each month from 8-11 A.M. At the Depot our Township volunteers help you unload your rinsed glass and plastic bottles, aluminum and steel cans, unbound paper and cardboard, plastics #1-7, and household batteries quickly and efficiently. A tonnage report of curbside and depot collection is used to apply for grants that help us continue to fulfill New Jersey's mandatory recycling requirements. You can help us increase our tonnage amounts by recycling as much as you can.

Cleaner air and water, natural resource and energy conservation, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and less pressure on petroleum imports are some of the known benefits. According to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection:

- Recycled paper production requires 40 percent less energy, creates 74 percent less air pollution, and 35 percent less water pollution than virgin paper production.
- Recycled aluminum production requires 90-95 percent less energy than from natural source production.
- Recycled steel production requires 74 percent less energy, creates 85 percent less air pollution and 40 percent less water pollution than steel produced from virgin ores.
- Recycled glass uses 20 percent less energy and creates 20 percent less air pollution.
- Every ton of paper made from recycled materials saves 17 trees, about 450 gallons of oil, and about seven gallons of water.
- Every ton of recycled plastic saves the equivalent energy of 1,000 to 2,000 gallons of gasoline.

Another arrow conveys the need to Reuse or "Up-Cycle", which is using materials multiple times or putting material to a new use. Most likely you already have up-cycled by passing on your old clothes or making rags out of the worn out ones, had a yard sale or give-away, or left your old cell phone at the store to be passed on to others. You can also reuse the plastic bag in cereal boxes, reuse a non-toxic water bottle - glass is best, make a frame out of old barn wood.

The third arrow communicates Reduce or "Rethink", which is decreasing the amount of waste you initially generate. Reducing our

waste during manufacturing is probably the most important arrow. Consider buying bulk materials and avoid products with excess packaging, use washable table napkins and cloth gift bags, start a compost pile, or consider purchasing electronic versions of newspapers.

All three arrows: Recycle, Reuse, and Reduce need to be considered equally important in our efforts to deal with our waste responsibly.

Sande Katz, Member
Recycling Committee

Some Pretty Awesome Historic News

So.... the book is almost done! And what a time it's been! In addition to the photos from our Quick Collection, we received a tremendous deluge of old photos (close to a thousand) from dozens of people.... And ohhh, what memories!!! Wait 'til you get your hands on one of these books – you will be amazed at the wonderful history of our town. The Publisher has yet to give us a firm date of delivery, but we are hoping to have them in time for the Harvest Fest – if not sooner. Whatever the date is, the Historic Preservation Committee will be enthusiastically hosting a **Book Launch Party** where we will be presenting a power-point presentation of ALL the photos lent to us for this wonderful project. The book will be available for sale at some local establishments, and the sales will benefit the renovation project of the Clawson House. More to come when we get word from the Publisher.

For other news of Historic Proportions – the 3rd Annual Design Awards Contest was, once again, a great success. The award ceremony itself was held at the Municipal Building, with one of the winners accompanied by a cheering section. Following are the 2009 Historic Preservation Design Award Winners:

Roger L. Paffitt for his wonderful renovation of the 260 yr. old Landis House at 1064 Old York Road in the Historical House category. This beautiful old stone house is sometimes called Lafayette's Headquarters because it is there that he convalesced after a war injury - and may still be there.



Liza Price - for her truly gorgeous and abundant gardens at Serendipity Farm, 309 Wertsville Road, in the Gardens & Landscaping Category.

Unionville Vineyards on Rocktown Road, for their preservation and creative renovation of an 1858 barn that has become an integral part of their winery. Their project was entered as a combination submission for Commercial Projects category and the Farm Building category.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!

The brochures for the 2010 Design Awards Contest will be available in March and can be picked up at the Municipal Building, the Post Office, and at Peacock's Country Store. Applications and pictures will be due into the office by July 30, 2010. And remember – residents are permitted, and encouraged, to nominate a property other than their own if they feel that property is worthy of a nomination.

As reported last year, the new East Amwell Historical Society is being incorporated as you read this and will be up and running shortly. Now all we need are lots of good volunteers for all of the projects that have been simmering over the past year, not the least of which is the promotion of our very own book about East Amwell history.

And finally, we continue our ***“History Lives in East Amwell”*** presentation series with such topics as a roundtable discussion with a few of our more senior citizens about what school was like back then; the book launch and power-point presentation of old photos; and, in the Fall, a walking tour of Ringoes which would include such points of interest as Kirkpatrick Church, the Ringoes Hotel, and the Landis House – to name a few.

For more information on any of the above topics or for meeting times and places, please contact Kat Cannelongo at 908-237-2535 or by email at embarqmail.com.

EAST AMWELL WEBSITE INFORMATION

East Amwell Township's website is www.eastamwelltownship.com.

To register to receive e-mail alerts, go to the website, under Advisories & Alerts, click the highlighted link.

East Amwell Recycling Depot **First Saturday 8 AM to 11 AM**

Acceptable Materials 2010:

1. Paper:

- Newspaper
- Junk Mail, Magazines and office paper
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Chip Board [Gray or brown inside] *New this Year*
- Shredded paper
- Paper Bags without plastic liners

2. Containers – Other than paper:

- Plastics #1 through #7 – All colors including trays and kitty litter buckets
- Plastic lids with numbered triangle #1 through #7
- Glass Bottles and Jars, Food-related – All Colors
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Steel bottle / jar lids (removed)

3. Other Materials:

- Batteries – From small portable devices

Not Acceptable:

- Plastic or Wax coated paper or drink boxes
- Plastic Bags [Shop Rite will take these]
- Plastic caps without numbered triangles
- Packaging Peanuts or other Styrofoam packaging. [Take to UPS store.]
- Paper contaminated with food residue
- Paper Bags with plastic liners
- Motor Oil Bottles
- Hazardous Chemical Containers
- Window glass, Mirrors, Drinking glasses, Vases, etc.
- Foil and Aluminum Trays
- Tissue paper
- Plastic Outdoor Furniture

RECYCLE YOUR OLD "COMPACT" FLOURESCENT BULBS AT HOME DEPOT

