

# Middle Smithfield Township Bulletin ~ Spring 2015

To receive the emailed news digest, email [info@MSTownship.com](mailto:info@MSTownship.com)



## Middle Smithfield Township Info:

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**LOOK INSIDE  
for information about  
Your 2015 Tax Bill**

This bill represents your annual Monroe County, Middle Smithfield Township, and Library Tax.

## Get Ready, Get Set, Hunt Those Eggs!



**Don't miss out!  
The free annual  
township Egg Hunt  
is right around the  
corner.**

## Looking Forward to some great 2015 events!

3/28	Easter Egg Hunt
4/3	Golf Course Opens
4/11	Homeowners Association Meeting
4/25	1000 Feet of Street Cleanup
4/27	Leaf Collection begins
5/1	Dumpster Day Spring Cleanup & Freecycle
5/7-9	Freecycle
5/15	Leaf Collection ends
7/22	Toys for Tots
TBD	Photography Exhibit
TBD	First Art Gallery
August	Memory Makers

Find new events and all event updates at  
[www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar](http://www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar)

# What Your Municipal Tax Dollar Provides

## Your municipal taxes go towards:

- 74 miles of municipal roads maintained
  - This includes several bridges, snow plowing/Clearlane/cinders, at least 8 miles of roads paved every year, drains cleaned, and spring and fall leaf pickup
- Recycling program, including the leaf composting facility.
- Twice annual Dumpster Day Cleanup and Freecycle.
- Community Reinvestment:
  - Building a sense of community, for example, litter and beautification efforts such as events like Adopt a Road and 1000 Feet of Street and streetscaping, Egg Hunt, Memory Makers, Trunk or Treat, Tree Lighting, Person of the Year, and more.
- 3 established parks and 2 new ones on the way.
  - Enhancing and maintaining the three established parks: Echo Lake, Judy Putek, and Resica Park.
  - Creating 2 new parks: Coolbaugh Community Gardens Park and the Bark Park at LeRoy's Lane
- Golf course and banquet hall.
- Community Planning, Zoning and Zoning Enforcement (such as cleanup of blighted residences).
- Communication and information:
  - newsletters, website, Facebook, MST Message Boards, signage, etc.
- Community involvement: residents can participate in their own committees, including Historical, Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Litter and Beautification, and Golf.

**Close to 60% of the single family homes in Middle Smithfield Township pay less than \$250 a year in municipal taxes**

and **88% of the single family homes in Middle Smithfield Township pay less than \$420 each year** in municipal taxes.



# Real Estate Taxes: Your Tax Bill Explained

Tax is on the value of real property, including land, buildings and other improvements, owned by a taxpayer. Amount of real property tax owed depends on value of the property and the local tax rate. For taxing purposes, property values are determined by an assessment process conducted by county government.

The more than 100,000 parcels in Monroe County are assessed at 25 percent of their perceived actual market value. A home assessed at \$25,000 has a market value of \$100,000. All pre-existing homes and buildings in the county were last reassessed in 1988 to arrive at common comparison values. Structures and improvements completed since then are assessed based on the 1988 reassessment.

School districts, townships, boroughs, libraries and county government use millage to arrive at a tax rate. Each mill represents \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of assessed value. So a school district with a tax rate of 95 mills, or \$95 per \$1,000 of assessment, will charge the owner of a \$100,000 home assessed at \$25,000, a school tax bill of \$2,375. ( $25,000 \times 0.095$  mills.)

To put it a different way, 1 mill is \$1 for every \$1,000 in assessed value; so 9.5 mills is  $9.50 \times 25$  (if assessed value is \$25,000) for tax bill of \$237.50.

In the sample tax bill below, the total is \$1229.04. This total is broken down into three sections:

## Monroe County Tax: 21.25 mills

This tax goes to Monroe County, which covers several Townships.

In this sample, the tax is \$745.45

## Library Tax: 1.1 mills

This tax goes to support the public library system in the local area.

In this sample, the tax is \$38.59

## Municipal Tax (that's us!): 9.5 mills

This tax goes to Middle Smithfield Township.

In this sample, the tax is \$333.26

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD			2015 TAX NOTICE			MAR 1, 2015	
COUNTY OF MONROE DAWN M ARNST, TAX COLLECTOR PAYABLE TO 326 FRUTCHEY DRIVE TAX PO BOX 1279 COLLECTOR MARSHALLS CREEK PA 18335-1279 & MAIL TO			RECEIVING HOURS MARCH 1-JUNE 30 TUES 5-8PM WED 9-12 APRIL 26 9-12 OR BY APPOINTMENT 570-223-0675			LAST PAYMENT DATE TO TAX COLLECTOR: DEC 31, 2015	
DUPLICATE BILL ACCOUNT # 000000 BILL NUMBER			TAX CLAIM BUREAU			ON: JAN 1, 2016	
PROPERTY NUMBER 09/9C/1/00 TYPE RE CLASS 9			C2	BUILDING 29,130	LAND 5,950	ASSESSMENT 35,080	
			TYPE TAX	MILLS	DISCOUNT	BASIC	PENALTY
			CTY	21.250	730.54	745.45	820.00
			LIB	1.100	37.82	38.59	42.45
			MUN	9.500	326.59	333.26	366.59
			AMOUNT IF PAID BY	APR 30, 2014	JUN 30, 2014	DEC 31, 2014	
				1,094.95	1,117.30	1,229.04	
			TOTAL TAX DUE				
TAXES BILLED HEREON ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE AND DEMAND FOR PAYMENT IS HEREBY MADE. DO NOT DETACH							
TAXPAYER Molly Smithfield NAME 147 Municipal Drive AND ADDRESS East Stroudsburg, PA 18302							
IF PROPERTY SOLD OR TAXES PAID BY A MORTGAGE COMPANY FORWARD TO APPROPRIATE PARTY WITH LOAN NUMBER WRITTEN ON TOP OF BILL RETURN ENTIRE BILL WITH A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WHEN REQUESTING A RETURN RECEIPT. RECEIPT NOT VALID UNTIL CHECK CLEARS BANK.							
LOT 71							
PAYABLE IN UNITED STATES CURRENCY ONLY. DATE RECEIVED _____ AMOUNT RECEIVED _____ PAYMENT RECEIVED BY _____ PAYMENT MADE AFTER DEC 15 MUST BE PAID BY CERTIFIED CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. PIN 0000000000000000							
2015 TAX NOTICE			MAR 1, 2015				

## But what's a "mill"?

One mill represents \$1 for every \$1,000 that a property is assessed at.

This means that an assessment of \$35,080 =  $35.08 \times 9.5$  mills is \$333.26 per year

Middle Smithfield receives \$333.26 in taxes annually for every property assessed at \$35,080 (worth about \$140,320)

# Staying Green in 2015

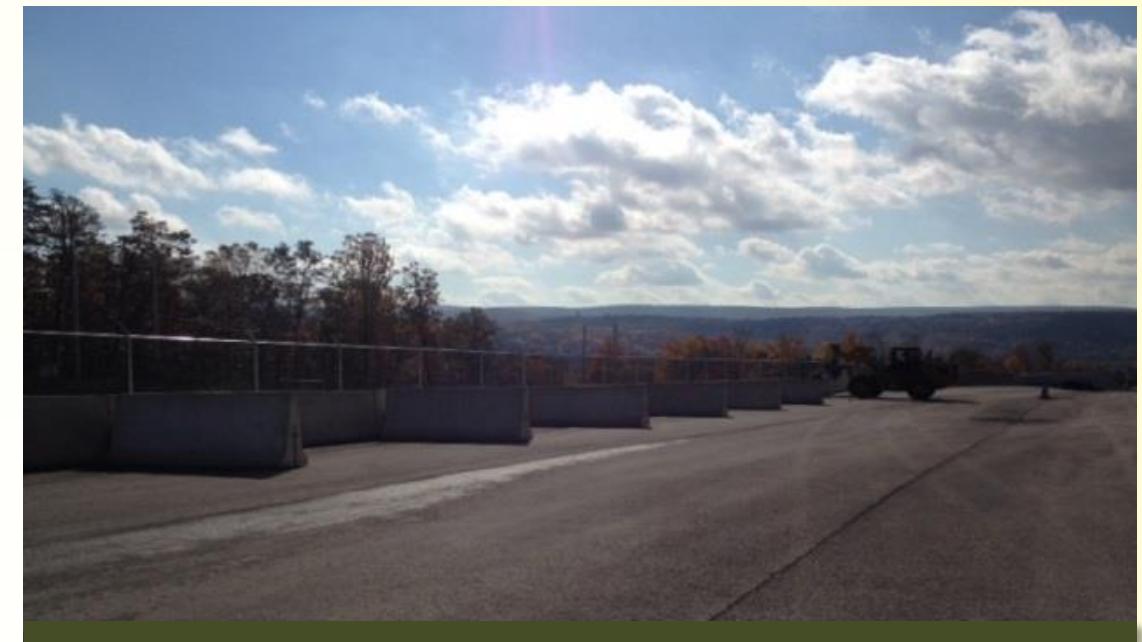
## Recycling in Our Township



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection enacted "Act 101 – Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act" in July, 1988, mandating recycling in Pennsylvania's larger municipalities. The goals of the Act are to reduce Pennsylvania's municipal waste generation; recycle at least 25% of waste generated; procure and use recycled and recyclable materials in state governmental agencies; and educate the public as to the benefits of recycling and waste reduction.

The benefits of recycling and waste reduction include reduced pollution risks; conservation of natural resources, energy, and landfill space; and reduced disposal costs. Municipalities, such as Middle Smithfield Township, with populations of at least 10,000 had to implement curbside recycling programs by September 26, 1990. Mandated municipalities are required to separate leaf waste from other municipal wastes.

## Composting at the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Facility



The Oak Grove site is open during April, May, October, and November.

### Leaf Collection Facility: the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing Board

The need for a Municipal composting site is essential to meet the Department of Environmental Protection mandate that townships collect leaf and yard waste and dispose of these items in a safe, clean location.

Middle Smithfield Township, together with our neighbors at Smithfield and Lehman Township, need a site to drop off material. According to the DEP, a suitable site must be at least 5 acres.

Rather than have each township incur the expense of purchasing, developing, and maintaining small sites throughout the area (which could prove to be too small in coming years and eventually require the purchase of additional sites), the 3 townships came together and looked for a central location that would be inexpensive to the taxpayers and large enough to handle collection for the foreseeable future.

During the months of April, May, October, and November, the site will be accessible to residents for drop off of leaf and brush. During municipal leaf collection months, township public works will be utilizing the site to drop off what has been collected.

Periodically, the collected materials will be processed to accelerate the composting and maintain a clean and safe site.

You can learn more about the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing project by visiting the official website at [www.ogmmcpb.com](http://www.ogmmcpb.com)



Don't Miss the Township Cleanup! Visit:  
[www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar](http://www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/Calendar)